

CRCHD: Diversity-Focused Training and Cancer Health Disparities Research Opportunities

*Alison Lin, PhD
Acting Chief, Diversity Training Branch
NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities*

NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities Programs

Diversity Training



Partnerships

- Partnerships to Advance Cancer Health Equity (PACHE)

Cancer Health Disparities Research

- Basic research
- Translational research

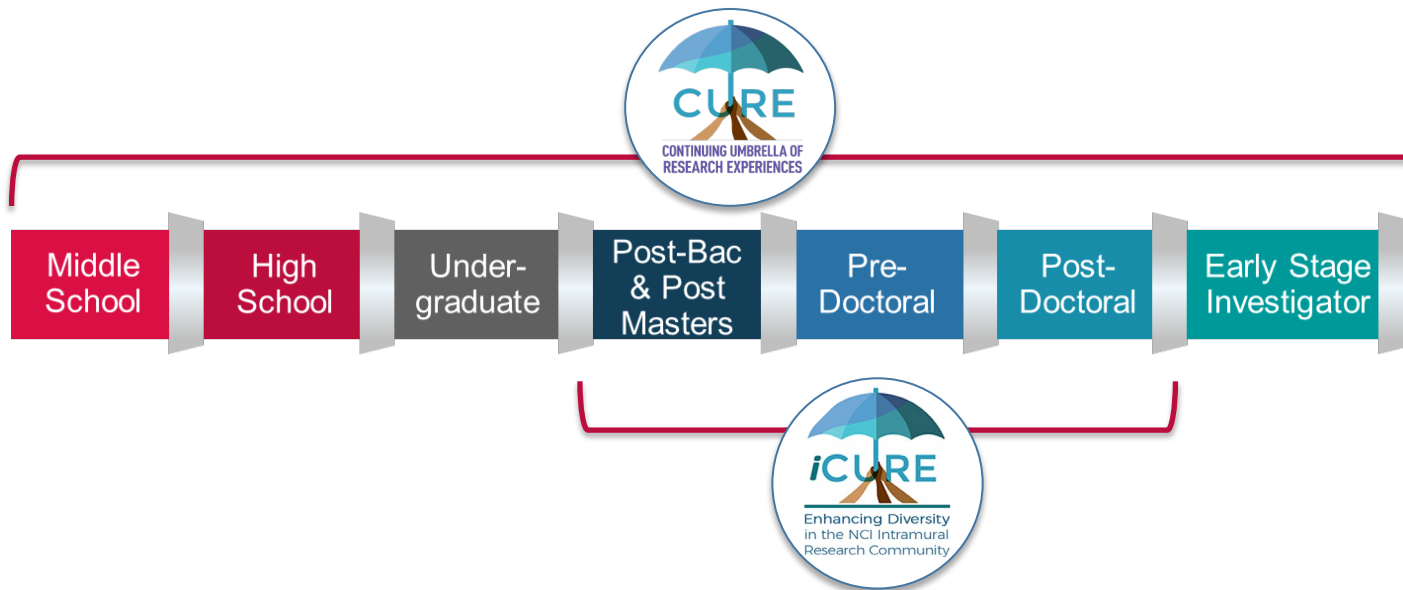
Networks

- Geographic Management of Cancer Health Disparities Program (GMaP)
- National Outreach Network (NON)



NCI Diversity-Focused Training Programs

Extramural: Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (CURE)



- Support research experiences of **underrepresented** students and scientists
- Promote professional and career development
- Help the trainees achieve research independence

Intramural: Intramural Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (iCURE)

CURE and iCURE Promote Diversity in 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

