

Welcome to the

National Institute on Drug Abuse Diversity Scholars Network Pre-application Webinar

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Welcome Remarks from Dr. Wilson Compton NIDA Deputy Director, ORTDD Director



Welcome to the Webinar

- Welcome to the Pre-application TA webinar for the NIDA Diversity Scholars Network Program.
- Webinar attendees are muted. **Attendees may submit questions at any time through the Zoom Webinar Q&A feature.**
- Questions that are not answered live will be answered through a Frequently Asked Questions document that will be posted on the [NIDA Office of Research Training, Diversity and Disparities \(ORTDD\) website](#).
- The webinar recording, slides, and FAQs document will be available approximately one week following the presentation.

Pre-
application TA
Webinar
Agenda

- **About NIH and NIDA**
- Purpose and structure of the NDSN Program
- Application Information & Selection Process
- Are you ready to apply?
- NIH Grant Mechanisms
- Q&A Session

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National Institutes of Health (NIH)



The mission of the NIH is to seek fundamental knowledge about the nature and behavior of living systems and the application of that knowledge to enhance health, lengthen life, and reduce illness and disability.

- World's largest supporter of biomedical, behavioral, social science research & training
- Budget: nearly 48 billion dollars in 2023
- Over 80% funds extramural research

NIDA's Mission

To advance science on the causes and consequences of drug use and addiction and to apply that knowledge to improve individual and public health.

- Through strategically supporting and conducting **basic, clinical and epidemiological research** on drug use (including nicotine), its consequences, and the underlying neurobiological, behavioral, and social mechanisms involved.
- Ensuring the effective **translation, implementation, and dissemination** of scientific research findings to improve the prevention and treatment of substance use disorders, reduce the harms associated with drug use, guide policies, enhance public awareness of addiction as a chronic but treatable medical illness and reduce stigma.

FY 2022-2026 NIDA Strategic Plan

[LINK HERE](#)



Learn More about NIDA

- Organization, Strategic Plan, Budget info, and more
<https://nida.nih.gov/about-nida>
- NIDA Research Programs and Activities
<https://nida.nih.gov/research/nida-research-programs-activities>
- NIDA Office of Research Training, Diversity, and Disparities
<https://nida.nih.gov/about-nida/organization/offices/office-nida-director-od/office-research-training-diversity-disparities-ortdd>

Office of Diversity and Health Disparities (ODHD)

Mission: Strengthen the NIDA extramural scientific portfolio through a more diverse and robust extramural research workforce, attracting and retaining talented individuals from all backgrounds across the career continuum, and to support research aimed at reducing health disparities in order to fulfill the mission of NIDA.

Goals:

- Recruit and retain underrepresented scholars and researchers actively participating in research.
- Enhance the pool of independently funded underrepresented scholars and researchers conducting substance use and addiction research.
- Develop strategies and partnerships to reduce health disparities and improve the health of vulnerable populations.



Office of Diversity and Health Disparities (ODHD)

ODHD Programs

- **NIDA Diversity Scholars Network**
- **NIDA Summer Research Internship Program**
- **NIDA Diversity Scholars Travel Award**

Program



Check out the ORTDD Newsletter! [Subscribe now!](#)

