



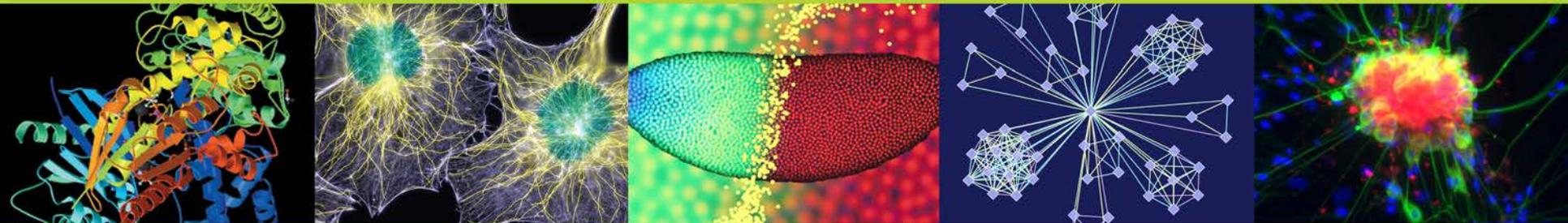
National Institute of
General Medical Sciences



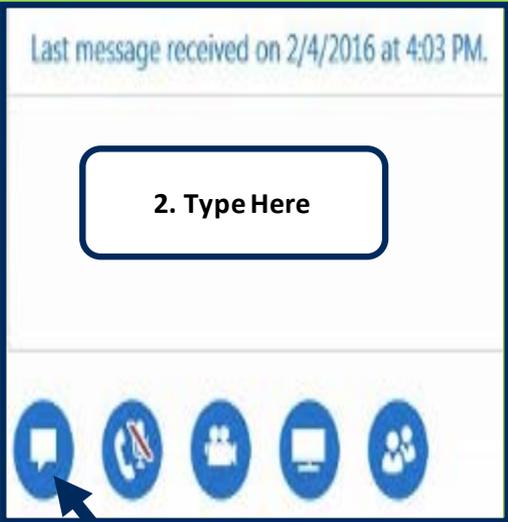
Bridges Research Training Programs Webinar for Applicants

7 August, 2019

The webinar will begin at 2:00 PM Eastern. Please ensure your phone is muted.



Questions During the Webinar?



The screenshot shows a chat window with a status bar at the top that reads "Last message received on 2/4/2016 at 4:03 PM." Below this is a large text input field containing the placeholder text "2. Type Here". At the bottom of the chat window is a row of five circular icons: a speech bubble, a microphone with a slash, a video camera, a computer monitor, and a group of three people. A blue arrow points from the first icon (the speech bubble) to a callout box below it that says "1. Click Chat Button".

Ask on-line in the “Chat” box located on the lower left side of your screen (type in your question(s)).

We will answer them during the Q & A period

Submit Questions to “ALL”

Please MUTE your phones

****DISCLAIMER****

This webinar and accompanying slides are for informational purposes only. They serve as an overview of the Bridges programs and are not meant to be comprehensive in coverage of all required components of an application.

For any submission, applicants are responsible for following the instructions detailed in the FOA and any Related Notices included in the FOA's Overview Information section.

Presenters

- Mercedes Rubio, Program Officer
- Patrick H. Brown, Program Officer
- Justin Rosenzweig, Grants Management Team Leader
- Lee Slice, Scientific Review Officer

Webinar Outline

- I. Program Perspective
- II. Grants Management Perspective
- III. Review Perspective
- IV. Your Perspective (Q&A)

General Tips

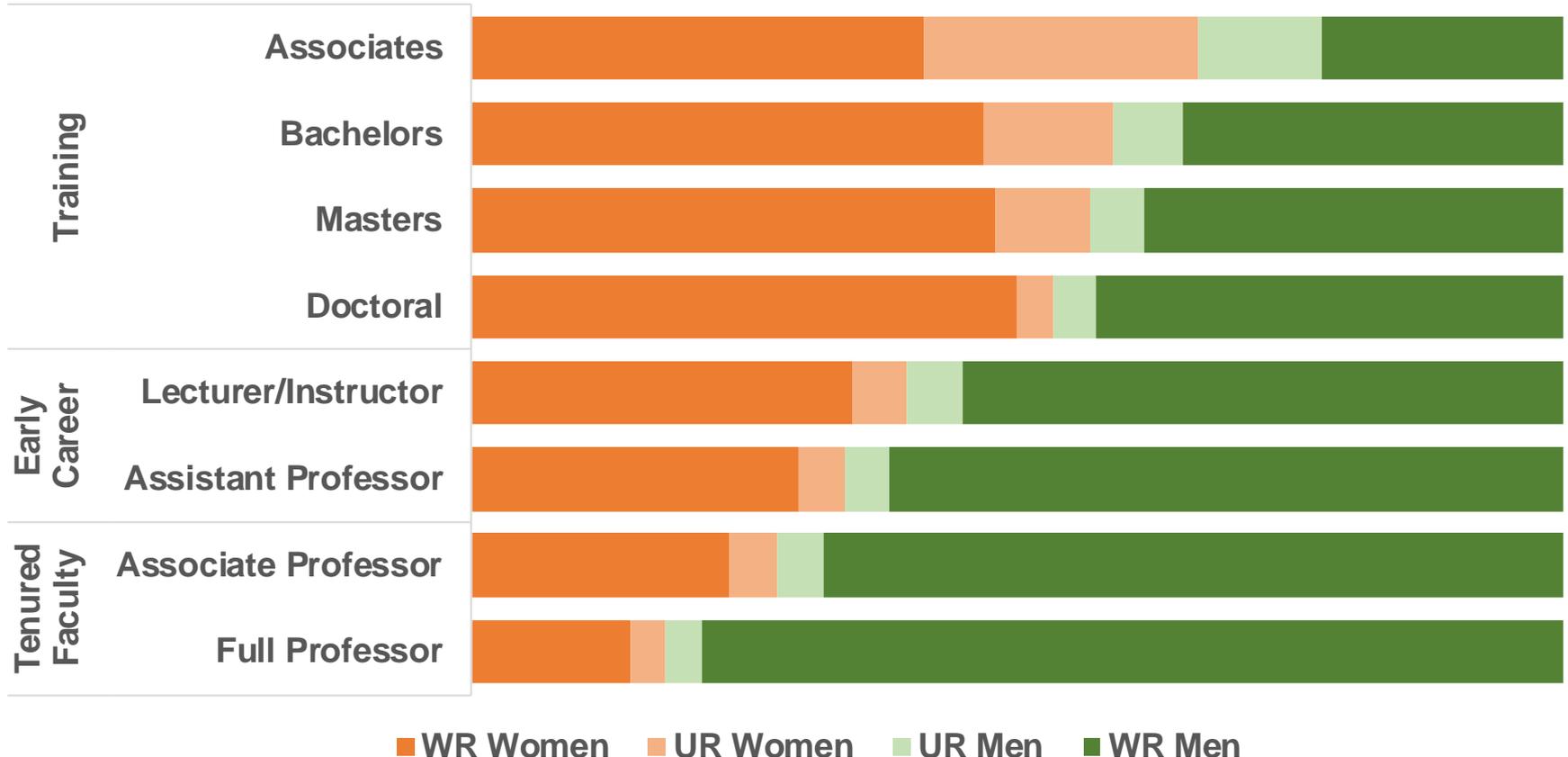
- **Follow the instructions in the FOA and Notices carefully** in conjunction with the Training (T) instructions in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide. (This FOA is significantly different from the previous Bridges FOAs).
 - PAR-19-299**- Bridges to the Baccalaureate (B2B)
 - PAR-19-300**- Bridges to the Doctorate (B2D)
- **Three options for submitting application:**
 - Grants.gov workspace
 - NIH ASSIST
 - Your institution's system-to-system
- **All applications **must** be submitted as **NEW** for September 25, 2019 receipt date**

