

NIH Diversity Supplements



The National Institute of Health (NIH) supports mentorship of diverse trainees on the pathway to independence through the [Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research](#) mechanism, aka “Diversity Supplements.”

A presentation developed by the UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center and Clinical Translational Research Center

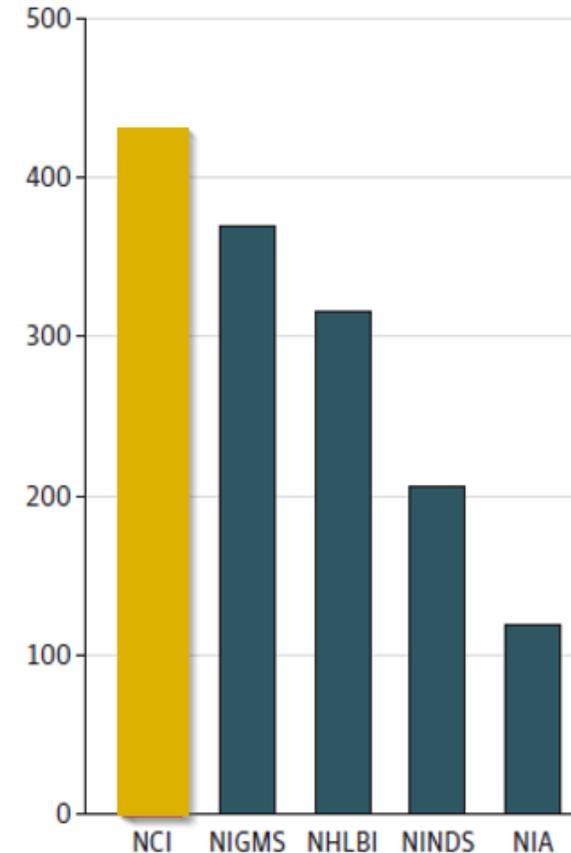
NIH Diversity Supplements

Diversity Supplements provide **additional funding** to existing NIH grants enabling principal investigators to **extend research** in new directions to **promote the career development of the diverse investigators**—from the **high school through the faculty career level**—who have demonstrated interest in research.

NCI Awarding Greatest Number

Diversity Supplements are **offered by every institute** for most research and program or project center grants.

No. of R01-associated diversity supplements



[\(JAMA, Dec 2021. More data available here\)](#)

Expanded Definition of Diversity

The NIH has expanded its definition of “underrepresented” to include more individuals.

(Notice of NIH’s Interest in Diversity, NOT-OD-20-031)



Award Aims

High school-
through faculty-level
(including health
professionals)
eligible investigators

Independent
investigation within
the general scope of
the original project

The emerging
research career
development of the
candidate

Eligibility

CANDIDATE

Candidates must **meet NIH's definition of diverse**, be **US citizens** or **non-citizen nationals** of the United States, or individuals who have been lawfully admitted for **permanent residence** in the United States. *Please note that different NIH Institutes or Centers (IC) have [additional eligibility requirements](#).

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

The PI must have an **active NIH grant** that will have **at least two years of support left** at the time the supplement is awarded. Diversity Supplements are available under a wide range of Activity Codes including those in the D, P, R and U series. ([Funding Announcement](#))

Identifying a Candidate

1

High school students interested in the sciences

2

Predocs pursuing graduate-level research training and developing research capabilities

3

Postdoc scholars preparing for independence

4

Faculty developing independence

5

Newly-disabled established investigators needing additional support or special equipment

Diversity Supplement Success Stories



- Scholar: **Danielle Zumpano**
- Level: **Graduate Student**
- Department: **Anatomy, Physiology, & Cell Biology**
- Award Title: **F31-Diversity**
- Award Date: **August 2021**
- Awarding Institute: **National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases**
- Award Amount: **\$76,892**
- Mentor: **Dr. Helen Raybould**
- Project: **GPR35 on Vagal Afferent Neurons as a Peripheral Drug Target for Treating Diet-Induced Obesity**

“Receiving an F31 award has empowered me to seize once-in-a-lifetime professional development opportunities and to develop critical skills in science communication and collaboration required to become a successful investigator.”

-- Danielle Zumpano

Diversity Supplement Success Stories



- Scholar: **Rose De Kock**
- Level: **Graduate Student**
- Department: **Neuroscience Graduate Group**
- Award Title: **F31-Diversity**
- Award Date: **January 2022**
- Awarding Institute: **National Institute of Mental Health**
- Award Amount: **\$116,083**
- Mentor: **Dr. Wilsaan Joiner and Dr. Julie Schweitzer**
- Project: **Defining Embodied Characteristics of Decision Making in Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder**

"The Diversity F31 gives me a chance to begin establishing independence in my research career under the guidance of excellent sponsors and mentors. I am excited to use this support to explore motor characteristics of ADHD with novel approaches that may not have been funded otherwise."

-- Rose De Kock

Diversity Supplement Success Stories



- Scholar: **Nicole Halmai, PhD**
- Level: **Postdoctoral Fellow**
- Department: **Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine, Genome Center**
- Award Title: **Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research (Diversity Supplement)**
- Award Date: **September 2019**
- Awarding Institute: **National Cancer Institute**
- Award Amount: **100% effort salary and fringe benefits + \$6000 supplies/travel funds**
- Mentor: **Luis Carvajal-Carmona, PhD**
- Project name: **University of California Minority Patient-Derived Xenograft Development and Trial Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities**

“The NCI diversity supplement has not only allowed me to gain research experience in the field of cancer health disparities, a field in which I have discovered my scientific passion, but also provided a critical support network to help achieve my goals of independent research.”

-- Dr. Nicole Halmai

Diversity Supplement Success Stories



- Scholar: **Oanh Meyer, Ph.D., M.A.S.**
- Level: **Assistant Adjunct Professor**
- Department: **Neurology**
- Award Title: **P30 (Diversity Supplement Fellow)**
- Award Date: **July 2019**
- Awarding Institute: **NIH/NIA**
- Award Amount: **\$23,556**
- Mentor: **Charles S. DeCarli, M.D.**
- Project name: **University of California, Davis, Alzheimer's Disease Center**

“The postdoc diversity supplement allowed me to gain valuable experience in social determinants of health in aging and Alzheimer’s disease. The training and research program introduced me to faculty I hadn’t worked with previously, and who are now colleagues I collaborate closely with.”

-- Dr. Oanh Meyer

Benefits

FOR CANDIDATE

- Hands-on research experience with faculty mentor
- Development of long-term career plans
- Opportunity to write a research project proposal
- Salary and support for tuition, travel, and supplies (or stipend)
- Opportunity to publish and generate data for research
- Access to NIH enrichment programs and NIH contacts

FOR PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

- Training the next generation of diverse researchers
- Diverse perspectives for lab and research project
- Show a commitment to addressing issues of equity, diversity and inclusion and of expert mentorship
- Administrative vs full review (typically <10 weeks)
- Broadened goal for the parent grant
- Increased number of collaborative research publications

Application Development



Application Support

UC Davis has several grant development resources including:

[F Award Writing Workshop](#)

Cancer Center & CTSC

[Office of Grant Development](#)

Cancer Center

[Grants Facilitation Unit](#)

School of Medicine

[Interdisciplinary Research Support](#)

Office of Research