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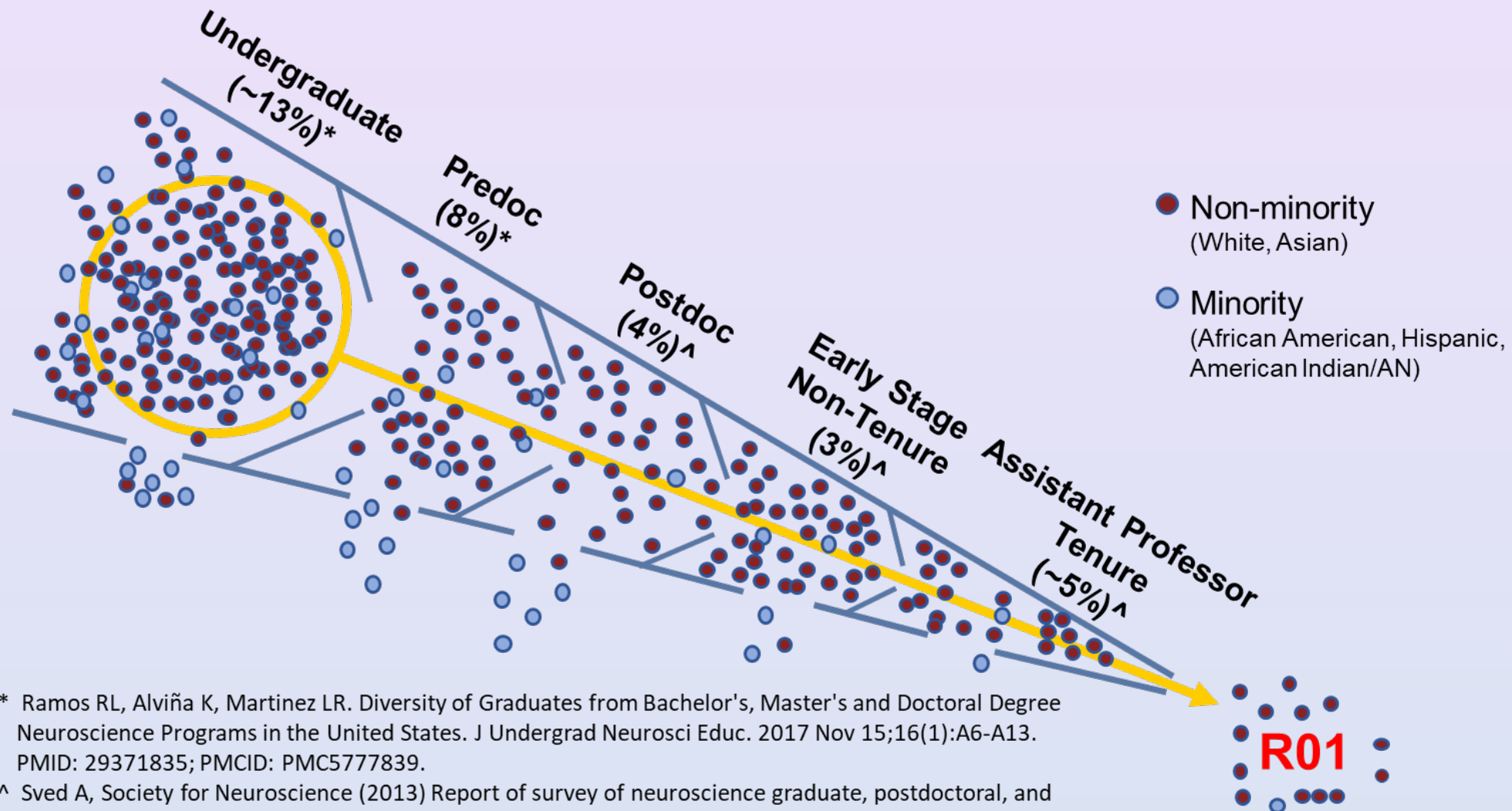
NIDA Diversity Scholars Network

Goal: enhance the funding success of early career investigators from diverse backgrounds, including investigators from underrepresented groups.

- The program provides workshops and supportive coaching as participants prepare a complete research or career development award application for NIDA funding consideration.
- The program culminates in a mock review of the participants' applications.

See: Notice of NIH's Interest in Diversity
[NOT-OD-20-031](#)

