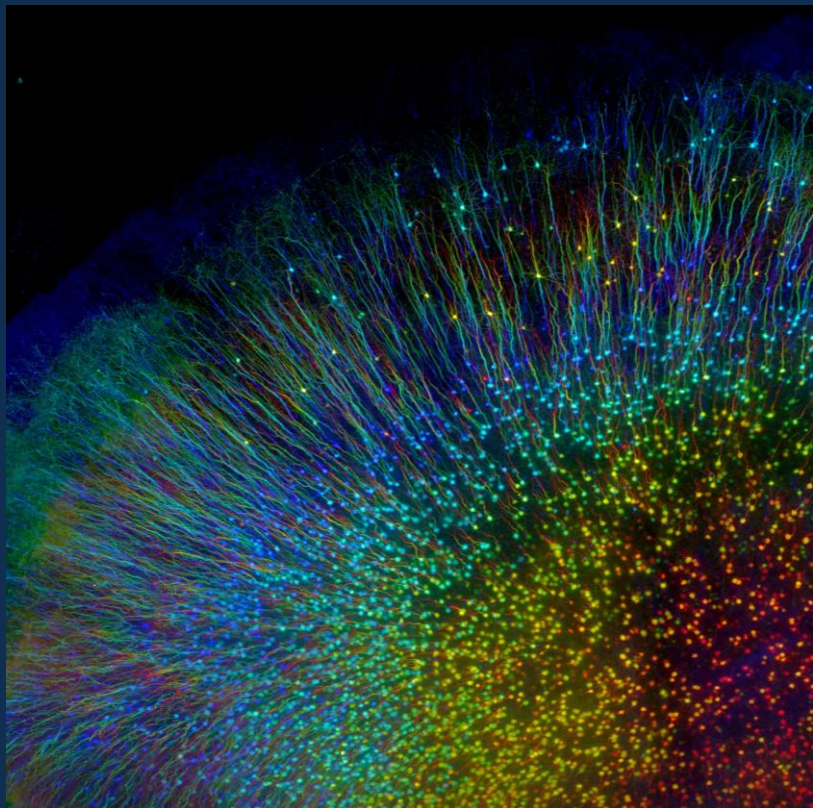




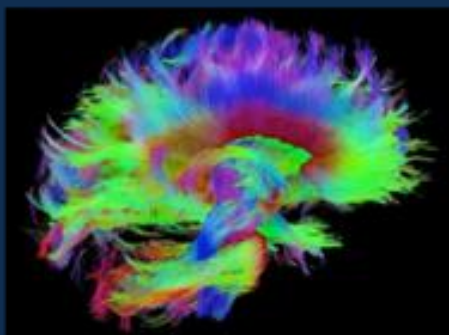
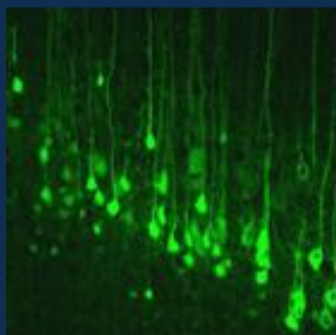
NIH **Blueprint**
for Neuroscience Research



National Institutes of Health
The BRAIN Initiative

Training Opportunities within the NIH Blueprint for Neuroscience Research and BRAIN Initiative

July 16, 2026



NCCIH NEI NIA NIAAA NIBIB NICHD NIDA NIDCD NIDCR NIEHS NIMH NINDS OBSSR



Webinar Housekeeping

- You will be muted during the presentation
- Type questions in the Q&A box or save for the breakout rooms at the end
- The webinar will be recorded. Slides and the recording will be shared with registrants after the event



Agenda

- What are Blueprint and BRAIN?
- Individual Awards
 - F99/K00 – Blueprint and BRAIN
 - K99/R00 – BRAIN only
- Institutional Awards
 - JSPTPN T32 – Blueprint only
 - ASCEND R25 – Blueprint and BRAIN
 - T15 – Blueprint only
- Q&A - Breakouts



NIH Blueprint for Neuroscience Research

- Mission: To accelerate transformative discoveries in brain function in health, aging, and disease.
- A collaborative framework that includes the NIH Office of the Director together with NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices that support research on the nervous system.
- By pooling resources and expertise, Blueprint identifies cross-cutting areas of research and confronts challenges too large for any single institute or center.
- Since its inception in 2004, Blueprint has supported the development of new research initiatives, training opportunities, and tools and resources for the neuroscience community.
- Program page: <https://www.nih.gov/neuroscience-blueprint>

