

**Welcome! The office hour will  
begin at 1:00 PM (ET)**

Lameese Akacem  
Laurie Stepanek  
Latarsha Carithers  
Justin Rosenzweig

# **Advancing Research Careers (ARC) Predoc to Postdoc Transition Program F99/K00**

## **Virtual Office Hour**

**[PAR-23-222](#)**

May 1, 2024

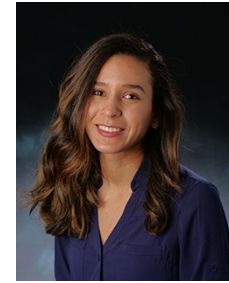
# Before We Start

- This office hour will **NOT** be recorded, however the overview slides will be posted online.
- After the brief program overview please raise your “hand” or type your questions in the “Q&A” chat box.
- Please note that the office hour will focus on the F99/K00 portion of the ARC program. It is not intended for organizations intending to apply for a UE5.

# Office Hour Participants

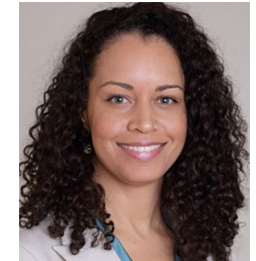
## Program

- Lameese Akacem, Program Director
- Laurie Stepanek, Program Director



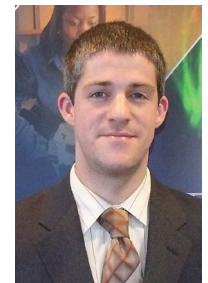
## Review

- Latarsha Carithers, Chief of the Training, Mentored Research, and Diversity Section



## Grants Management

- Justin Rosenzweig, Grants Management Team Leader



# Disclaimer

This office hour and accompanying slides are for informational purposes only. They serve as a brief overview of the ARC F99/K00 program and are not meant to be comprehensive in coverage of all required components of an application.

**Applicants are responsible for following the instructions detailed in the NOFOs and any Related Notices (included in the NOFO's Overview Information section), and the SF424 Application Guide.**

# ARC Program Purpose

The purpose of this program is to support promising, late-stage graduate students from diverse backgrounds (for examples see [Notice of NIH's Interest in Diversity](#)) to transition into and succeed in mentored postdoctoral research positions.

ARC has two components: an institutionally-focused research education cooperative agreement (UE5) and an individual predoctoral career transition award (F99/K00) to enhance diversity.

**ARC Website:**

<https://www.nigms.nih.gov/training/arc>

# NIH ARC Program Structure

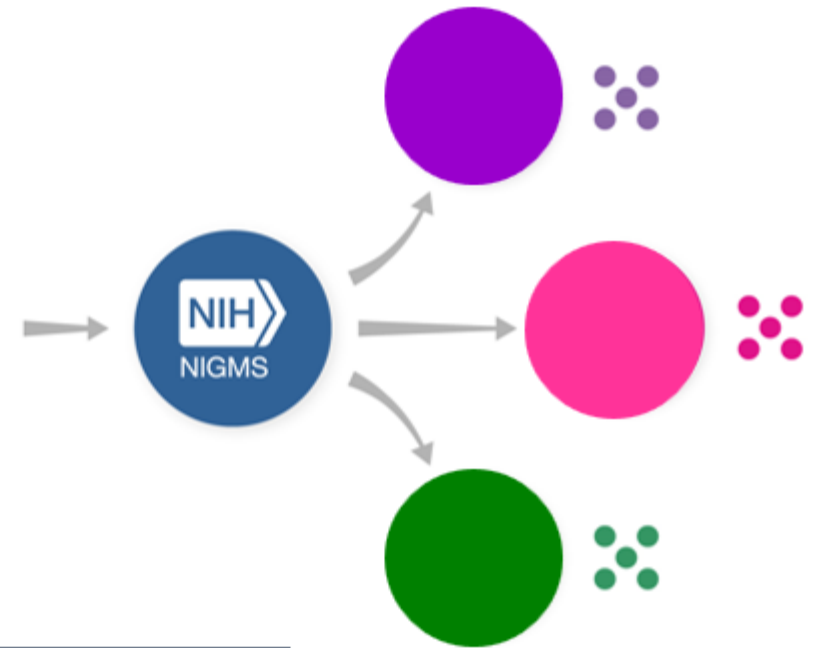
Awards to organizations (UE5) to provide mentoring and career development



