

UCSF May Submit 2 Applications

Internal Deadline: **NOON**, Wednesday, July 17, 2024

PLEASE FORWARD THIS ANNOUNCEMENT TO ALL APPROPRIATE FACULTY AND RESEARCH ADMINISTRATORS

WHAT: NIH Director's Early Independence Awards (DP5) (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-24-005.html>)

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS NUMBER: RFA-RM-24-005

PURPOSE:

- The program supports rigorous and promising junior investigators who wish to pursue independent research soon after completion of their terminal doctoral degree or post-graduate clinical training, thereby forgoing the traditional post-doctoral training period and accelerating their entry into an independent research career.
- For the program to support the best possible researchers and research, applications are sought which reflect the full diversity of the research workforce. Individuals from diverse backgrounds, including those from underrepresented groups, are strongly encouraged to apply.
- Applications in all topics relevant to the broad mission of NIH are welcome, including, but not limited to, topics in the behavioral, social, biomedical, applied, and formal sciences and topics that may involve basic, translational, or clinical research.

ELIGIBILITY:

- The date of receipt of the terminal doctoral degree or completion of clinical residency of the PD/PI must be between June 1, 2023 and September 30, 2025.
 - The end of post-graduate clinical training includes residency and fellowship periods.
 - The date of degree receipt is that which appears on the official transcript for the degree.
- The PD/PI must not have served as a post-doctoral fellow for more than twelve months following a previous, non-terminal doctoral degree (this only applies to PD/Pis with multiple doctoral degrees who served in a 12+ month post-doctoral fellowship before their terminal degree)
- At the time of award, either:
 - The Early Independence investigator must have received a PhD, MD, DO, DC, DDS, DVM, OD, DPM, ScD, EngD, DrPH, DNSc, ND (Doctor of Naturopathy), PharmD, DSW, PsyD, or equivalent doctoral degree from an accredited domestic or foreign institution, or
 - An authorized official of the degree-granting or training institution must certify that all degree requirements have been met and that the receipt date of the degree (as will appear on the transcript) will be before September 30, 2025. In addition, an authorized official of the host institution must certify that the PD/PI will be able to conduct independent research at the institution at the time of the project start date.
- Individuals must at least 9.6 person-months of effort to the Early Independence Award project each year (which is 80% effort per year). In years 3-5 of the project period, awardees may reduce their effort on the Early Independence Award project, but they must still conduct at

least 9.6 person-months of general independent research each year (which is 80% effort per year).

- Individuals are eligible only if they, at the time of application submission, do not have research independence. Lack of research independence is defined functionally rather than by position title. Eligible individuals must have all the following characteristics:
 - The PD/PI's current research agenda is set through concurrence with mentors.
 - The PD/PI's research is funded primarily through support to other investigators (mentored fellowships such as NIH F31 or F32 Fellowships or NSF Graduate Research Fellowships do not preclude eligibility).
 - The PD/PI does not have any space assigned directly by the institution for the conduct of their research.
 - The PD/PI, according to institutional policy, cannot apply for an NIH R01 grant without a special waiver or exemption from the institution.
- **Please be aware that applicants must have a commitment for an independent position at UCSF to be considered, and the nature of that commitment must be specified.** Please include appointment details on the pre-proposal cover sheet.

BUDGET AND PROJECT PERIOD:

- Award Budget: up to \$250,000 direct costs per year
 - UCSF indirect cost policy will apply except for non-federal entities.
- Project Period: up to 5 years

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS UCSF MAY SUBMIT: 2

DUE DATES:

- **Internal: NOON, Wednesday, July 17, 2024**
- **Pls submit directly to the LSP; RMS does not get involved unless and until you are nominated.**
- Sponsor: Friday, September 06, 2024

Submit the following in ONE PDF file by NOON, July 17th, to: limitedsubmissions@ucsf.edu

1. Limited Submission Pre-proposal Cover Sheet with signatures (form attached to email)
2. Project Summary (2-pg. max., including references) addressing the following:
 - a. Evidence of exceptional scientific creativity and productivity
 - b. A research plan in a scientific area relevant to the NIH mission for which the investigator has demonstrated expertise
3. NIH Bio-sketch (5-pg. max., including publications)
(<https://rdo.ucsf.edu/sites/rdo.ucsf.edu/files/biosketch-blankformat.docx>)
4. **Separately email three letters of recommendation directly from current and previous scientific mentors to: limitedsubmissions@ucsf.edu** (subject line should read, "Early Ind. Award Rec. for _____"). Recommendations should offer a detailed assessment of:
 - a. The prospects for a successful early transition to research independence
 - b. Achievements as a graduate student/trainee
 - c. The potential for future scientific contributions

The LSP is a selection process, not an award process. As the LSP is under significant time constraints, all reviewer feedback is optional. We encourage you to seek other avenues for proposal feedback.

For information on all current LSOs, please visit: <http://rdo.ucsf.edu/limited-submission-program-lsp>

Sent by Amanda Yu on behalf of the Research Development Office (RDO), Limited Submissions Program (LSP).