Important Housekeeping Notes

- To preserve bandwidth, participants are requested to turn the video off and stay muted during the presentation.

- Please type your questions/comments into the chat box throughout the presentation, to be addressed during the Q&A.

- Slides and the recorded webinar will be posted to the EIAP website (https://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crchd/diversity-training/eiap) followed by a notice via email to all registrants.

- For closed-caption, please adjust your settings.

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Agenda

- About NCI's CCHE and the Equity and Inclusion Program
- About the EIAP
- EIAP Components
- EIAP Eligibility
- EIAP Application Requirements
- EIAP Mentorship
- Current Status of Some EIAP Scholars
- EIAP Scholar Experiences
- Next Steps and Q and A

Center for Cancer Health Equity (CCHE)

Mission

CCHE strives to achieve health equity by working towards eliminating health disparities, advancing inclusive research across basic, clinical, translational, and population-based studies, promoting a diverse workforce, and enhancing community engagement.

Vision

Eliminating Cancer Health Disparities and Achieving Cancer Health Equity

CCHE Branches

- **Community Outreach, Research, and Engagement (CORE)**
  - Previously the Integrated Networks Branch

- **Disparities Research Branch***
  - Previously the Disparities and Equity Program

- **Diversity Training and Biomedical Workforce Development Branch (DTWDB)**
  - Previously the Diversity Training Branch

- **Innovative Programs Branch (IPB)***

Represents a newly formed branch.

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.

About the Early Investigator Advancement Program

NIH NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

Early Investigator Advancement Program (EIAP)

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

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

NCI EQUITY & INCLUSION

EIAP

EARLY INVESTIGATOR ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

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

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 consistent with applicable Federal, State, and local laws.

Early Investigator Advancement Program Components

The EIAP Experience

Scholar Activities

- Grant Writing Seminar (February) and Workbook
- Grant Writing Workshop (March – July)
- Mentored Mock Review (Reviewer)
- Matched Mentoring
- Peer networking
- Professional and career development training through PAVES
- Individual meetings with program staff
- Continued engagement post-program

Associate Activities

- Grant Writing Seminar (February) and Workbook (top 50 scores)
- Mentored Mock Review (Observer)
- Professional and career development training through PAVES

EIAP Program Components

Grant Writing Support & Technical Assistance

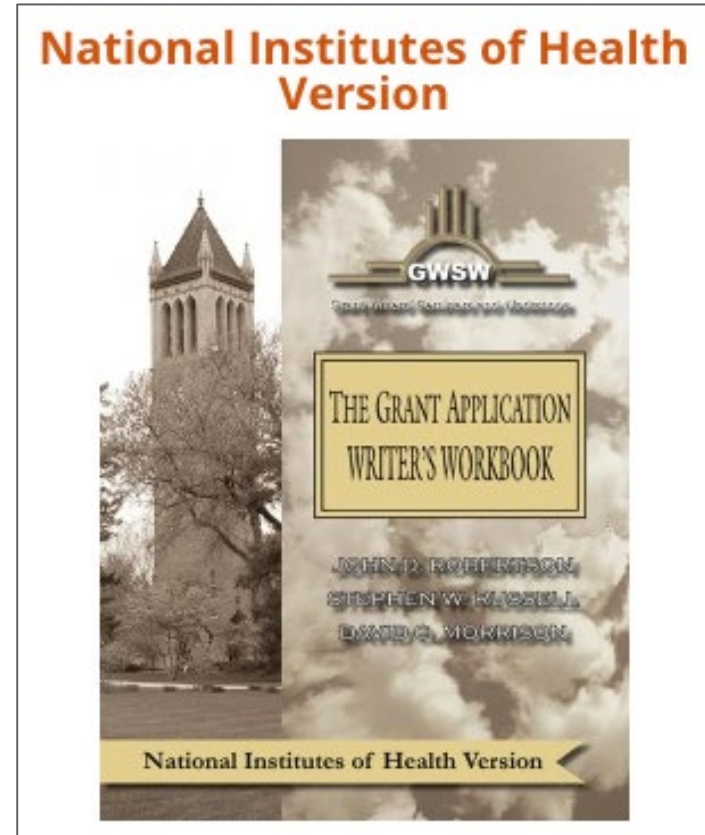Professional Development (e.g., Webinars and Mentored Mock Review)

Participant

Mentorship and Peer Mentoring

Bridge to NIH Staff and Resources

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

EIAP Program Components

Grant Writing Support & Technical Assistance

Professional Development (e.g., Webinars and Mentored Mock Review)

Participant

Mentorship and Peer Mentoring

Bridge to NIH Staff and Resources

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

Grant Writing Support & Technical Assistance

- Grant Writing Seminar
  February 19-20, 2025
  (Scholars and Associates)

- Grantsmanship Workshop
  March – July 2025
  (Scholars Only)
  - Specific Aims Group Review (May 8, 2025)
  - 30-Minute, 1-on-1 with
    Grantsmanship expert (May 8 or 9, 2025)
  - Review of full draft R01
    (drafts due July 24)

EIAP Program Components

Grant Writing Support & Technical Assistance

Professional Development (e.g., Webinars and Mentored Mock Review)

Participant

Mentorship and Peer Mentoring

Bridge to NIH Staff and Resources

Mentored Mock Review

- Set up like an official study section.