Participating ICOs:

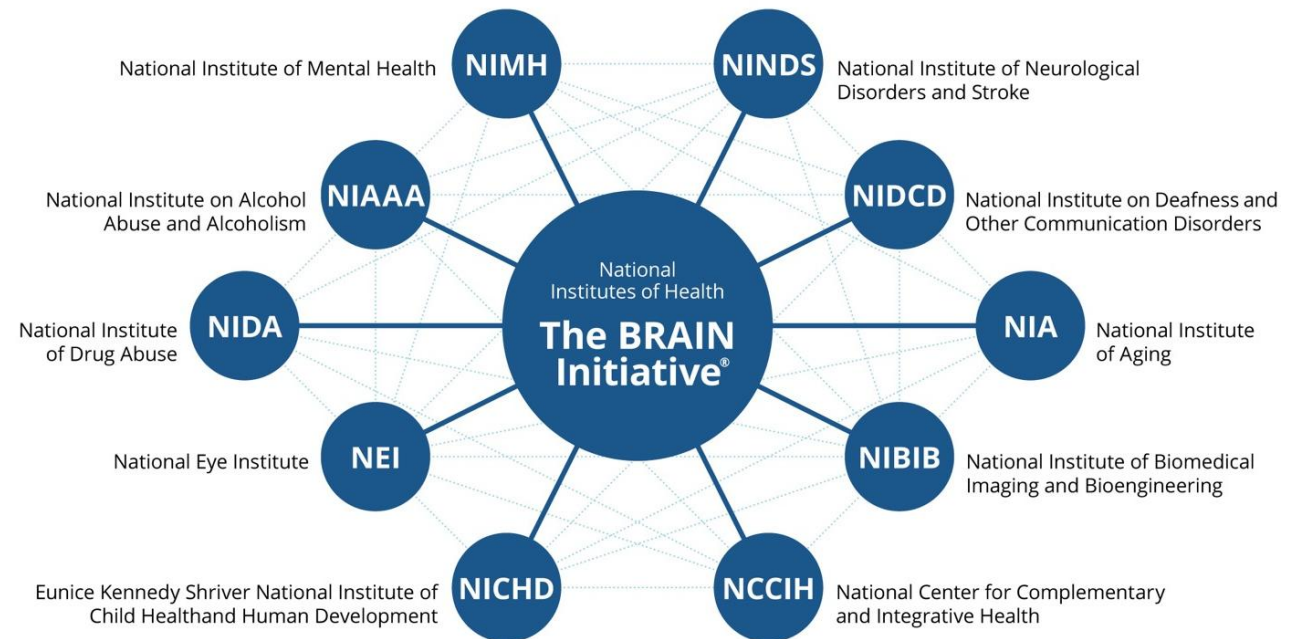
- NCCIH
- NEI
- NIA
- NIAAA
- NIBIB
- NICHD
- NIDA
- NIDCR
- NIEHS
- NIMH
- NINDS
- OBSSR

The NIH BRAIN Initiative

Mission: to revolutionize our understanding of the human brain by accelerating the development and application of innovative technologies

- A partnership between five U.S. federal agencies & private foundations
- Leverage **emerging technologies** to enable new discoveries about how the brain works
- Foster a **tool-driven revolution** to identify and test **new therapies** for human brain disorders
- Change the way we're doing science to **maintain our global competitiveness**

Program page: <https://www.nih.gov/brain>





Relationship between Blueprint and BRAIN

- Both are trans-NIH programs supporting neuroscience
- All training programs are managed by the same cross-IC team
- Some training programs are supported by both programs, some are separate
- Questions about programs or mission fit? Contact BPTraining@nih.gov



