EXPLORATORY GRANT AWARD TO PROMOTE WORKFORCE DIVERSITY IN BASIC CANCER RESEARCH (R21)

**Overview**
This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites applications from investigators from diverse populations with interest in research projects focused on the basic biology of cancer. This FOA is also designed to improve the diversity of the research workforce by supporting and recruiting eligible investigators from groups that have been shown to be underrepresented.

**Mechanisms of Support/Awards**
The R21 award mechanism will be supported by this funding opportunity. The total project period for applications using the R21 award mechanism may not exceed 2 years; direct costs are limited to $275,000 over a 2-year period, with no more than $200,000 in direct costs allowed in any single year. Exploratory/developmental grant support is for new projects only; competing renewal (formerly competing continuation) applications will not be accepted.

**Research Objectives**
Research applications should focus on basic cancer research and cancer health disparities, consistent with the research interests of both the Division of Cancer Biology (DCB) and the Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities (CRCHD).

**How Does It Work?**
The R21 mechanism is intended to encourage new exploratory and developmental research projects. These studies may involve considerable risk but may lead to a breakthrough in a particular area or to the development of novel techniques, agents, methodologies, models, or applications that could have a major impact on a field of biomedical, behavioral, or clinical research.

**Research Topics**
Research topics may include, but are not limited to, the following examples:

- Cell transformation, proliferation, or inhibition of cell death
- DNA damage/repair and related molecular, cytogenetic, epigenetic, and chromosomal effects
- Biological and chemical carcinogens and their properties, and mechanisms of oncogenesis and carcinogenesis
- Immune response to tumors and hematopoietic differentiation.

**Where Do I Learn More?**
For the full text of this PAR, visit: [https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-21-061.html](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-21-061.html)
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Eligibility Requirements
Any individuals from diverse populations that have been shown to be underrepresented in biomedical, behavioral, clinical, and/or social sciences are eligible. Such candidates include individuals from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups as well as individuals with disabilities with the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research.

Review
All applications will be evaluated for scientific and technical merit by the appropriate Scientific Review Group(s) using the stated review criteria in the FOA. Following initial peer review, recommended applications will receive a second level of review by the National Cancer Advisory Board. Scientific and technical merit of the proposed project as determined by peer review, availability of funds, and relevance of the proposed project to program priorities will be considered in making funding decisions.

Further Assistance
Grants.gov Customer Support
Telephone: 800-518-4726
Email: support@grants.gov

Grants Info
Telephone: 301-435-0714
Email: grantsInfo@od.nih.gov

eRA Commons Help Desk
Telephone: 301-402-7469 or 866-504-9552
Email: commons@od.nih.gov

Grant Writing Tip Sheets
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/grant_tips.htm

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