Webinar Outline

- I. Program Perspective
- II. Grants Management Perspective
- III. Review Perspective
- IV. Your Perspective (Q&A)

The **PROBLEM**: Certain URMs and women are underrepresented in the biomedical academic pathway

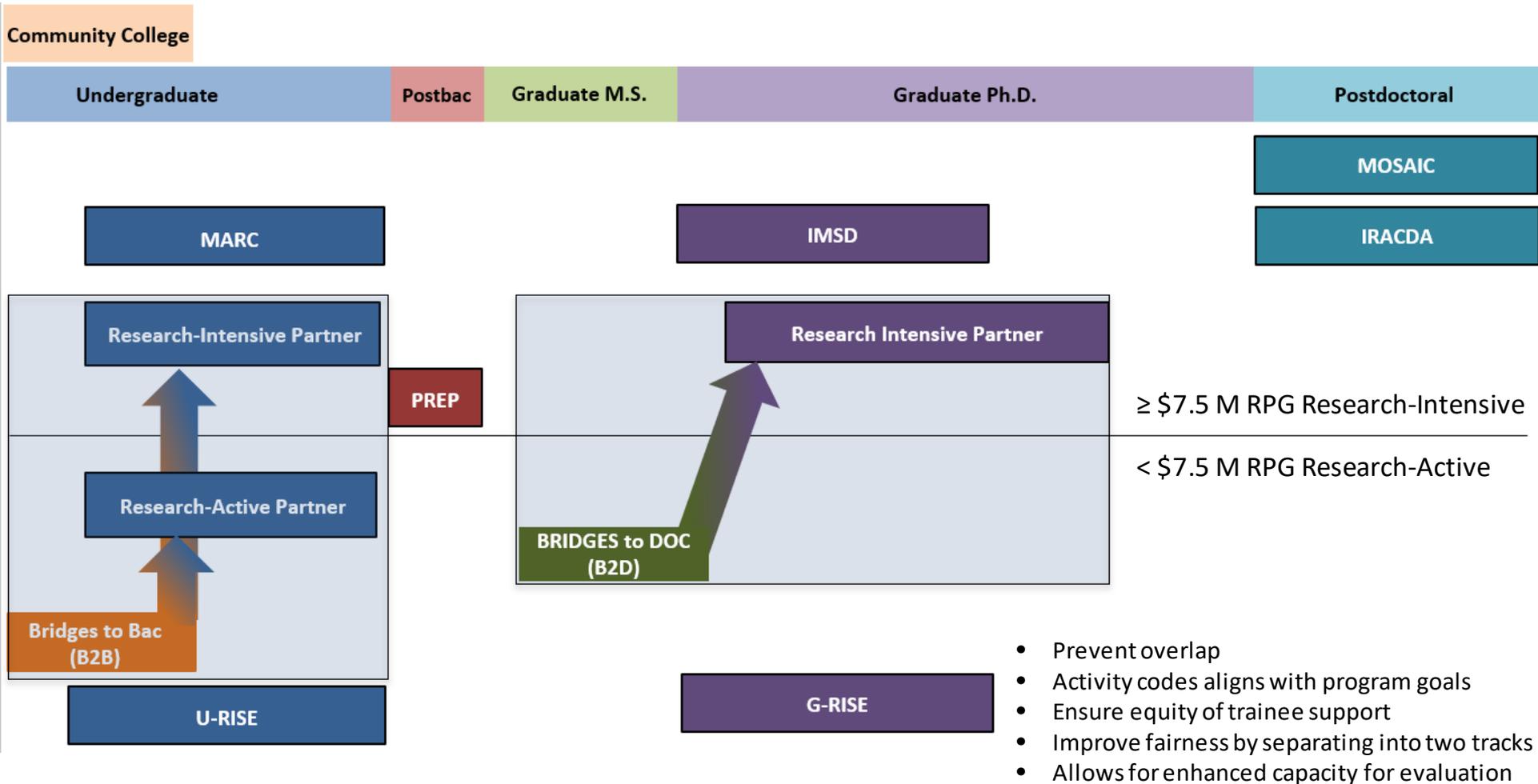
0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%