ARC F99/K00 applicants compete and are selected by participating NIH ICs



ARC F99/K00 scholars participate in cohorts managed by UE5 recipients



**Next 3 F99/K00 application due dates:** June 13, 2024, October 11, 2024, and February 13, 2025

# ARC F99/K00 Goal

- To foster the development of individuals from diverse backgrounds who have demonstrated an interest in and potential for pursuing impactful careers in the biomedical research workforce **that typically require postdoctoral training** (e.g., academic research and teaching at a range of institution types, industry or government research).
  - F99 phase (predoc): 1 - 2 years of support to complete predoctoral research training and identify a postdoctoral mentor
  - K00 phase (postdoc): Up to 3 years of support for postdoctoral mentored research and career development
- For the purpose of this NOFO, **NIH encourages institutions to recruit prospective candidates from groups identified as underrepresented in the biomedical sciences** (for examples, see the [Notice of NIH's of Interest in Diversity](#)).



# ARC F99/K00 Considerations

- Intended for individuals who **require at least 12 months of predoctoral research training** (F99 phase) before transitioning to the K00 award phase. *An individual who cannot provide a compelling rationale for at least one year of additional mentored predoctoral research training at the time of award is not a strong candidate for this award.*
- The candidate's **research interests** should be related to the mission area(s) of one or more of the participating NIH Institutes, Centers, or Offices (ICOs).
- ARC F99 fellows/K00 scholars will be expected to participate in additional **mentoring, networking, and professional development activities** coordinated by the institutionally-focused research education grant awardees (ARC UE5).

# ARC F99/K00 Participating ICOs

## PAR-23-222 - Independent Clinical Trial **Not Allowed**

*Applicants should carefully note which NIH Institutes, Centers and Offices (ICO) participate in each announcement; this list may change over time. ICOs that do not participate in this announcement will not consider applications for funding. Consultation with NIH staff before applying is **strongly encouraged**.*

*Participating ICOs (05/2024): NIGMS; NEI; NIBIB; NLM; NCCIH; SGMRO; NICHD*

# ARC F99/K00 – Eligibility

- Must have a baccalaureate degree and currently enrolled in a mentored, biomedical PhD or equivalent research degree program. Students matriculated in clinical, health-professional single or dual degree programs are not eligible.
- Must be at the dissertation research stage of training and expected to need 1-2 years to complete the PhD at the time of award.
- By the time of the award, must be a US citizen, non-citizen National or permanent resident.

# ARC F99/K00 – Application instructions

- Follow the Fellowship (F) instructions of the [SF424 \(R&R\) Application Guide](#), except where instructed in the Notice of Funding Opportunity to do otherwise.

## Research Training Plan

All instructions in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide must be followed, with the following additional instructions:

### Specific Aims:

All candidates must use these two Specific Aims:

## Sponsor and Co-Sponsor Statements:

DO NOT follow the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide instructions for this section. Instead, follow the instructions below.

- All page limitations described in the SF424 Application Guide and the [Table of Page Limits](#) must be followed.

# ARC F99/K00 – Application components

Section of Application	Page limits	Special instructions for ARC?
Program Summary/Abstract	30 lines of text	N
Project Narrative	Three sentences	N
Other Attachments: Diversity Statement	1	Y
Biographical Sketch	5	Y
Applicant's Background and Goals for Fellowship Training	6	Y
Specific Aims	1	Y
Research Strategy	6	Y
Respective Contributions	1	N
Selection of Sponsor and Institution	1	N
Training in the Responsible Conduct of Research	1	N
Sponsor and Co-Sponsor Statements	6	Y
Letters of Support from Collaborators, Contributors, and Consultants	6	N
Description of Institutional Environment and Commitment to Training	2	Y
Description of Candidate's Contribution to Program Goals	No page limit	N

Please note these are not the only application components!

# ARC F99/K00 – Timeline

	Cycle I	Cycle II	Cycle III
Application Due Date ( <b>non-AIDS</b> )	February	June	October
Application Due Date ( <b>AIDS</b> )	May	September	January
Scientific Merit Review	July	November	March
Advisory Council	October	January	May
Earliest Start Date	December	April	July

**First application due date: June 13, 2024**

# ARC F99/K00 – Transition to K00 phase

- A K00 award will be made only to a candidate who has successfully completed the F99-supported training, secured an appropriate postdoctoral position, and provided a strong research and career development plan that will occur in a supportive research environment.
- A separate application for the K00 phase will be submitted to the awarding IC no later than 3 months prior to the proposed activation date of the K00 award. This application should be prepared in collaboration with the K00 mentor(s) and demonstrate how the K00 will further facilitate achievement of a career in the biomedical research workforce (see [ARC F99/K00 NOFO Section VI.2](#)).

# Questions?

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