- Scholars will be offered an opportunity to be review chairs and reviewers.

- Associates are offered the opportunity to be observers.

- A scientific review officer (SRO) from the Center for Scientific Review (CSR) runs the review just as they would a regular review.

- Reviewers score actual grant applications that were submitted.

- Scores are entered in a mock NIH system.

- After the mock review, the actual review scores are revealed and discussed with the group.

Professional Development Workshops and Webinars

Professional Advancement Virtual Engagement Series (PAVES) is a webinar series that provides career development resources to support diverse cancer and cancer health disparity researchers and clinician scientists.

- **When:** Quarterly
- **Where**: Virtual (**registration is required)**– email PAVES@nih.gov
- **Who**: New and Early-Stage Investigators, post-doctoral student scientists, clinician scientists, researchers, and others
- **What**: Explore NIH funding opportunities, identify new career resources, acquire new insights and skills in the cancer research grant proposal development process, and other career development skills.
- **Visit:** https://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crchd/about-health-disparities/resources/paves

Previous Session Titles:
- Developing a Strong NIH Grant Application
- Becoming a Cancer Research Investigator- Extramural and Intramural
- Putting the "I" in Science: Leveraging Your Story to Chart Your Career

Everyone is welcome to attend PAVES!

Email to receive monthly notices and register for events: PAVES@nih.gov

EIAP Program Components

Grant Writing Support & Technical Assistance	Professional Development (e.g., Webinars and Mentored Mock Review)
Mentorship and Peer Mentoring	**Bridge to NIH Staff and Resources**

Participant

EIAP Program Staff Interaction

- Quarterly one-on-one meetings

- *Ad hoc* meetings

- Program Official introductions
  (e.g. Warm hand-offs)

- Resource sharing
  (e.g., program announcements,
  NIH grant resources, etc.)

EIAP Program Components

Grant Writing Support & Technical Assistance

Professional Development (e.g., Webinars and Mentored Mock Review)

Participant

Mentorship and Peer Mentoring

Bridge to NIH Staff and Resources

Mentorship: Important Elements

- Knowledge
- Coaching
- Motivation/ Inspiration
- Advice
- Support
- Goals
- Direction
- Work Life Balance

Matched Mentorship

- Applicants must include in their application what they are looking for in a mentor.

- Our team works very hard to find mentors that match the listed criteria from our list of volunteer mentors who are NCI-funded investigators.

- The EIAP team confirms with the mentor and mentee and then connects the two to engage.

Mentors

- Volunteer mentors received a number of NIH grants:

  - Research Grants (R series) 100%
  - Career Development Awards(K series) 55%
  - Research Training and Fellowships
    (T and F Series) 35%
  - Program Project and Center Grants(P Series) 35%
  - Cooperative Agreements (U) (85%)
- Committed to provide guidance to underrepresented junior investigators

Peer Mentoring

- Scholars are encouraged to network with their EIAP peers.

  - Formal meet and greet

  - Gather at conferences

  - Connect via social media, email, and phone

The EIAP Experience

Expectations for Each Scholar

- Complete an R01 grant proposal for submission by October/November 2025
- Engage with peers
- Develop a relationship with an established mentor
- Attend EIAP activities such as the Grantsmanship workshop webinars, MMR, and one-on-ones with EIAP staff
- Learn and grow through a professional and career development series

Participant Eligibility: Is EIAP for YOU? (con't)

Can you dedicate time to attending these events?

Date (All times Eastern Time)	Activity
February 12, 2025, 3-4:00 p.m.	Scholar Orientation
February 19, 2025, 1-4:30 p.m.	Grant Writer's Seminar Day 1
February 20, 2025, 1-4:30 p.m.	Grant Writer's Seminar Day 2
End of February- Early March 2025	Scholar 1 on 1 (more information to come)
March 27, 2025 (11am EST)	Pre-Proposal Due (more information and guidance will be provided once the program starts)
April 4, 2025	EIAP Peer Networking Event
May 2, 2025 (TBD)	Group Workshop Session (Review Specific Aims)
May 2 or 3, 2025 (p.m., TBD)	One scheduled one-on-one session with a grant expert to discuss your pre-proposal
TBD	Mentored Mock Review Orientation
May-June 2025	Scholar 1 on 1 (more information to come)
TBD	Mentored Mock Review
July 24, 2025	Final Grant Proposal for Grantsmanship Review
August-September 2025	Scholar 1 on 1 (more information to come)
October/November 2025	Submit Grant Application

EIAP Eligibility and Application Requirements

Participant Eligibility: Is EIAP for YOU?