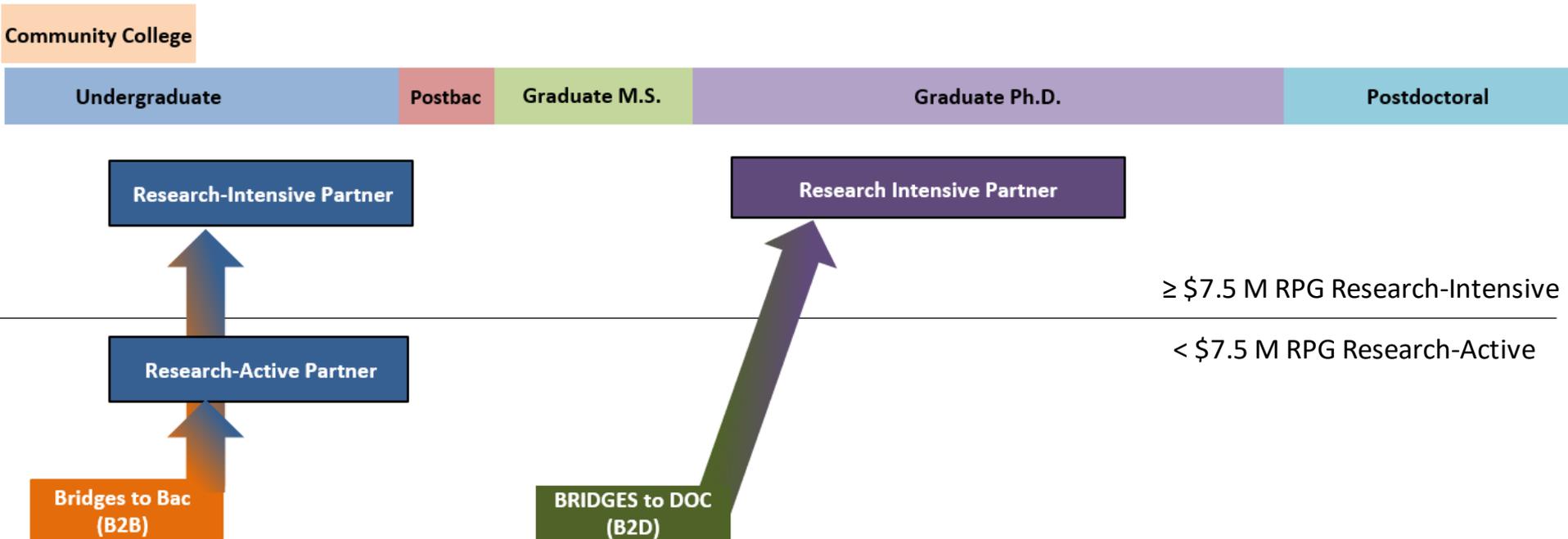
UR, underrepresented: Hispanic, African American/Black, Native American
 WR, well represented: White, Asian

Valantine, Lund, Gammie 2016 CBE/LSE

NIGMS-TWD Research Training Programs



NIGMS-TWD Bridges Research Training Programs



- Prevent funding overlap
- Activity codes aligns with program goals (R→T)
- Ensure equity of trainee support (Stipends, Tuition remission)
- Improve fairness by separating into two tracks
- Allows for enhanced capacity for evaluation

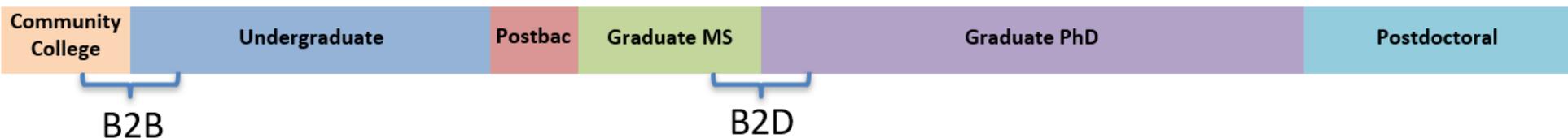
Bridges Strategy and Training Program Goals

Bridge to the Baccalaureate Program

Support **strong institutional partnerships** between 2-year and 4-year degree granting institutions to develop a diverse pool of research-oriented undergraduates who **bridge** from a community college or two-year institution and **complete bachelor's degrees in STEM** fields.

Bridge to the Doctorate Program

Support **strong institutional partnerships** between terminal MS-granting and research-intensive PhD-granting institutions to develop a diverse pool of scientists **earning a Ph.D.**, who have the skills to successfully transition into **careers in the biomedical research workforce**.



Trainee-Centered Program

Budget Categories	B2B	B2D
Tuition Remission	New	Continued
NRSA Stipend (prior salary)	New	New
Travel (includes SRE (B2B))	Continued	Continued
Training Related Expenses (PD, Admin staff salary; supplies; curriculum/methods development; assessment)	~New	~New

Award Information – *Budget and Project Period (B2B)*

- **Award Budget**

- Application budgets are not limited, but need to reflect the trainee pool and training activities of the proposed program.
- The total amount of Training Related Expenses (TRE) that may be requested is limited to a maximum of \$10,000/trainee/year. The maximum cap for the TRE portion of the proposed budget is \$100,000/year.

- **Award Project Period**

- The maximum project period is five years, renewable.

Award Information – *Budget and Project Period (B2D)*

- **Award Budget**

- Application budgets are not limited, but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project.

- NIGMS expects to fund programs **at or below 15 trainees per year**, as appropriate to the institutional capabilities.*

- *- This is a general guideline: request a number strongly justified by the pool of candidates and the program's ability to train and mentor them.

- **Award Project Period**

- The maximum project period is five years, renewable.

Eligibility- *Institutions*

- Applicant organizations may not submit more than one application as the lead institution.
- B2B- 2 year and 4 year institution(s)
- B2D- terminal MS granting institution(s) and research intensive* PhD granting institution(s)

*Institutions with an average of NIH [research project grant \(RPG\)](#) funding greater than or equal to \$7.5 million in total costs per year over the past 3 fiscal years

Eligibility-

Program Director (PD)/Program Investigator (PI)

- Multiple PDs/Pis (MPI) are required (at least one at each partner institution).
- Any individual(s) with the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research training program
- The PD/PI of the lead institution must be designated as the contact PD/PI.
- The contact PD/PI is expected to have a full-time appointment at the applicant institution unless extremely well-justified.

Applications that do not meet these requirements will be considered noncompliant and will not be reviewed.

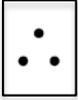
Eligibility-Trainees

- Must be a citizen, non-citizen national, or permanent resident of U.S.
 - Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) students are not eligible.
- Matriculated as a **full-time student** and majoring in a STEM (B2B) or biomedical science discipline.
- Appointments are normally made in 12-month increments for up to 2 years, and no trainee may be appointed for less than 9 months.

Preparation

Overall Impact- demonstrate a pool of eligible students, the faculty mentors/ preceptors, intra- and inter- institutional resources (strong partnerships), and evidence-based practices to support the students in the pursuit of the goals of the Program and your measureable objectives.

Preparation

- **Baseline Self-assessment:**
 - Transfer Rates (Institutions, Departments, Students)
 - Resources (Intra- and Inter- Institutional)
 - **Current with Literature (evidence-based practices)**
 - **Budget**
 - Stipend, Tuition, TRE's (grant allowable expenses), travel, summer research (B2B)
 - Institutional Contributions (e.g., non-allowable NIH expenses, Program affiliates)
-  Construct clear, **measurable** objectives in terms of transfer and degree completion rates, specific to your institutional partnership.