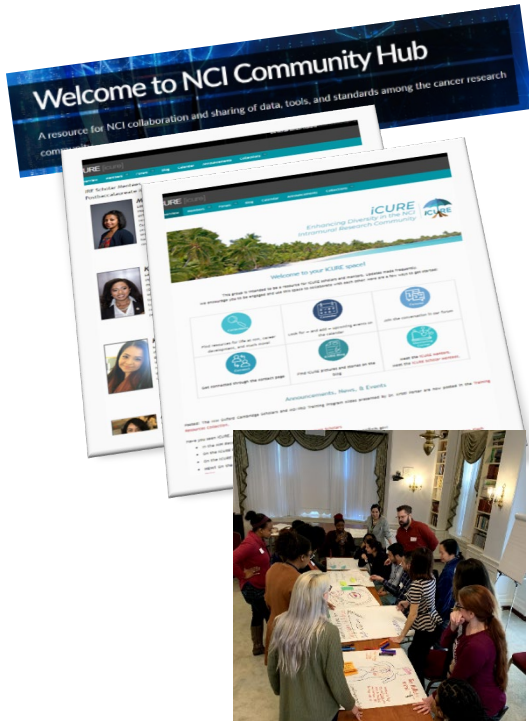
Disability

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

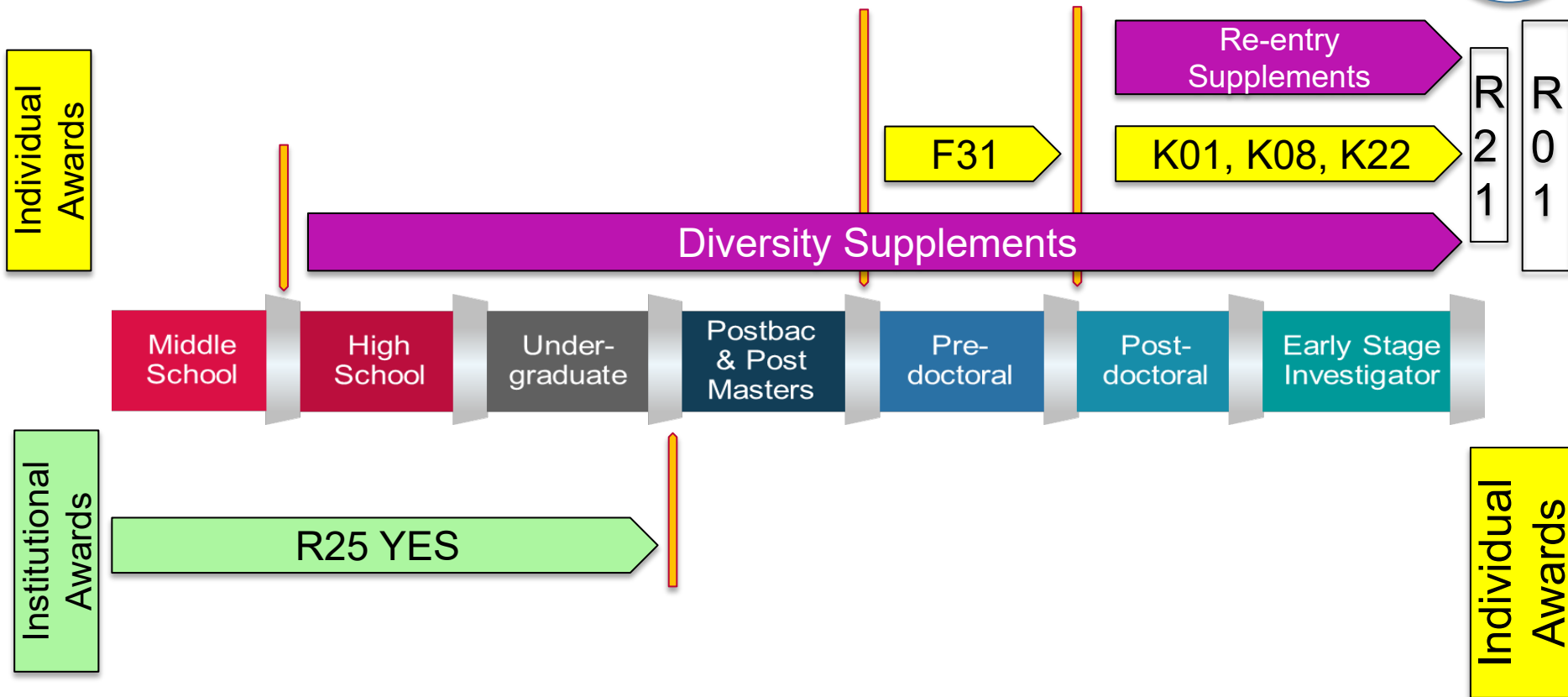
Disadvantaged Background

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

More Than a Pipeline: CURE and iCURE Provide an Ecosystem of Support



CURE Funding Mechanisms



Diversity and Re-Entry/Re-Integration Supplements Overview

- Provide additional funding to currently active NIH grants (parent grants) to support research experiences of trainees
- Parent grant must have **at least two years** of active status at the time of supplement application; some exceptions are granted by CRCHD
- Each supplement supports research experience of one **identified** trainee
- A **bridge** for candidates to progress to the next academic/career level
- Application receipt: **Oct 1 – Dec 1** and **Feb 1 – Mar 31**

Contact

Samson Gebreab, PhD

Belem Lopez, PhD

CUREsupplements@nih.gov



Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research ([PA-21-071](#), Diversity Supplements)

- Aims to support candidates from underrepresented populations: race/ethnicity, disability, disadvantaged background
- **Allowed one diversity supplement at each career level**
- NCI Diversity Supplements Guidelines: <http://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crchd/diversity-training/cure/DSGuidelines>

For Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Fellows Only:

- **No concurrent PHS support at the time of application:**
 - Cannot be supported by parent grant
 - If coming off of institutional training grant, need letter from institution
- **AFTER application submission:**
 - Can be supported by the parent grant at the recipient's own risk, pending funding decision of supplement application

Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Research Supplements to Promote Re-Entry and Re-integration into Health-Related Research Careers (NOT-OD-21-134, Re-Entry Supplements)

Re-entry supplement:

- Candidate must have been on hiatus from research for 1-8 years; must be postdoctoral fellow or faculty before hiatus



Re-integration supplement:

- Individuals adversely affected by unsafe or discriminatory environments due to unlawful harassment who need to make a rapid transition



- Aims to support candidates from all populations
- Each eligible grant can support only one ReRi supplement at a time
- <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-21-134.html>
- <https://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crchd/diversity-training/cure/reentry-supplements-guidelines>

Diversity Supplement Candidates – Where Are They Now?



Marta Epeldegui, PhD

Assistant Professor, OB-GYN
University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) AIDS
Institute

Jude Phillip, PhD

Assistant Professor, Biomedical
Engineering
Johns Hopkins University



Liva Harinantenaina Rakotondraibe, PhD

Associate Professor, College of Pharmacy
The Ohio State University



Chesleigh Nicole Keene, PhD
Assistant Professor, Department
of Educational Psychology
Northern Arizona University



Troy McEachron, PhD

Investigator, Pediatric Oncology Branch
NCI Center for Cancer Research



Cleo Samuel-Ryals, PhD

Associate Professor, Department
of Health Policy and Management
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill



Kyle Card, PhD

HHMI Hanna
Gray Fellow
Cleveland Clinic

What Do We Look for in a Supplement Application?

