

# K02 GUIDE FOR REVIEWERS

## Independent Scientist Award

### Purpose of the Award

- Fosters the development of outstanding scientists and enable them to expand their potential to make significant contributions to their field of research
- Provides three, four, or five years of salary support and “protected time” for newly independent scientists who can demonstrate the need for a period of intensive research focus as a means of enhancing their research careers
- Fosters the development of outstanding scientists and to enable them to expand their potential to make significant contributions to their field of research

### Applicants

- Must hold a doctoral degree and independent peer reviewed research support at the time the award is made
- Must commit a minimum of 9 person-months (75% of full-time professional effort) conducting research and relevant career development activities during the period of the award
- Scientists whose work is primarily theoretical may apply for this award in the absence of external research grant support (depending on the NIH Institute or Center)
- Receipt of prior support may impact on eligibility for the K02 award
- Must demonstrate a commitment on the part of the applicant's organization to provide the environment, resources and the protected time required for the candidate to perform the activities included in the proposed research and career development plans

### More Information

- Visit the parent Announcement through the [Parent Announcement page](#).
- Visit the [K Kiosk](#) for information about the Career Development Awards.
- To read more about the review criteria and considerations for K applications, visit [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/critiques/k\\_D.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/critiques/k_D.htm) and [Review Criteria at-a-Glance](#).
- Please see the following documents for more information on scoring and critique templates: [Scoring System and Procedure](#), [Critique Template Instructions](#).
- A comprehensive list of Guidelines for Reviewers is available at [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/reviewer\\_guidelines.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/reviewer_guidelines.htm).