Examples of Measurable Objectives

For example,

- We expect to increase the number of students matriculating by 3 students each year (10%).
- We expect the UR completion percentage to increase from 20% to 25% by year two, and 30% by year three...

Rather than,

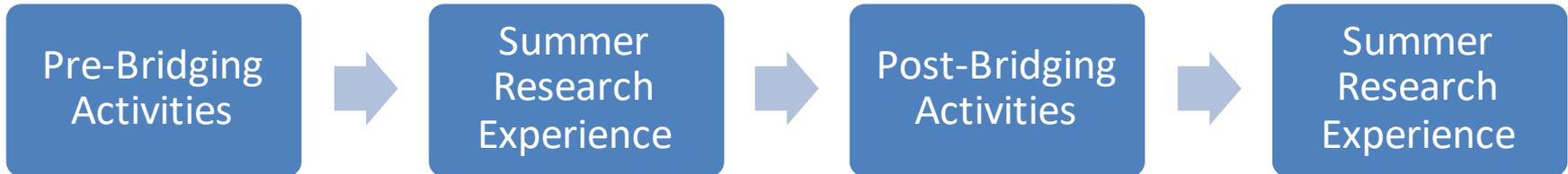
- We will provide mentored research experiences...
- We will use C.U.R.E.S. in the classroom to improve interest...

Example Program Structure B2B

Community College(s)

4-Year Partner(s)

Up to 24 Months of Support—tuition and stipend



Curriculum Development
Skill Development
Research Experiences*
Course Alignment Advising

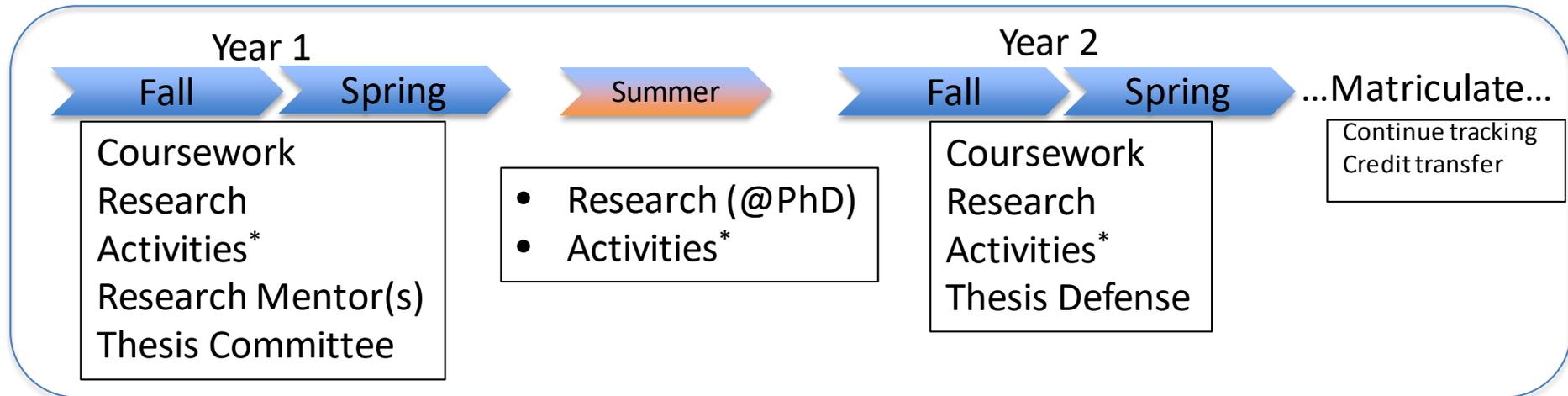
Courses to Reinforce Skills
Research Experiences*
National/Regional Meetings

*If distance between partners allows

Up to 24 months of support:

- 1 year at CC and 1 year at partner BS Institution (w/o NIGMS T34)
- 2 years at CC (w/ NIGMS T34 at BS Institution)
- Other

Example Program Structure (B2D)



Up to two years of support from the Bridges grant:

- 1 year at MS-level and 1 year at PhD partner (w/o NIGMS T32)
- 2 years at MS-level
- other

*- Journal clubs, seminars, workshops

Webinar Outline

- I. Program Overview
- II. Application Components
- III. Peer Review Overview
- IV. Budget Overview

Application Title

Use the format:

“Bridge to the *Program at Name of Institution.*”

For example:

Bridge to the *Baccalaureate at the University of NIH*

Bridge to the *Doctorate at the University of Bethesda*

The Application- Page Limits

Section of Application	Page Limits
Project Summary/Abstract	30 lines of text
Program Plan	25
Advisory Committee (optional)	1
Recruitment Plan to Enhance Diversity	3
Trainee Retention Plan	3
Outcomes Data Collection and Storage Plan	2
Dissemination Plan	1
Plan for Instruction in Methods for Enhancing Reproducibility	3
Plan for Instruction in the Responsible Conduct of Research	3
Each Biographical Sketch	5
Institutional Support Letter	10
Institutional Eligibility Letter	1
Trainee Selection/Appointment Procedures	3
Conflict Resolution Protocols	3

Research Training Program Plan Form

- Training Program Section
- Faculty, Trainees, and Training Record Section
- Appendix Section
- Other Attachments (R&R Other Project Information Form)

Training Program Section

PHS 398 Research Training Program Plan

OMB Number: 0925-0001
Expiration Date: 3/31/2020

Introduction			
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Appendix			
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Training Program Section

2. Program Plan

3. RCR

4. Plan for Enhancing Reproducibility

2. Program Plan (*Page limit: 25 pages*)

- Rationale, Mission, Objectives, and Overall Training Plan
- Career Development
- Program Oversight, Participating Faculty Selection, and Mentor Training
- Institutional and Departmental Commitment to the Program
- Training Program Director(s)/Principal Investigator(s)
- Preceptors/Mentors (Participating Faculty)
- Trainee Positions, Recruitment, Retention
- Training Outcomes
- Program Evaluation and Dissemination
- Sample format tables (A1, A2, A3, and B1, B2, or B3)

Rationale, Mission, Objectives, and Overall Training Plan

- Rationale for the training program – Why needed? (Why can't these students go directly into a BS (or PhD) program?)
- Training mission, objectives (specific, measurable) -institutional context should inform the objectives and the design of the proposed program activities
- Discuss the rationale for the proposed institutional partners (proximity, current collaborations, articulation agreements)
- How transfers will be given credit for existing coursework, experiences, and continued to be supported and tracked
- Evidence-based approaches to be employed
- How the training activities build skills and attain objectives
- Enhancements to the training environment beyond the supported trainees

Career Development

Describe

- How will trainees receive timely information regarding the steps required to transition into the next phase of the biomedical research workforce pathway (e.g., when applying to graduate programs)?
- How trainees will be introduced to mentors and sponsors who will enhance their career opportunities (e.g., contacts at national meetings and institutions with NIH-funded training programs)?
- A mechanism to ensure the pool of potential applicants and trainees will be provided with information about the outcomes of former trainees of the program (e.g., on publicly accessible websites) and about the overall biomedical research workforce employment landscape.