- Must be a US citizen, noncitizen national, or permanent resident
- 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
- Evidence of R01 application readiness by October/November 2025
- Holds a current position in an institution that is:
  - Eligible for an R01 application
  - Supportive of the applicant's plans to submit an R01 application by October/November 2025

Applicant should be prepared and committed to work toward and submit an R01 application by October/November 2025.

Application Components

- ***Application Information***
  - Name, email, current institution
  - Statement that you are a citizen, non-citizen national, or legal permanent resident of the United States. Do not send documentation with your application.
  - Statement indicating you have not previously received NIH R01 or equivalent funding as a Principal Investigator.
  - Statement indicating preparedness to submit an R01 (*which includes a draft R01*) by October/November 2025.
  - Statement indicating whether you are an Early-Stage Investigator (ESI) or New Investigator (NI).
  - Your immediate and long-term career goals.

Application Components

- ***Application Information (continued)***

  - Indicate if you belong to one or more of the groups that are underrepresented in the biomedical, clinical, behavioral and social sciences (see NIH's Interest in Diversity (NOT-OD-20-031).

  - Statement of contributions to enhancing diversity in the biomedical research workforce.

  - Cancer research type (i.e., basic, translational, behavioral/population, or clinical) and site (e.g., lung, brain, skin) if appropriate.

  - Please let us know how you heard about EIAP.

  - Please let us know what you are looking for in a mentor (e.g., qualities, areas of research, etc.)

  - Additional information you feel is relevant.

Application Components

- ***Draft R01 Application that complies with NIH standards, including:***

  - Project Summary/Abstract (30 lines of text)

  - Specific Aims (1 page)

  - Research Strategy (no more than 12 pages to include)

    - Significance
    - Innovation
    - Approach

Consider:
- Whether **preliminary data** has been collected or will be by the time the application is submitted to NCI
- This is a **draft**. It does not have to be perfect.
  - Focus on **hypothesis, feasibility, preliminary data, critical literature review, innovation, and grantsmanship.**

Resources:
Write Your Application: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/format-and-write/write-your-application.htm
Watch: Developing a Strong NIH Application:
https://cbiit.webex.com/webappng/sites/cbiit/recording/d6ccabcab091103bb5f70050568110b2/playback

Application Components

- **_Institutional Letter (signed and written on letterhead)_**
  - From appropriate institution leadership in support of R01 application submission by October/November 2025
  - Indication of availability of institutional support, equipment, and other physical resources
  - Description of current mentoring support.
- **_Biosketch (see https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm)_**
- **_Two letters of reference_**
  - At least one should be someone who has direct experience with your research skills and potential to carry out an R01 research project.

Resource:
Writing the Biosketch: *https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm*

Selection Criteria

- Candidate Research Background and Training Potential
- Institution Support
- Draft R01 Proposal
- Letters of Reference

Overall Impact or Criterion Strength	Score	Descriptor
High	1	Exceptional
	2	Outstanding
	3	Excellent
Medium	4	Very Good
	5	Good
	6	Satisfactory
Low	7	Fair
	8	Marginal
	9	Poor

Scoring Criteria:
https://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/guidelines_general/scoring_system_and_procedure.pdf

Applications must be submitted by November 1, 2024. Instructions will be posted on the website.

If selected, EIAP scholars are expected to attend a two half-day virtual Grants Writing Workshop on **February 19 and 20, 2025**.

October 2 - November 1
Applications Accepted

November 15 - December 8
Applications Reviewed

January 3-19
Award Decisions

February 13
Program Start Date

Contact: *EIAP@nih.gov*
Webpage: *https://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crchd/diversity-training/eiap*

Current Successes of Some EIAP Scholars

R01/R01-equivalent Award Recipients

National Institutes of Health
Turning Discovery Into Health

- R01
- R35
- R37
- DP2

Building a Community

Trans-NCI Participation

❖ **Center for Cancer Health Equity (CCHE)**

LeeAnn Bailey, MBBS, PhD, MS

Behrous Davani, PhD

Maria Jamela R. Revilleza, PhD, MS

Dan Eckstein, MA

❖ **Center for Cancer Training**

Nastaran Zahir, PhD

❖ **Center for Cancer Research (CCR)**

Shauna Clark, PhD

Glenn Merlino, PhD

❖ **Division of Cancer Biology (DCB)**

Shannon Hughes, PhD

❖ **Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences (DCCPS)**

Richard Moser, PhD

❖ **Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics (DCEG)**

Jackie Lavigne, PhD, MPH

Thank you!

Send inquiries to:
EIAP@nih.gov

Applications must be submitted by ***November 1, 2024*** <mark>*instructions will be posted on the **EIAP website**.*</mark>

Q and A

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