Illustration of Attrition of Underrepresented Career Scientists

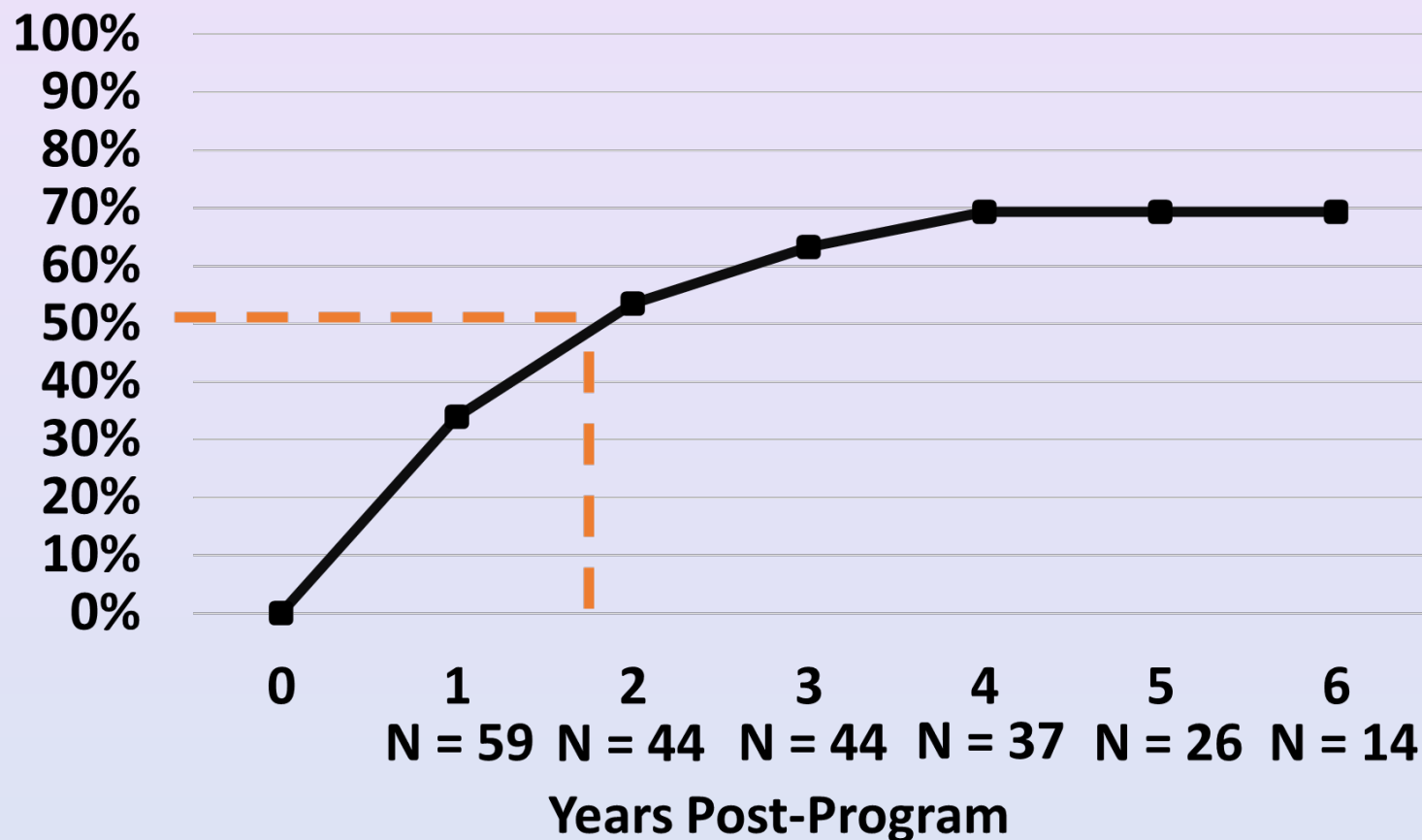


* Ramos RL, Alviña K, Martinez LR. Diversity of Graduates from Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral Degree Neuroscience Programs in the United States. J Undergrad Neurosci Educ. 2017 Nov 15;16(1):A6-A13. PMID: 29371835; PMCID: PMC5777839.

^ Sved A, Society for Neuroscience (2013) Report of survey of neuroscience graduate, postdoctoral, and undergraduate programs (Academic Year 2010-2011).

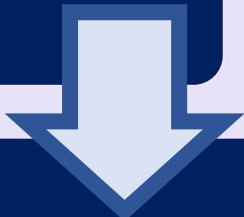
The Probability of Funding Success for NDSN Participants

Of 59 participants from 2016 through 2021, 53% received funding within the first two years after completing the program and 69% by four years.