Program Oversight, Participating Faculty Selection, and Mentor Training

Should include:

- the planned strategy and administrative structure to oversee and monitor the program and to ensure appropriate and timely trainee progress.
- plan to select faculty based on commitment to training and mentoring
- the mechanism for matching trainees with the appropriate participating faculty mentors.
- a mechanism to monitor mentoring, including oversight of the effectiveness of the trainee/participating faculty match, and a plan for removing faculty displaying unacceptable mentorship qualities.

Institutional Commitment

Describe how the level of institutional commitment to research and training excellence will promote the success of the trainees and training program. For example:

- promotes a culture in which the highest standards of scientific rigor, reproducibility and responsible conduct are advanced
- provides adequate staff, facilities, and educational resources to the planned program
- supports the PDs/PIs and other key staff associated with the planned training program
- ensures that the research facilities as well as the laboratory practices promote the safety of trainees ensures that the research facilities are accessible to trainees with disabilities
- promotes a positive, supportive and inclusive research and training environment for individuals from all backgrounds

Program Director/Principal Investigator

- Scientific expertise, administrative and training experiences
- Sufficient bandwidth to oversee the program
- Demonstrated commitment to training the next generation of biomedical research workforce
- Received training to mentor individuals from diverse backgrounds
- Multiple PDs/PIs approach is required—one from each participating institution
- The application **must** describe the administrative structure and leadership succession plan for critical positions

Preceptors/Mentors (Participating Faculty)

Describe how:

- the program has or will build a diverse team of participating faculty
- the faculty will, or continue to, receive training in effective, evidence-based mentoring and teaching practices
- the faculty are evaluated as mentors and teachers

Trainee Positions, Recruitment, Retention

- Provide a strong justification for the number of requested trainee positions in the context of the training grant eligible pool
- Describe the plans for a holistic candidate review process
- Define and justify the selection and appointment criteria

Training Outcomes

- Provide trainee outcomes for students in similar programs at your institution for up the last five years
 - B2B: Table 8D Part II, and suggested tables B1, B2, or B3
 - B2D: Table 8A Part III
- Degree completion rates (BS; PhD) and time-to-degree for recent graduates. Data should have institutional comparator groups, graduation rates for all students in the STEM fields represented, and a description of career outcomes
- Although the training tables for new applications only allow for five years of recent graduate outcomes, the application may describe up to 15 years of outcomes in the narrative

Program Evaluation and Dissemination

- Describe the evaluation or assessment process to be used determine whether the overall program is effective
- Explain how the plan will effectively track trainee and career outcomes
- Explain how the PD(s)/PI(s) will share the outcomes of the training or mentoring interventions

Evaluation costs are allowed typically up to a maximum of \$3,000 for the 5-year project period (TRE).

3. Plan for Instruction in the Responsible Conduct of Research

- All applications must include a plan to fulfill NIH requirements for instruction in the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR).
- The plan must address the five required components:
 - 1) Format
 - 2) Subject Matter
 - 3) Faculty Participation
 - 4) Duration of Instruction
 - 5) Frequency of Instruction

**Applications lacking a RCR plan will not be reviewed.
See [NOT-OD-10-019](#) for more details.**

4. Plan for Instruction in Methods for Enhancing Reproducibility

- Applicants are required to provide a Plan for Instruction in Methods for Enhancing Reproducibility
- The plan must describe how trainees will be instructed in principles important for enhancing research reproducibility

If this plan is not included, the application will be considered incomplete and will not be reviewed

Rigor & Reproducibility Resources

- **NIH Website on Rigor and Reproducibility:**
<https://www.nih.gov/research-training/rigor-reproducibility>
- **Clearinghouse for R25 Training Modules:**
<https://www.nigms.nih.gov/training/pages/clearinghouse-for-training-modules-to-enhance-data-reproducibility.aspx>
- **NIGMS Administrative Supplements:**
<https://www.nigms.nih.gov/training/instpredoc/Pages/rigor-rep.aspx>

Faculty, Trainees, and Training Record Section

[View Burden Statement](#)

PHS 398 Research Training Program Plan

OMB Number: 0925-0001
Expiration Date: 3/31/2020

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Required

- 7. Participating Faculty Biosketches
- 8. Letters of Support
- 9. Data Tables

7. Faculty Biosketches - *with personal statement addressing*

- Training, mentoring, and promoting inclusive, safe and supportive scientific research environments
- Maintaining a record of, and providing training in rigorous and unbiased experimental design, methodology, analysis, interpretation, and reporting of results
- Supporting trainees participating in activities required to identify and transition into careers in the biomedical research workforce
- Fulfilling the need of the trainees to complete their degrees in a timely fashion
- New Biosketches are limited to five pages -
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-15-032.html>

8. Letters of Support

- Institutional Support and Commitment Letter (10 page maximum) **must** be attached as part of Letters of Support
 - **Combine all Support/Commitment Letters into a single PDF for uploading**
- Institutional Eligibility Letter **must** certify eligibility
 - B2B: 2-year and 4-year partner schools eligibility
 - B2D: terminal MS degree in biomedical sciences; research-intensive PhD partner(s)

If these letters are not included, the application will be deemed incomplete and will not be reviewed

- Other Letters of Support- can be included but should include information distinct from the details required of the Institutional support Letter

Institutional Support and Commitment Letter

Page limit: 10-pages combined into a single document.

Describes the activities and resources provided by the institution.

