

Is the F31 for you?

Identify the NIH Institute, staff contact in FOA

***Email first:** “I plan to submit an F31 fellowship, and I have a few questions. My draft aims/ mentor name are attached. Could we schedule a **phone call** to discuss my application? Would you be available Tuesday at 1PM?].”*



Sample discussion topics:

- Is this fellowship right for me?
- Are the research aims a good fit for your Institute?
- How much preliminary data is important for this application?
- How will the application be reviewed?
- What should I consider in describing my training goals?
- Do you have advice about preparing a strong application?

Funding announcements describe review criteria

Check the recent FOA & Instructions!

Answer each item!

(EXAMPLES—see announcement for full details)

Fellowship Applicant

- Are the applicant's academic record and research experience of high quality?
- Does the applicant have the potential to develop into an independent and productive researcher?
- Does the applicant demonstrate commitment to a research career in the future?

Sponsors, Collaborators, and Consultants

- Are the sponsor(s)' research qualifications (including recent publications) and track record of mentoring individuals at a similar stage appropriate for the needs of the applicant?
- Is there evidence of a match between the research and clinical interests (if applicable) of the applicant and the sponsor(s)? Do(es) the sponsor(s) demonstrate an understanding of the applicant's training needs as well as the ability and commitment to assist in meeting these needs?
- Is there evidence of adequate research funds to support the applicant's proposed research project and training for the duration of the research component of the fellowship?

Research Training Plan

- Is the proposed research project of high scientific quality, and is it well integrated with the proposed research training plan?
- Based on the sponsor's description of his/her active research program, is the applicant's proposed research project sufficiently distinct from the sponsor's funded research for the applicant's career stage?
- Is the research project consistent with the applicant's stage of research development?
- Is the proposed time frame feasible to accomplish the proposed training?

Training Potential

- Are the proposed research project and training plan likely to provide the applicant with the requisite individualized and mentored experiences in order to obtain appropriate skills for a research career?
- Does the training plan take advantage of the applicant's strengths and address gaps in needed skills? Does the training plan document a clear need for, and value of, the proposed training?

Consider who else might fund the project

Other federal (NSF, Dept of Defense...)

Broad research mission, often 3 submission dates, may have citizenship requirements

Foundations

Support from a family or corporation

Public Charitable Organizations

MDA, [AHA](#), ACS support from the public
focused mission area, often 1 date per year, often open to US citizens as well as visa-holders

See [PhD Fellowships](#) on IBS website

American Heart Association Predoctoral Fellowship (Mid Atlantic), *example*

Cardiovascular and stroke research

Do not have to be a citizen or PR

Application Nov 1, award activation July 1

Applicant

- Research Plan (5 pages)
- Biographical Sketch/Bibliography (5 pages)
- Academic Record (no page limit)
- Literature Cited (no page limit)
- Publications or Abstracts (3 count)
- Vertebrate Animal Subjects (no page limit)

Third Party Personnel

- Sponsor's Biosketch/Bibliography (5 pages)
- Sponsor's Past/Current Trainees (3 pages)
- Sponsor's Training Plan (3 pages)
- Sponsor's Research Project Environment (no page limit)
- Collaborating Investigator's Biosketch/Bibliography (5 pages)
- Collaborating Investigator's Letter (5 pages)
- Consultant's Letter (5 pages)
- Reference Report (3 count, 4 pages each)

American Heart Association

Annual Stipend – matches the NIH scale for predoctoral fellows

2017: \$23,844, plus \$1,000 per year for health insurance

Project Support

\$2,000 per year, in addition to the stipend; travel, computer, equipment, etc. International travel is permitted

Award Duration

One or two years

Total Award Amount:

\$26,844 - \$53,688

AHA does not pay indirect costs on fellowships.

NIH F31 [standard due dates](#)

April 8,

August 8,

December 8

Review and Award Cycles

| | Cycle I | Cycle II | Cycle III |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Application Due Dates | January 25 - May 7 | May 25 - September 7 | September 25 - January 7 |
| Scientific Merit Review | June - July | October - November | February - March |
| Advisory Council Round | August or October * | January | May |
| Earliest Project Start Date | September or December * | April | July |

NIH review by review groups / study sections led by Center for Scientific Review (CSR)

Find a Study Section - or -

Integrated Review Groups

[Review](#) activities of the Center for Scientific Review (CSR) are organized into Integrated Review Groups (IRGs). Each IRG represents a cluster of study sections around a general scientific area. Applications generally are assigned first to an IRG, and then to a specific study section within that IRG for evaluation of scientific merit.

Chartered Study Sections

Reviews most investigator-initiated research applications (R01, R03, R21, R15, and Ks). Chartered study sections are those with both regular and temporary members.