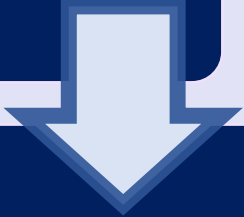


The NIDA Diversity Scholars Network Program Framework

Part I: demystifying the NIH grants process, grant writing fundamentals, engagement with POs and coaches



Part II: expert advice on starting a research career, understanding peer review, anatomy of a grant application



Part III: mock review of scholars' grant applications, building resilience

- Letters of interest due (January 12, 2024)
- Selected Participants Notified (February 9, 2024)
- Session 1 (March, 2024)
- Session 2 (June, 2024)
- Draft Application Submitted to NIDA
(August 2, 2024)
- Session 3 (September, 2023)



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Application Information: Eligibility

- Doctoral-level investigators (including postdoctoral fellows)
 - Minimum of two full years of research experience after the terminal degree (at the time of application)
 - Minimum of two, published or in-press, first-author papers in the prior three years
 - No prior successful NIH research or career development awards (fellowships awardees are eligible)
 - Planning to submit a research or career development award application to NIDA in the next 12-18 months
 - U.S. citizens or permanent residents*
 - Within 10 years of receiving the terminal degree*
- *please consult with Ms. Isabela Ellenwood (Isabela.Ellenwood@nih.gov) regarding limited exceptions

Application Information: Letter of Interest

- To apply, send an email to nida_training@nida.nih.gov with “NDSN Letter of Interest” in the subject line that includes:
 - A candidate statement (2 pages maximum)
 - Specific aims and abbreviated research strategy
 - 6 pages maximum, excluding references
 - Include the NOFO and/ or grant mechanism of interest along with the NIDA Program Officer you are currently working with
 - The applicant’s CV (no page limit)
- Please attach all 3 documents in MS Word or PDF format to one email message
- Emails must be received by midnight (local time) January 12, 2024.
- All documents must be received by the deadline for the letter of interest to be considered.

What to Include in the Candidate Statement

The Candidate Statement (maximum of 2 pages) should include...

- Your background*
- Your expertise and training (formal and informal)
- Your career plans
- Why you are applying to be an NDSN scholar (i.e., what do you hope to gain from participation?)
- How your research relates to [NIDA's strategic plan](#)

*include citizenship status

Consider integrating the following into your candidate statement, as relevant:

- previous research and scholarship achievements
- your specific contributions to science
- your DEIA-related activities and leadership
- factors that affected your past productivity
- how your research goals and background align with NIH's Interest in Diversity

Selection Process

An internal committee will select 12-15 scholars to participate in the program

Selection Criteria:

- Strength of the candidate statement
- Candidate well positioned to submit competitive research application
- Priority of research project for NIDA

Selected scholars will be notified by email by February 9, 2024.



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Are you ready to apply?

- Scholars should have an institutional affiliation that will allow for application submission
 - Scholars should commit adequate time to complete a grant application to be assessed during the mock review
 - Scholars are expected to fully participate in all aspects of the program
 - Scholars should feel confident committing to the proposed research topic
 - Scholars should have identified at least one possible research or career development funding announcement for their application
- IMPORTANT: Applicants should reach out to a NIDA PO and share a concept paper prior to submitting a letter of interest.**

Contacting a NIDA PO

Prior to submitting your letter of interest for NDSN, we strongly recommend that you share a specific aims page with your PO and request feedback on:

- the fit of your proposed grant program and/or funding opportunity with your goals
- whether your specific aims fit within the mission and priorities of NIDA.

*For more information, see: [Understand Staff Roles | grants.nih.gov](https://grants.nih.gov/understand-staff-roles)



Identifying the “right” PO

The “right” PO is just a few clicks and a few emails away!