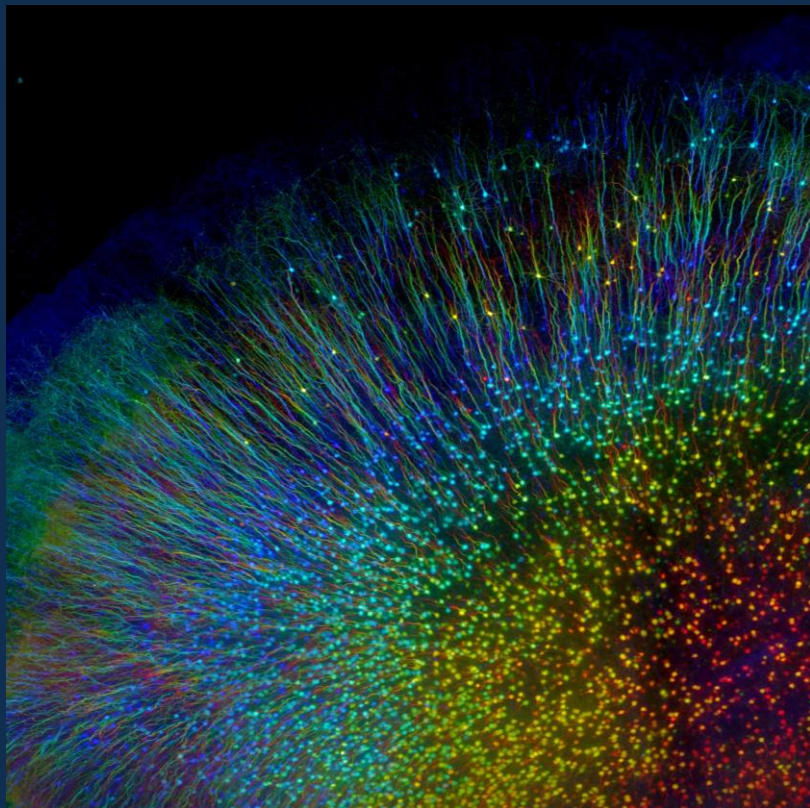
Parent NOFOs and Trans-NIH Training Programs

- Different versions of these programs were previously administered through PARs and RFAs specifically targeted to individual programs
- Due to NOFO consolidation, stand-alone NOFOs have been limited
- Where possible, Blueprint and BRAIN will be using Parent NOFOs to administer training programs
 - Parent NOFOs are NIH-wide, broad, open funding announcements that allow researchers to submit investigator-initiated grant applications
 - *Resubmissions* (A1) must be submitted RFA to RFA, PA/PAR/PAS to PA/PAR/PAS
 - Institutional programs may submit *renewals* of funded programs to any NOFO of the same activity code
- Monitor grants.gov, funding priority pages, and program pages for updates



Individual Awards

- F99/K00 – Blueprint and BRAIN
- K99/R00 – BRAIN only



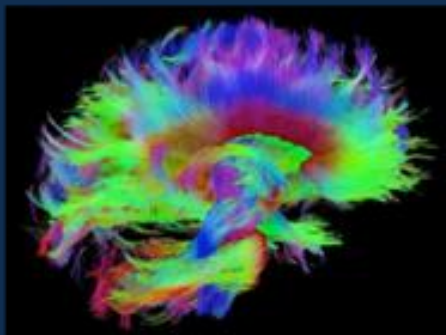
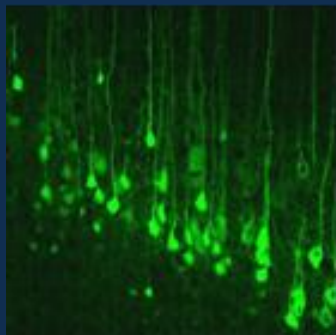
NIH **Blueprint**
for Neuroscience Research



National Institutes of Health
The BRAIN Initiative

Academic Career Transition Initiative for Opportunities in Neuroscience (ACTION) Potential Program through the Parent F99/K00

Lauren Ullrich, PhD (NINDS)