Candidate	Mentoring and Career Development Plan	Research Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Motivation• Accomplishments• Career goals• Eligibility and diversity statement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scientific proficiency and mentoring expertise of mentor(s)• Defined role(s) and commitment of mentor(s)• Training of career skills• Clear benchmarks• Candidate-specific plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Relevancy to Parent Grant project• Scientific impact on Parent Grant project• Research design and feasibility• Alignment with candidate's career goals

Duration and Budget of Diversity and ReRi Supplements

Career Level	Length of Supplement	Salary (All w/ Fringe in Addition)	Travel and Supplies	Other
High School	Encourage at least two years	Per institution (minimum wage)	Not allowed	N/A
Under-graduate	Encourage at least two years	Per institution	Up to \$200 per month	N/A
Postbac/ Post Masters	Maximum of 24 months	Up to \$31K per year	Up to \$3,000 per year	N/A
Graduate Student	As needed	Salary+Fringe+Tuition ≤ first year postdoc	Up to \$4,000 per year	Tuition
Postdoctoral Fellow	As needed	Up to NRSA stipend	Up to \$6,000 per year	N/A
Investigator (DS)	Maximum of 24 months	Up to \$100K per year	Up to \$10,000 per year	N/A
Investigator (Re-entry)	Maximum of 36 months	Up to \$100K per year	Up to \$10,000 per year	N/A

Additional Budget Information

- Supplement budget period syncs with parent grant budget period during the first 12 months. For example, for a supplement starting March 1:

Parent Grant Budget End Date	First Supplement Budget Period	Next Supplement Budget Periods
June 30	Mar 1 – Jun 30 of the same year	July 1 (same year) – June 30 (next year)

- F&A costs are allowed per institutional policy
- For budget periods of less than 12 months, salary, fringe and tuition are pro-rated; supplies and travel (with justification) are not pro-rated
- Additional personnel or equipment purchase are not allowed
 - Exception: reasonable accommodation for individuals with disability
- **Supplement must be terminated if the candidate or the parent grant changes**

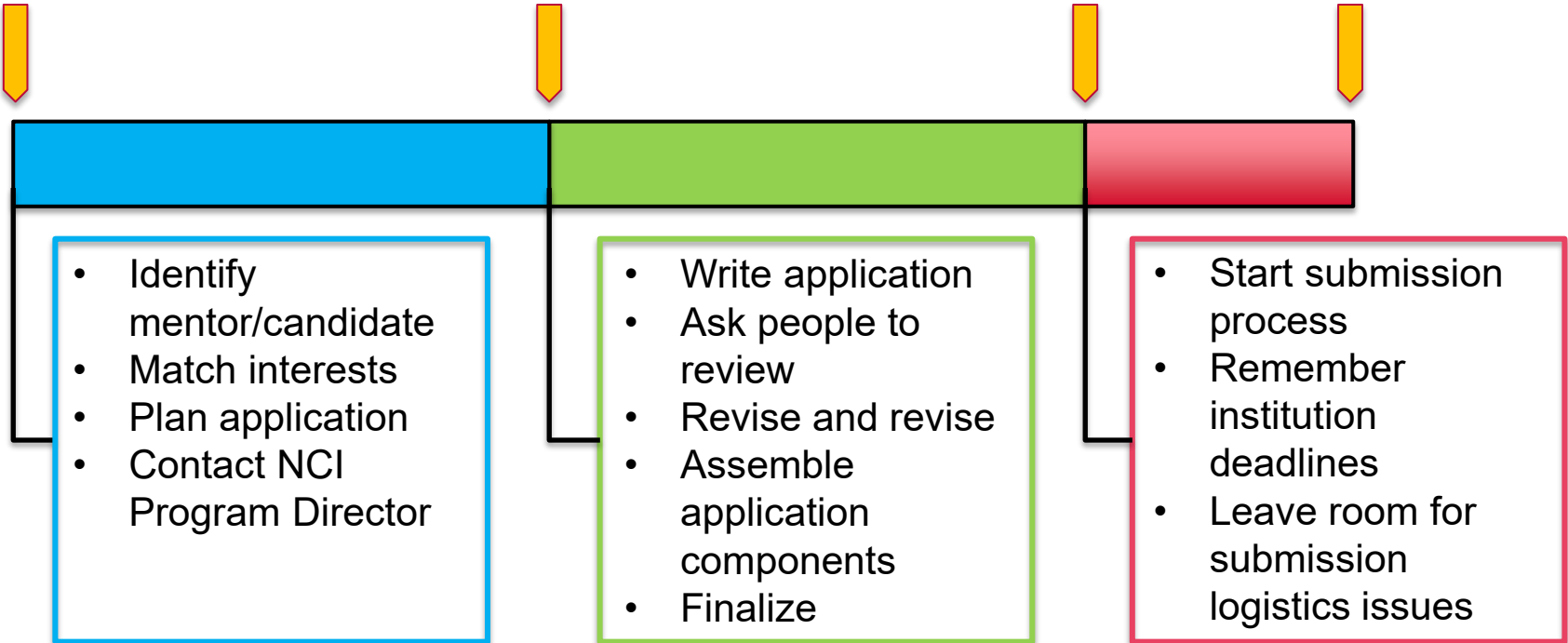
Suggested Timeline for Preparing a Supplement Application

