

# F31 Diversity GUIDE FOR REVIEWERS

## Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (NRSA) for Individual Predoctoral Fellowships (F31) to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research

### Purpose of the Award

- Promote diversity in health-related research is to provide up to five years of support for research training leading to the PhD or equivalent research degree, the combined MD/PhD degree; or another formally combined professional degree and research doctoral degree in biomedical, behavioral, health services, or clinical sciences.
- Enhance the diversity of the biomedical, behavioral, health services, and clinical research labor force in the United States by providing opportunities for academic institutions to identify and recruit students from diverse population groups to seek graduate degrees in health-related research and apply for this fellowship
- Increase the number of scientists from diverse population groups who are prepared to pursue careers in biomedical, behavioral, social, clinical, or health services research
- Efforts to diversify the workforce are expected to lead to:
  - Recruitment of the most talented researchers from all groups
  - Improvements in the quality of the educational and training environment
  - A balanced perspective in setting research priorities
  - An improved capacity to recruit subjects from diverse backgrounds into clinical research protocols
  - An improved capacity to address and eliminate health disparities

### Applicants

- Must have a baccalaureate degree
- Must be currently enrolled in a PhD or equivalent research degree program, a formally combined MD/PhD program, or other combined professional/clinical doctoral/research PhD graduate program in the biomedical, behavioral, or clinical sciences at an accredited domestic or foreign institution
- Must not be pursuing an MD, DDS, or other clinical, health-professional degree and/or training (with the exception of a combined degree program as mentioned above)
- This award seeks to stimulate the participation of individuals from the following groups
  - individuals from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups
  - individuals with disabilities
  - individuals from socially, culturally, economically, or educationally disadvantaged backgrounds that have inhibited their ability to pursue a career in health-related research.

### More Information

- Visit the parent F31 Diversity Announcement through the [Parent Announcement page](#).
- Visit the [F Kiosk](#) for information about the Kirschstein-NRSA Individual Fellowships.
- To read more about the review criteria and considerations for F applications, visit <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/critiques/f.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).