As applicable, the letter should address how the institution:

- Supports core facilities and technology resources that can enhance training
- Provides staff, facilities, and educational resources to the planned program
- Supports the PDs/PIs and other staff associated with the planned program
- Ensures that faculty have protected time for mentoring, training and research
- Fosters and rewards excellence in training and mentoring
- Promotes diversity and inclusion at all levels of the research training environment
- Ensures that facilities promote the safety of trainees
- Ensures that facilities are accessible to trainees with disabilities
- Promotes a positive, supportive and inclusive environment
- Ensures trainees access to student support services
- Provides resources for evaluating the training outcomes of the program
- Explain how the program will synergize and share resources
- Explain how the faculty, pool of potential trainees, and resources are sufficient
- Policies and procedure are in place to prevent and respond to discriminatory harassment and other discriminatory practices

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-19-029.html>

9. Data Tables (B2B)

New Applications

New Predoctoral Training Submit tables: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5A, 6A, 8A	12/19/2017	MS Word (40 KB)	MS Word (87 KB) PDF (453 KB)
New Postdoctoral Training Submit tables: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5B, 6B, 8C	12/19/2017	MS Word (41 KB)	MS Word (85 KB) PDF (406 KB)
New Undergraduate Training Submit tables: 2, 3, 4, 5C, 8D	12/19/2017	MS Word (49 KB)	MS Word (51 KB) PDF (360 KB)



Describe the Bridges Research Training Program Ecosystem

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/data-tables.htm>

Required Data Tables- (B2B)

Table	Title of Table
2	Participating Faculty Members
3	Federal Institutional Research Training Grant and Related Support Available to Participating Faculty Members
4	Research Support of Participating Faculty Members
5C	Publications of Those in Training: Undergraduate
8D Part II	Program Outcomes: Undergraduate, Recent Graduates

- **A summary of key data from the tables should also be included in the narrative (Program Plan) of the application. Make sure information in tables and narrative are consistent.**
- **Applications that do not include these data tables will not be reviewed.**

Suggested Data Tables- (B2B)

Table	Title of Table
A.1	Undergraduates and Faculty in Participating Biomedical Departments and Interdepartmental Programs
A.2	Student Population Characteristics
A.3	Undergraduate Graduation Rates
B.1, B.2, or B.3	Past Trainee Record (5-Year, 10-Year, or 15-Year)

Include Suggested Data tables within the Program Plan; counts toward the 25-page limit. Do NOT include with the required Data Tables

A summary of key data from the tables should also be included in the narrative of the application.

<https://www.nigms.nih.gov/Research/Mechanisms/Pages/BridgesBaccalaureate.aspx>

9. Data Tables (B2D)

New Applications



New Predoctoral Training Submit tables: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5A, 6A, 8A	12/19/2017	MS Word (40 KB)	MS Word (87 KB) PDF (453 KB)
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Describe the Bridges Research Training Program Ecosystem

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/data-tables.htm>

Required Data Tables- (B2D)

Table	Title of Table
1	Census of Participating Departments and Interdepartmental Programs
2	Participating Faculty Members
3	Federal Institutional Research Training Grant and Related Support Available to Participating Faculty Members
4	Research Support of Participating Faculty Members
5A	Publications of Those in Training: Predoctoral
6A	Applicants, Entrants, and their Characteristics for the Past Five Years: Predoctoral
8D Part III	Program Outcomes: Predoctoral, Recent Graduates

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/data-tables.htm>

- **A summary of key data from the tables should also be included in the narrative (Program Plan) of the application. Make sure information in tables and narrative are consistent.**
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Appendix

View Burden Statement

PHS 398 Research Training Program Plan

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Other Training Program Section			
10. Vertebrate Animals	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
11. Select Agent Research	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
12. Consortium/Contractual Arrangements	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
Appendix			
13. Appendix	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachments"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachments"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachments"/>

Required

- Required Training Activities
- Responsible Conduct of Research Syllabi
- Trainee Selection/Appt. Procedures (3pp)

Allowable

- Elective Activities
- Evaluation and Assessment Instruments
- Conflict Resolution Protocols (3pp)

Non-compliant due to missing required and/or exceed the allowable appendices or the page limitation will be withdrawn before arriving at NIGMS.

13. Other Attachments

OMB Number: 4040-0001
Expiration Date: 10/31/2019

RESEARCH & RELATED Other Project Information

1. Are Human Subjects Involved? Yes No

1.a. If YES to Human Subjects

Is the Project Exempt from Federal regulations? Yes No

If yes, check appropriate exemption number. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

If no, is the IRB review Pending? Yes No

IRB Approval Date:

Human Subject Assurance Number:

2. Are Vertebrate Animals Used? Yes No

2.a. If YES to Vertebrate Animals

Is the IACUC review Pending? Yes No

IACUC Approval Date:

Animal Welfare Assurance Number:

3. Is proprietary/privileged information included in the application? Yes No

4. Does this Project Have an Actual or Potential Impact - positive or negative - on the environment? Yes No

4.b. If yes, please explain:

4.c. If this project has an actual or potential impact on the environment, has an exemption been authorized or an environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS) been performed? Yes No

4.d. If yes, please explain:

5. Is the research performance site designated, or eligible to be designated, as a historic place? Yes No

5.a. If yes, please explain:

6. Does this project involve activities outside of the United States or partnerships with international collaborators? Yes No

6.a. If yes, identify countries:

6.b. Optional Explanation:

7. Project Summary/Abstract

8. Project Narrative

9. Bibliography & References Cited

10. Facilities & Other Resources

11. Equipment

12. Other Attachments

Required

Recruitment Plan to Enhance Diversity

Trainee Retention Plan

Outcomes Data Collection and Storage Plan

Dissemination Plan

Optional

Advisory Committee

Recruitment Plan to Enhance Diversity (3 pages)

- Describe outreach strategies and activities to recruit trainees from underrepresented groups (see [NOT-OD-18-210](#)).
- Describe specific efforts to be undertaken by the training program, including the involvement of training program faculty
- Centralized institutional recruitment efforts alone is not sufficient
- Accommodation is not the same as outreach or active recruitment of students with disabilities
- Please name your file “Recruitment plan to enhance diversity.pdf”.
- Potential effective strategies:
<https://www.nigms.nih.gov/training/diversity/pages/approaches.aspx>

Trainee Retention Plan (3 pages)

- Describe efforts to sustain the scientific interests of trainees from all backgrounds.
- Describe the specific efforts to be undertaken by the training program, including the involvement of training program faculty
- Centralized institutional retention efforts alone is not sufficient
- Please name your file “Trainee retention plan.pdf”.
- Resources:

<https://www.nigms.nih.gov/training/diversity/pages/approaches.aspx>

<https://extramural-diversity.nih.gov/building-participation/recruitment-retention>

Outcomes Data Collection and Storage Plan (2 pages)

- The applicant **must** provide a plan to track the outcomes for all supported trainees for a minimum of 15 years beyond the trainee's participation in the program.
- Describe how the data will be centralized, safeguarded, and retrievable during leadership changes (1-page maximum, part of the 2 pages).
- Please name your file "Outcomes data collection and storage plan.pdf".