5 Months
Prior

3 Months
Prior

1 Month
Prior

Submission
Deadline



Intramural CURE (iCURE) – Research Experiences at NCI



- Mentored research experiences on **NCI campuses** in Bethesda, Shady Grove (Rockville) and Frederick, Maryland
- Supports **postbacs** (2 years), **graduate students** (2 years) and **postdocs** (3 years)
- **Accepting applications until January 31, 2022**
<https://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crchd/diversity-training/icure>
- Centralized review and program-facilitated matches for scholars to PIs in NCI Intramural Research Program – no need for applicants to pre-identify a PI



Contact

Jessica Calzola, PhD

jessica.calzola@nih.gov



Basic Cancer Health Disparities (CHD) Research Grants (R03/R21/ R01)

Important collaboration between DCB, DCP, and CRCHD

Science: Mechanistic studies that investigate biological/genetic basis of CHD

Eligibility: Open to any qualified researcher

Research project: Basic cancer disparities research, focus on racial/ethnic disparities

Contact

Tiffany Wallace, PhD
tiffany.wallace@nih.gov



Mechanism	Details
Basic Research in Cancer Health Disparities (R03) new https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-21-324.html	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pilot and feasibility studies/Secondary Analysis• No preliminary data required but encouraged• Budget: Direct Costs \leq \$50k per year/Up to 2 years• Due date: February 16, 2022 (Standard Dates)
Basic Research in Cancer Health Disparities (R21) https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-21-323.html	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pilot and feasibility studies• No preliminary data required but encouraged• Budget: Direct Cost for 2 years \leq \$275k; \leq \$200k per yr.• Due date: February 18, 2022 (Standard Dates)
Basic Research in Cancer Health Disparities (R01) https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-21-322.html	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Full project grant• Preliminary data required• Budget: No limit, but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project• Due date: February 5, 2022 (Standard Dates)

Cancer Health Disparities Research Grant Examples

- Consequences and mechanism of aberrant splicing in African American prostate cancer disparities (R01)
- Biological implications of breast cancer protective variants in Latin American women with high Indigenous American ancestry (R01)
- Targeting CRLF2 and Ikaros Alterations to Reduce Health Disparities in Childhood Leukemia (R01)
- Diet modulation of bacterial sulfur & bile acid metabolism and colon cancer risk (R01)
- Modulation of host intrinsic immunity to reduce prostate cancer disparity (R01)
- Inter-relationship between microbiota diversity, obesity and race in endometrial cancer (R21)
- Stress Inflammation Mechanisms of Survivorship Disparities Experienced by Hispanic Women After Breast Cancer (R21)
- Racial Disparity of microRNA in Hepatitis C Virus Mediated Hepatocellular Carcinoma (R21)

Contact

Alison Lin, PhD

linaj@mail.nih.gov

 @NCICRCHD

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



**NATIONAL
CANCER
INSTITUTE**

www.cancer.gov

www.cancer.gov/espanol