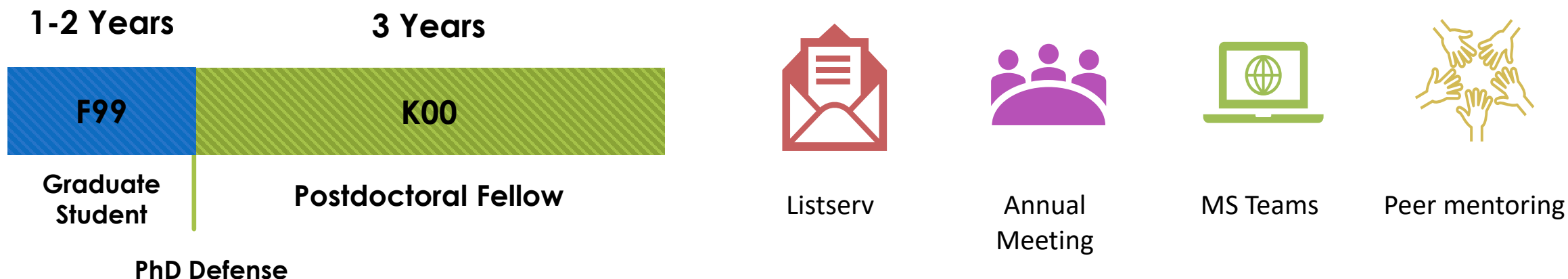
NCCIH NEI NIA NIAAA NIBIB NICHD NIDA NIDCD NIDCR NIEHS NIMH NINDS OBSSR



ACTION Potential Program through Parent F99/K00

- The F99/K00 ACTION Potential Program will:
 - Support neuroscience trainees committed to research careers at a vulnerable transition point between PhD and postdoc
 - Enhance self-efficacy via:
 - Intentional commitment to an academic research path
 - A clear, structured pathway to competitive postdoc positions
 - Encourage strong, accountable mentorship
 - Provide a connected, cross-IC neuroscience trainee community

ACTION Potential Program through Parent F99/K00



- Transition is not automatic. Awardees must submit a K00 application. The postdoctoral research may be different than originally proposed.
- To activate the K00 phase, you must have been offered and accepted a neuroscience-focused postdoctoral research position within the Blueprint or BRAIN missions.



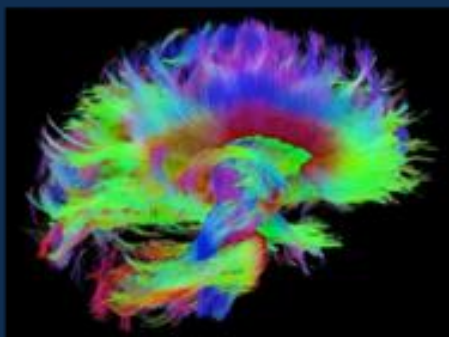
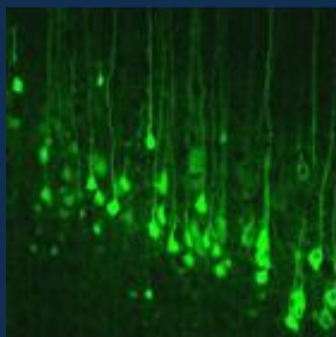
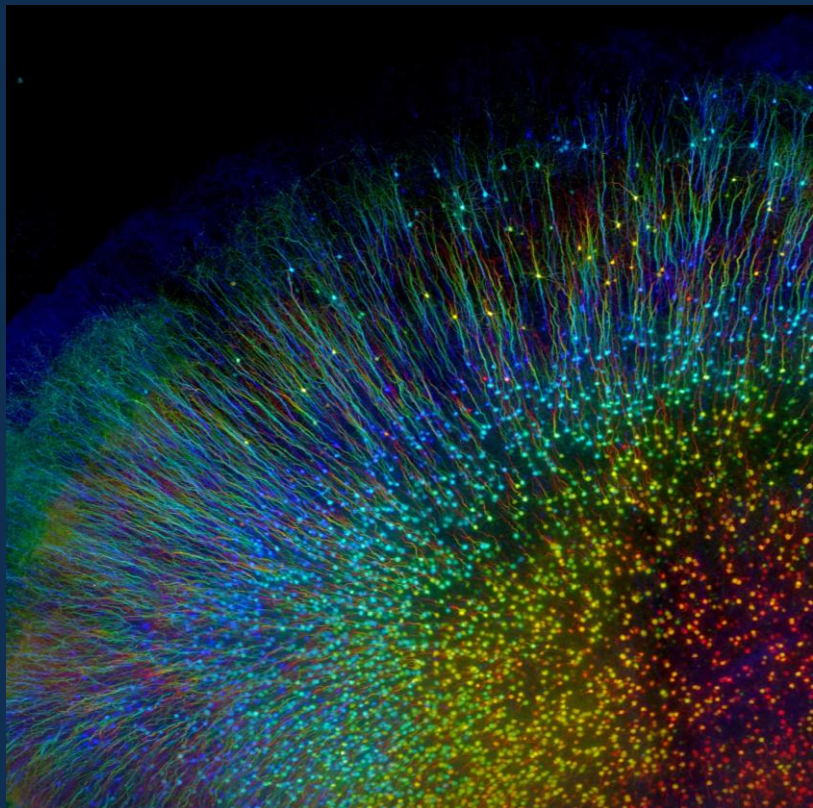
ACTION Potential Program through Parent F99/K00