Dissemination Plan (1 page)

- A specific plan **must** be provided to disseminate nationally any findings resulting from or materials developed under the auspices of the research education program.
- Please name your file “Dissemination plan.pdf”.

Advisory Committee (1 page maximum) *Optional*

- An Advisory Committee is not a required component of a training program.
- If an Advisory Committee is intended, the roles, responsibilities, and desired expertise of committee members, frequency of committee meetings, and other relevant information should be included.
- Advisory Committee members **should not be identified** or contacted prior to receiving an award.
- Please name your file “Advisory_Committee.pdf”.

Common Pitfalls



- Not reading the FOA and Notices thoroughly.
- Specific aims/objectives do not align with institutional assessment and resources.
- Lack of aims written as measurable objectives.
- Insufficient justification for the need for the proposed Bridges program.
- Incomplete and/or complete data tables that don't align with institutional self-assessment and proposed project.
- Failure to state existing/anticipated challenges and strategies to address them.
- Lack of evidence for strong institutional support.

Webinar Outline

- I. Program Overview
- II. Application Overview
- III. Budget Overview**
- IV. Peer Review Overview

Budget Overview

Budget - Trainees

- Support is allowed for **trainees** in the form of a **stipend**.
- All trainees are required to pursue their training full time, as specified by the sponsoring institution in accordance with its own policies.
- Appointments are normally made in 12 month increments. Appointments of less than 9 months require prior approval from the assigned NIGMS Program Officer.
- A Bridges appointment may not be held concurrently with another Federally sponsored fellowship, traineeship, or similar Federal award that provides a stipend or otherwise duplicates provisions of the Bridges appointment.

Stipends, Tuition, and Fees

- Kirschstein-NRSA awards provide stipends as a subsistence allowance to help defray living expenses during the research training experience.
- NIH will contribute to the combined cost of tuition and fees at the rate in place at the time of award.
- Stipend levels, as well as funding amounts for tuition and fees and are announced annually in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts, and are also posted on the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) webpage.

Trainee Travel – Bridges to Doctorate

- NIGMS will provide up to **\$1,000** per trainee to travel to scientific meetings or training experiences that will enhance scientific development, build science identity, create a sense of belonging in the scientific community, and build professional networks.
- For Bridges to the Doctorate supported institutions outside the continental United States, **\$1,250** for travel per trainee will be provided.

Trainee Travel – Bridges to Baccalaureate

- NIGMS will provide up to **\$1,000** per trainee to travel to scientific meetings or training experiences that will enhance scientific development, build science identity, create a sense of belonging in the scientific community, and build professional networks.
- Trainees are required to spend at least one summer in a research training experience at the bachelor's granting institution.
- Funds for the summer research experience will be provided as follows: \$3,000 per Bridges trainee, to be used in accordance with the institutional policies as a per diem for a period of up to ten weeks.

Training Related Expenses

- TRE that may be requested is limited to a maximum:
 - Baccalaureate: \$10,000 per trainee per year; for the entire proposed budget, \$100,000 per year.
 - Doctorate: \$8,400 per trainee per year.
- For both programs, TRE funds are typically used for costs associated with skills development training activities; seminar speakers; and with training or mentoring interventions. For Baccalaureate, TRE funds may also be used for curriculum or methods development.
- For both, program evaluation costs are typically up to \$3,000 for the 5-year training grant period.
- Other program related expenses, including personnel and administrative costs, may be included within training-related expenses.

Personnel Effort

- TRE funds may be used for personnel costs/staff salary. Typically, salary support for the PD/PI/co-Investigators (or in a combination of multiple PD(s)/PI(s)/co-Investigators) does not exceed 1.8 person months (i.e., 15% effort on a 12-month basis) in total, depending on the size and scope of the program.
- Typically, the total combined salary support for other administrative personnel (e.g., program administrator/program coordinator and/or program assistant/clerical support) does not exceed 3.0 person months (i.e., 25% effort on a 12-month basis) depending on the size and scope of the program.

xTrain for Student Appointments

- All Bridge trainees must have an appointment form submitted through the eRA Commons to xTrain before they may receive their stipend.
- If participants cannot continue in the grant program for the full appointment period an amended appointment must be submitted to xTrain with the correct appointment period.
- For the Doctorate Program, Termination Notice must be submitted through xTrain within 30 days of the end of the total support period.
- xTrain Web Page - application guide, quick reference sheets, FAQs, training materials:
https://era.nih.gov/services_for_applicants/other/xTrain.cfm

Appointments are normally made in 12-month increments.

Webinar Outline

- I. Program Overview
- II. Application Overview
- III. Budget Overview
- IV. Peer Review Overview**

Peer Review

- Please read the review criteria while preparing your application to make sure all of the required information is included.
- Review panel will assess your application against the review criteria.

Peer Review Cont.

- Bridges applications reviewed by one of two standing NIGMS review committees: TWD-C and TWD-D.
www.nigms.nih.gov/Research/application/Pages/reviewcommittees.aspx
- These applications will be assigned to either TWD-C/D to balance conflicts and workload.
- Receipt letter from scientific review officer will provide information about meeting dates, instructions for providing updates, link for committee roster, and people to contact during the review and post-review process.
- Scores and summary statements accessed through PI's eRA Commons account.

Peer Review Cont.

All from PAR Section V under Application Review Information

Scored Review Criteria:

- Training Program and Environment
- Training Program Director(s)/Principal Investigator(s)
- Preceptors/Mentors (Participating Faculty)
- Trainee Positions, Recruitment, and Retention
- Training Record

Additional Review Criteria: Acceptable/Unacceptable

- Training in Methods for Enhancing Reproducibility

Additional Review Considerations: Acceptable/Unacceptable

- Recruitment Plan to Enhance Diversity
- Training in the Responsible Conduct of Research
- Budget and Period of Support

Formatting Tips

Check Application

- Allow enough time to carefully check application after submission. We cannot accept any missing items after the receipt deadline.

Page Limits

- Supply all requested materials within page limits.
- Do not “overstuff” sections that don’t have page limits or use appendices to get around the limits.