Option 1: Check Part 2. Section VII. of your notice of funding opportunity

Option 2: Use the “Matchmaker” Tool

<https://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/2023/02/13/make-a-perfect-pair-with-nih-matchmaker/>

Option 3: Check the NIDA website

- [Division of Epidemiology, Services and Prevention Research \(DESPR\)](#)
- [Division of Neuroscience and Behavior \(DNB\)](#)
- [Division of Therapeutics and Medical Consequences \(DTMC\)](#)

Option 4: Send an email to nida_training@nida.nih.gov

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NIH Funding Basics

- Abbreviations:
 - NOFO=Notice of Funding Opportunity
 - NOSI=Notice of Special Interest

 - RFA=Request for Applications
 - PA=Program Announcement
- To apply for a grant, applicants must identify a specific RFA or PA. NIH institutes use NOSIs to describes a specific topic area of interest for funding. NOSIs point to specific RFAs/PAs.
- Prospective grant PIs must select an appropriate RFA or PA for their proposed project. The NOFO title will indicate what types of studies are allowed (e.g., clinical trials vs. no clinical trials. vs. basic experimental studies with humans). For questions, see this [LINK](#) or consult with a PO.

Research Project Grant – R01

- Used to support a discrete, specified, circumscribed research project.
- NIH's most commonly used grant program.
- No specific dollar limit unless specified in funding opportunity.
- Advance permission required for \$500K or more (direct costs) in any year.
- Generally awarded for 3-5 years.

Parent R01 NOFOs:

[PA-20-183](#), [PA-20-184](#), [PA-20-185](#)

New and At-Risk Diversity R01:

[PAR-22-181](#)

Research With Activities Related to Diversity (ReWARD) [PAR-23-122](#)

Katz ESI R01: [PAR-21-038](#), [PAR-21-039](#)

Small Grant Program – R03

- Provides limited funding for a short period of time to support a variety of types of projects, including pilot or feasibility studies, collection of preliminary data, secondary analysis of existing data, small, self-contained research projects, development of new research technology, etc.
- Generally, limited to two years of funding.
- Direct costs *generally* up to \$50,000 per year.
- Not renewable.

Parent R03 NOFO: [PA-20-200](#)

AIDS-Science Track Award for Research Transition: [PAS-21-270](#)

Imaging - Science Track Award for Research Transition (I/START):
[PAR-21-310](#) and [PAR-21-309](#)

NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Award – R21

- Encourages new, exploratory and developmental research projects by providing support for the early stages of project development. Sometimes used for pilot and feasibility studies.
- Limited to up to two years of funding.
- Combined budget for direct costs for the two year project period usually may not exceed \$275,000.
- No preliminary data is generally required.

Parent R21 NOFOs:

[PA-20-194](#), [PA-20-195](#), [PA-20-196](#)

Intervention Research to Improve Native American Health: [PAR-23-299](#)

Targeting Inflammasomes in HIV and Substance Use: [RFA-DA-25-013](#)

NIH Planning Grant – R34

The NIH Planning Grant Program (R34) provides support for the initial development of a clinical trial or research project.

R34 Characteristics:

- Renewal applications not allowed
- Project period limited to 3 years
- Direct costs limited to \$225,000 per year and \$450,000 over the 3-year project period
- For clinical trials, the R34 supports development of essential elements of a clinical trial and leads to an application for support of a full-scale trial

NIDA REI: Reaching Equity at the Intersection of HIV and Substance Use: [RFA-DA-23-062](#)

Behavioral & Integrative Treatment Development Program: [PAR-22-183](#)

BRAIN Initiative: Targeted BRAIN Circuits Planning Projects: [RFA-NS-23-023](#)

Other Research Funding Mechanisms

NIH has other funding mechanism that may be appropriate for early career investigators

- DP1: NIH Director's Pioneer Award
- DP2: Director's New Innovator Award
- R16: Research Excellence Award

NOTE: Carefully check eligibility criteria, expiration dates for funding opportunities

NOTE: NDSN participation is not well suited for DP1 and DP2 applicants.