Small Business Innovation Research and Technology Transfer Research Study Sections

Recurring [special emphasis](#) panels (SEPs) review Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Technology Transfer Research applications (STTR). They include only temporary members, recruited based on expertise needed for each meeting.

Fellowship Study Sections

Recurring special emphasis panels (SEPs) review individual fellowship grant applications - F30, F31, F32, F33. Temporary members are recruited based on expertise needed for each meeting.

All Other CSR Study Sections (Special Emphasis Panel)

Other one-time or recurring [Special Emphasis](#) Panels (SEPs) are held to review applications on special topics and members conflict applications. They include only temporary members, recruited based on expertise needed for each meeting.

YOUR Fellowship

YOUR PI's R01

<https://public.csr.nih.gov/StudySections>

NIH Fellowship Study Sections

| Study Section ^ | Study Section Description | Scientific Review Officer |
|-----------------|--|-----------------------------|
| F01A | Fellowships: Brain Disorders and Related Neurosciences | Dr. Vilen Movsesyan |
| F01B | Fellowships: Learning and Memory Neurosciences | Dr. Susan Gillmor |
| F02A | Fellowships: Vision | Dr. Mei Qin |
| F02B | Fellowships: Sensory Systems | Dr. Sharon Low |
| F03A | Fellowships: Neurodevelopment, Synaptic Plasticity and Neurodegeneration | Dr. Mary Schueler |
| F03B | Fellowships: Biophysical, Physiological, Pharmacological and Bioengineering Neuroscience | Dr. Sussan Paydar |
| F04A | Fellowships: Chemistry, Biochemistry and Biophysics A | Dr. David Jollie |
| F04B | Fellowships: Chemistry, Biochemistry and Biophysics B | Dr. Sudha Veeraraghavan |
| F05-D | Fellowships: Cell Biology, Developmental Biology, and Bioengineering | Dr. Alexander Gubin |
| F05-U | Fellowships: Cell Biology, Developmental Biology, and Bioengineering | Dr. Raj Krishnaraju |
| F06 | Fellowships: Nutrition and Reproductive Sciences | Dr. Elaine Sierra-Rivera |
| F07 | Fellowships: Immunology | Dr. Liying Guo |
| F08 | Fellowships: Immunology | Dr. Lystranne Maynard Smith |
| F09A | Fellowships: Oncological Sciences | Dr. Reigh-Yi Lin |
| F09B | Fellowships: Oncological Sciences | Dr. Jian Cao |
| F09C | Fellowships: Oncological Sciences | Dr. Sarita Sastry |
| F10A | Fellowships: Physiology and Pathobiology of Cardiovascular and Respiratory Systems | Dr. Richard Schneiderman |
| F10B | Fellowships: Musculoskeletal and Oral Sciences, Imaging, Surgery, and Informatics | Dr. Anshumali Chaudhari |
| F10C | Fellowships: Physiology and Pathobiology of the Vascular and Hematological Systems | Dr. Katherine Malinda |

SRO is not a program officer-
do not contact

See Roster -
do not contact
Review expertise

Find colleagues in NIH Reporter

| T Act Project | Year | Sub | Principal Investigator(s)/ Project Leader(s) | Organization | Fiscal Year | Admin IC | Funding IC | FY Total Cost by IC | Similar Projects |
|--|------|---------------|--|------------------------------|-------------|----------|------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Forebrain-hypothalamic estrogen receptor alpha in non-alcoholic fatty liver disease | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | F31 | DK122747-02 | BLACKMORE, KATHERINE ANNE | GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY | 2021 | NIDDK | NIDDK | \$31,095 | View > |
| Mechanisms Governing Latency in Clinically Relevant HIV-1 Strains | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | F31 | AI147814-02 | SARABIA, INDRA | GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY | 2020 | NIAID | NIAID | \$36,076 | View > |
| The Role of RNA Editing in the DNMTi-induced interferon response in ovarian cancer | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | F31 | CA254315-01 | GOMEZ, STEPHANIE | GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY | 2020 | NCI | NCI | \$36,090 | View > |
| Defining the role of B cells in modulating CNS inflammation in multiple sclerosis | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | F31 | NS117085-01 | AHN, JULIE J | GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY | 2020 | NINDS | NINDS | \$39,120 | View > |
| Six1-related genes in otic development | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | F31 | DC018742-01A1 | BAXI, APARNA B. | GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY | 2020 | NIDCD | NIDCD | \$35,058 | View > |

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|---|------|-------------|--|-------------------------------|-------------|----------|------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Roles of Very Long Chain Fatty Acids in Neurobehavior Deficits in FASD | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | F31 | AA027693-02 | HWANG, HYE | CHILDREN'S RESEARCH INSTITUTE | 2020 | NIAAA | NIAAA | \$45,520 | View > |