

# *Application Webinar*

## Early Investigator Advancement Program (EIAP)

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# National Cancer Institute Equity and Inclusion Program



- Enhance the diversity of the cancer research workforce
- Build a more inclusive and equitable NCI community
- Address cancer disparities
- Advance health equity

NCI Equity and Inclusion Program and associated Working Groups are overseen and supported by the NCI Equity Council, led by:

- Dr. Norman Sharpless, NCI Director
- Dr. Paulette Gray, Director, NCI's Division of Extramural Activities

# Early Investigator Advancement Program (EIAP)

*Goal: To facilitate the transition of scientists from diverse backgrounds from junior to independent investigators*

- Enhance professional skills
- Guide preparation of an R01 application
- Provide access to a mentoring and peer network
- Grow a community of emerging independent investigators from diverse backgrounds



# EIAP Promotes Diversity in the Cancer Research Workforce

NCI particularly encourages applications from individuals from groups identified in NIH's Notice of Interest in Diversity ([NOT-OD-20-031](#)) as underrepresented in the biomedical, clinical, behavioral, and social sciences.

## Race/Ethnicity

- Blacks or African Americans
- Hispanics or Latinos
- American Indians or Alaskan Natives
- Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders

## Disability

- Physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities

## Disadvantaged Background

- Homeless
- Foster care system
- First generation w/ Bachelor's degree
- Federal Pell Grants
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program
- Rural or low income/access areas

# The EIAP Experience

## Program Components

- Professional and career development – no monetary compensation or other budget is provided
- In 2022 – all virtual
- R01 grant application preparation
- Mock Review
- Mentoring and peer network
- Cohort professional and social activities
- Regular individual meetings with program staff
- Webinar series (open to public)
- Continued engagement post-program

## Expectations for Each Participant

- Complete and submit a R01 grant proposal
- Become part of a group of peers with similar career goals
- Engage with mentors who are established investigators
- Become familiar with job and funding opportunities
- Develop professional and management skills critical to growing a research group

# Participant Eligibility:

- Must be US citizen, noncitizen national or permanent resident
  - Noncitizen nationals – persons who are born in American Samoa or Swains Island
- Must be an [Early Stage Investigator or New Investigator](#) currently conducting cancer or cancer-related research
- Has not previously successfully competed for NIH R01 or equivalent funding
- Holds a current position in an institution that is:
  - Eligible for an R01 application
  - Supportive of applicant's plans to submit an R01 application by October/November 2022

***Applicant should be prepared and committed to work toward and submit an R01 application by October/November 2022.***

# Application Components

- Cover letter (up to 2 pages)
  - Name, email, current institution
  - Statement of citizenship – **do not send documentation**
  - Statement that you have not received R01 or equivalent funding as a Principal Investigator
  - Statement that you are an [ESI or New Investigator](#)
  - Statement of your preparedness in submitting an R01 application by October/November 2022
  - Your immediate and long-term career goals
  - Indication if you belong to one or more of the groups who are underrepresented in biomedical research – this information will not be used to determine your eligibility
  - Statement of contributions to enhancing diversity in biomedical research workforce
  - Anything else you feel is relevant

# Application Components (Continued)

- Institution Letter
  - From appropriate institution leadership in support of R01 application submission
  - Indication of availability of institution support, equipment and other physical resources
  - Description of current mentoring support
- Curriculum Vitae (up to 10 pages)
- Contact information for two references:
  - At least one should be someone who has direct experience with your research skills and potential to carry out an R01 research project
  - EIAP will request letters directly from your references
  - Friendly reminder – it's always a good idea to communicate with your references before listing them (ask if they will be able to provide a *positive* reference for you)

<https://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crchd/diversity-training/eiap>

# Anticipated Timeline and Contact Information

**Applications must be submitted by December 31, 2021 to [EIAP@nih.gov](mailto:EIAP@nih.gov).**

- Collect all documents into a single PDF file and save as *EIAP\_Lastname\_Firstname*.



**December 1-31**  
Applications  
Accepted



**January – February**  
Application Review



**February 10-21**  
Interviews



**February 24-28**  
Final Award  
Decisions



**March 1**  
Program Start Date

If selected, EIAP scholars are expected to attend half-day virtual Grants Writing Workshop on March 3 and 4.

Contact: Dr. Alison Lin at [EIAP@nih.gov](mailto:EIAP@nih.gov)

Webpage: <https://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crchd/diversity-training/eiap>



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