REI: Racial Equity Visionary Award (DP1), [RFA-DA-23-026](#), [RFA-DA-23-031](#)

Avenir Award Program for Research on Substance Use Disorders and HIV (DP2), [PAR-23-125](#)

Support for Research Excellence Award (SURE-First)(R16): [PAR-21-173](#)

Research Career Development Awards

Learn about [Research Career Development Awards](#) (CDAs)

- NIDA supports the following individual mentored CDAs
 - K01 Research Scientist CDA
 - K08 Clinical Scientist Research CDA
 - K23 Patient-Oriented Research CDA
 - K25 Quantitative Research CDA
 - K99/R00 – Pathway to Independence

Special Ks:

MOSAIC K99/R00 CDAs:

[PAR-21-271](#), [PAR-21-272](#), [PAR-21-273](#)

BRAIN Initiative K99/R00 CDAs:

[RFA-MH-23-330](#), [RFA-MH-23-331](#)

HEAL Initiative CDAs: [PAS-22-206](#),

[PAS-22-207](#), [NOT-DA-23-026](#)

The NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts

For a complete list of NIDA-supported announcements for a particular grant “mechanism” or “activity code” (e.g., R01, K23):

- Go to the [NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts](#) website
- Under “Organizations” select “NIDA” and under Activity Code” select your chosen mechanism

The screenshot shows the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts website. At the top, there is a header with the title "NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts" and a brief description. Below the header, there is a search bar with a dropdown menu set to "Active Funding Opportunities and Notices", a "Search Term" input field, and a "Search" button. To the right of the search bar is a link for "Advanced Search". Below the search bar, there is a "Displaying: 26 to 50 of 151 results" indicator and a "Results Per Page" dropdown menu. The main content area displays a table of search results. The table has six columns: "Title", "NOFO/Notice Number", "Issuing Organization", "Release Date", "Expiration Date", and "Activity Code". Two results are visible: one from NIDA and one from NIMH. Blue arrows point to the "NIDA" selection in the "Organizations" filter and the "R01" selection in the "Activity Code" filter.

NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts

The NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts is NIH's official publication of notices of grant policies, guidelines, and funding opportunities.

We publish daily and issue a [table of contents](#) weekly. [Subscribe to receive updates today!](#)

Organizations

- NICHD
- NIDA
- NIDCD
- NIDCR
- NIDDK
- NIEHS
- NIGMS
- Trans-NIH
- NIMH
- NIMHD
- NINDS

Activity Code

- R00
- R01
- R03
- R13

Active Funding Opportunities and Notices Search Term Search Advanced Search

Displaying: 26 to 50 of 151 results Results Per Page

Title	NOFO/Notice Number	Issuing Organization	Release Date	Expiration Date	Activity Code
HEAL Initiative: Novel Targets for Opioid Use Disorders and Opioid Overdose (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)	RFA-DA-24-063	NIDA	Jul 19, 2023	Feb 02, 2024	R01
BRAIN Initiative: Development and Validation of Novel Tools to	RFA-MH-24-280	NIMH	Jun 16, 2023	Feb 09, 2027	R01

NOFOs vs NOSIs

NOFO = a formal announcement inviting grant award applications from extramural investigators

NOSI = a NIH Guide Notice that describes a specific research topic an IC is interested in supporting.
NOSIs point to NOFOs

Both are published in the [NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts](#)

- Examples of NIDA NOSI topics include:
 - [Xylazine: Understanding its Use and the Consequences](#)
 - [Research to Address 'Ending the HIV Epidemic' Initiative Goals Relevant to Substance Using Populations At-Risk for or Living with HIV](#)
 - [Reducing Stigma Related to Drug Use in Human Service Settings](#)
 - [Advanced Computational Approaches to Elucidate Disease Pathology and Identify Novel Therapeutics for Addiction](#)
- For a list of NIDA NOSIs please see this [LINK](#) on the NIDA website

NIH RESOURCES

- NIH Central Resource for Grants and Funding: <https://grants.nih.gov/>
- All About Grants Podcasts: <https://grants.nih.gov/news/virtual-learning/podcasts.htm>
- NIH Extramural Nexus: <https://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/>
- Research Portfolio Online Reporting Tools: <https://report.nih.gov/>
- NIH Center for Scientific Review: <https://public.csr.nih.gov/>

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Please enter
questions into the
Q&A box.

QUESTIONS?

For additional questions about NIDA's Diversity Scholars program...

Contact:

Ms. Isabela Ellenwood – isabela.Ellenwood@nih.gov

Dr. Aria Crump – aria.crump@nih.gov

