

Physician-Scientists: NIAID Launches New Funding Opportunity Just for You –

How does this sound: potentially receiving four years of funding to facilitate your transition as a postdoctoral researcher to an independent, tenure-track or equivalent faculty position.

If that appeals to you, check out a new funding opportunity announcement (FOA) for the NIAID Physician-Scientist Pathway to Independence Award (K99/R00).

Given the dearth of physicians who conduct biomedical research, NIAID created this program to increase and maintain a strong cohort of new and talented independent physician-scientists. Since there is much to know about this opportunity, be sure to carefully read the FOA, linked below. We provide a few highlights here.

One Opportunity, Two Phases

The NIAID Physician-Scientist Pathway to Independence Award comprises an initial K99 phase and a second R00 phase.

The K99 phase will provide support for up to two years of mentored postdoctoral research training and career development.

In the R00 phase, NIAID will provide up to two years of independent research support if the investigator achieves satisfactory progress and obtains an approved, independent, tenure-track position at the end of the K99 phase.

Eligibility

The NIAID Physician-Scientist K99/R00 is intended for those who are dedicated to initiating a strong, research-intensive career as physician-scientists.

To be eligible to apply, you must have a clinical doctorate degree (e.g., M.D., D.O., D.D.S, D.M.D, V.M.D., or nurses with research doctoral degrees) and no more than four years of total aggregate postdoctoral research experience at the time of the initial or subsequent resubmission application.

You must also be in a non-tenure-track or equivalent position, e.g., be a resident, clinical fellow, instructor, or clinical assistant professor.

Time spent in clinical training during residency or clinical specialty is not counted towards K99/R00 eligibility while time spent in research training during these periods is counted.

We strongly encourage you to confirm your eligibility to apply by consulting with [Dr. Shawn Gaillard\(link is external\)](#), the FOA's scientific/research contact.

Not a U.S. Citizen? That's Okay

This opportunity does not have any citizenship requirement. That means you may be a citizen or non-citizen national of the U.S., have permanent residency status (Alien Registration Receipt Card, Form I-551), or be a non-U.S. citizen.

Note that if you are a non-U.S. citizen with a temporary U.S. visa, your visa status must allow you to remain in this country for the duration of both the K99 and R00 phases.

Choose a Mentor

Make sure you spend time finding a good mentor (or mentors). He or she will supervise your proposed career development and research experience and must be an active investigator in the research area you propose.

Your mentor should have a successful track record of mentoring people at your career stage. Peer reviewers will take this into account as part of the review criteria.

Follow All Instructions

When preparing your application, make sure to follow instructions in both the [SF 424 R&R Application Guide\(link is external\)](#) and the FOA.

Application Deadlines

NIH's [Standard Due Dates\(link is external\)](#) and [Standard AIDS Dates\(link is external\)](#) apply.

Find Full Details, Get Answers

This is worth repeating: carefully read the FOA. See the [July 20, 2017 Guide announcement\(link is external\)](#).

If you have questions or need more guidance, touch base with [Dr. Shawn Gaillard\(link is external\)](#). As we mentioned above, you should contact her to confirm your eligibility to apply.