Appendices

- Note that the Appendix should only be used in circumstances covered in the [NIH policy on appendix materials](#) and as the FOA specifically instructs applicants to do so.
- The Bridges FOAs requires specific Appendix materials.

Application Preparation Tips

Content

- Read the program announcement and ensure that your application contains the necessary elements.
- Successful submission through Grants.gov and eRA Commons does not mean appropriate responsiveness to the program announcement.

Context

- Present the institutional framework and environment of your program.
- Be realistic in your program's goals.

Application Preparation Tips Cont.

Comprehensive

- Address all of the requirements of the program announcement.
 - For example:
 - If you don't have institutional baseline data, explain how you plan to obtain it.
 - If you haven't fully formed your evaluation plan, at least acknowledge that you are working on it.
- Describe how your program “works”
 - For example:
 - How are students recruited and selected? By whom?
 - What does the advisory committee do? How often do they meet?
 - How have you used evaluation information in designing/improving your program?

Application Preparation Tips Cont.

Clear

- Don't bury important information.
- Don't expect reviewers to "read between the lines" to figure out what you are proposing.
- Present outcomes data in a straightforward manner:
 - Don't exaggerate.
 - Don't hide data (reviewers will "do the math").
 - It is far better to present results as they are and address how the program aims to improve.

Application Preparation Tips Cont.

Current

- Make sure faculty biosketches are up-to-date, in correct format, and relevant for training program
- Provide data on current and prior students
- Use the most recent institutional data

Consistent

- **Data in tables and text should match**
- Data should be consistent across tables
- Match justification to budget items
- Refer to the correct program in text and tables
- Include a timeline for the activities

Review Process: Usual Timeline

Timeframe

Activity

(From submission date)

1 - 2 months

Referral

2 - 6 months

Review Panel

6 - 7 months

Summary Statement Available

7 - 8 months

Advisory Council

8 - 9 months

Funding Decisions

9 - 10 months

Award Start Date

Critical Deadlines

- Letter of Intent Due Date(s)
 - Not Applicable
- Application Due Date(s)
 - September 25, 2019
- Earliest Start Date
 - July 2020 – B to Bac
 - August 2020 – B to Doc

For additional information

- Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) [PAR-19-299](#) and [PAR-19-300](#)
- Notices [NOT-GM-19-046](#); [NOT-GM-19-109](#)
- Bridges Website
- [Frequently Asked Questions – Application Guide, Electronic Submission of Grant Applications](#)

Agency Contacts

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Other Opportunities of potential interest

Sponsored Programs Administration Development (SPAD) Program (UC2)

[RFA-RM-19-004](#)

Deadline: June 26, 2020

Contact: Luis Cubano

Goal: To establish Offices of Sponsored Programs (OSPs) or enhance the services of existing OSPs or similar entities at domestic institutions of higher learning. Program priorities include funding primarily undergraduate institutions with emerging biomedical research and/or undergraduate research training programs.

Eligibility: Domestic associate's degree granting and baccalaureate degree granting institutions with <\$7.5 M research project grants, 25% Pell eligible students



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Other Opportunities of potential interest

Diversity Program Consortium Dissemination and Translation Awards (DPC DaTA) (U01)

[RFA-RM-19-003](#)

Deadline: October 8, 2019

Contact: Anissa J. Brown

Goal: Broaden the DPC's national impact by providing an opportunity for institutions not currently part of the DPC to apply for funding **to employ the consortium's experimental methods** to understand the effectiveness of a biomedical research training, mentoring, or research capacity building interventions.

Eligibility: Domestic associate's degree granting and baccalaureate degree granting institutions with <\$7.5 M research project grants, 25% Pell eligible students



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Thank you!

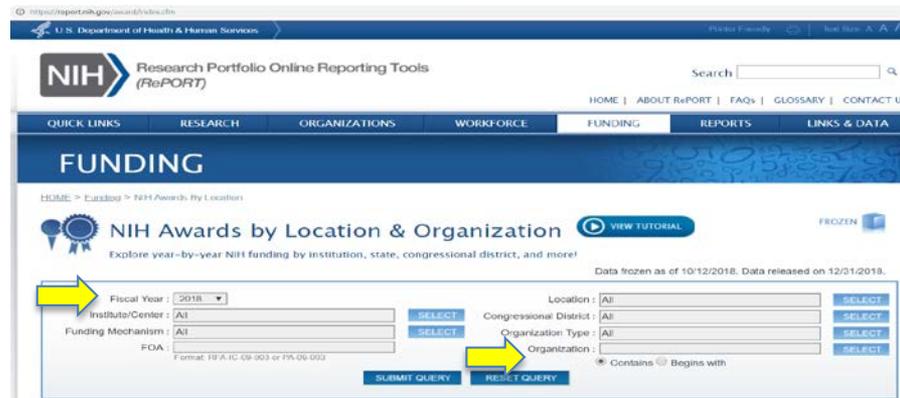
Questions

NIH RePORTER- B2D PhD Partner(s)

1. To determine RPG funding, visit [NIH RePORTER](#). Select the **Funding** feature.



2. Select **Awards by Location** and enter the institution name in the **Organization** cell. After entering the institution, click **SELECT**.



3. Select the institution from the sub listing provided. **Submit Query**.

NIH RePORTER- B2D PhD Partner(s)

4. View funding amount for “RPG- Non SBIR/STTR”. *Note: The current FY is the default, select the FY for the last 3 years and calculate the average for all 3 years. For example, for applications submitted in May 2019, use FY 18, 17 and 16 RPG funding.*

Funding Mechanism ▼	Dollar Amount	Awards
Other Research-Related	\$675,234	3
Research Centers	\$4,631,159	2
RPGs - Non SBIR/STTR	\$419,536	1
Training - Institutional	\$1,636,379	2
Total	\$7,362,308	8

Research Intensive: Institutions with an average of NIH [research project grant \(RPG\)](#) funding greater than or equal to \$7.5 million in total costs per year over the past 3 fiscal years

NIGMS research divisions

Division of Biophysics, Biomedical
Technology, and Computational
Biosciences

Division of Genetics and Molecular,
Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Division of Pharmacology,
Physiology, and Biological
Chemistry

The National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) supports basic research that increases our understanding of biological processes and lays the foundation for advances in disease diagnosis, treatment, and prevention. NIGMS-funded scientists investigate how living systems work at a range of levels from molecules and cells to tissues and organs, in research organisms, humans, and populations.

<https://www.nigms.nih.gov/about/overview/Pages/default.aspx>