- Eligibility/Intended Participants same as Parent F99/K00
 - **Career Goal:** Interest in independent research career
 - **Degree:** PhD or equivalent research doctoral degree program that does not require post-degree clinical training
 - **Institution:** Performing research at a domestic US institution for both phases
 - **Timing:** Have at least 1 year left in your PhD *at time of award*
 - **Citizenship:** US citizen or permanent resident by *time of award*
- APP-specific
 - **Research:** Both phases of your research training must fit within the neuroscience mission of one of the participating institutes or offices: NCCIH, NEI, NIA, NIAAA, NIBIB, NICHD, NIDA, NIDCD (BRAIN Initiative research only), NIDCR, NIEHS, NIMH, NINDS, OBSSR



ACTION Potential Program through Parent F99/K00

- **Recommendation:** Email BPF99K00@nih.gov for review of your specific aims before you apply
- **Apply through the [Parent F99/K00](#) funding opportunity (PA-27-037)**
 - Help us identify your interest in this program by referencing the "**Neuroscience Blueprint**" in section A. Overall Training Goals, under Goals, Preparedness, and Potential in the Candidate Section
 - Prioritize applications for all Councils (all receipt dates)
 - Apply to any BP or BRAIN IC
 - Final determination of mission fit is done by NIH staff and selection for the program will be communicated at time of award
- ICs may fund applications that are not picked up by the ACTION Potential Program



National Institutes of Health
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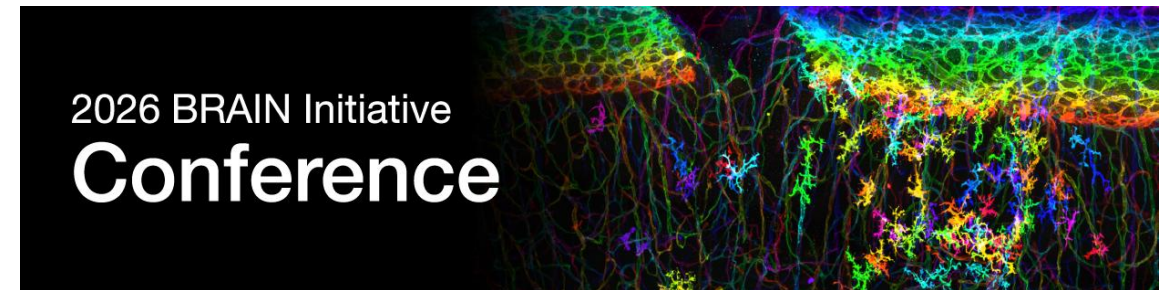
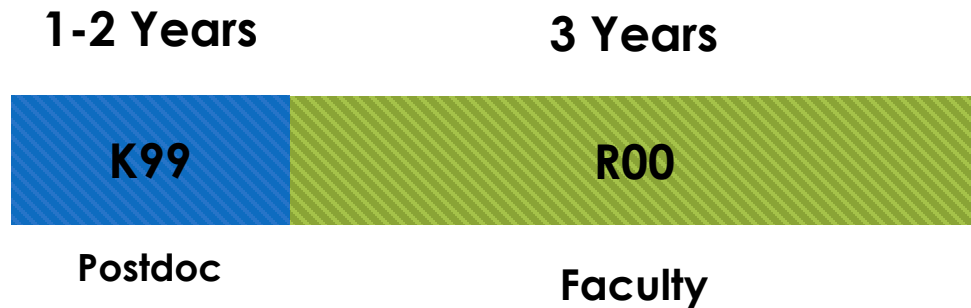
Parent K99/R00 BRAIN Initiative

Kari Johnson, PhD (NINDS)
Ashlee Van't Veer, PhD (NIMH)
Lauren Ullrich, PhD (NINDS)

BRAIN-supported K99/R00 Awards

- To foster the development of a creative, independent researcher that will be competitive for subsequent independent funding and that will help advance the mission of the NIH and BRAIN Initiative research areas
- Integrate early career investigators into the BRAIN Initiative community
 - Biennial BRAIN Conference
 - SfN events
- Previously administered as a stand-alone NOFO
- Applications will be identified for support through the Parent K99/R00

BRAIN-supported K99/R00 Awards



- Early Career Networking Event
- Opportunities to present

BRAIN-supported K99/R00 Awards

- Must be doing research within the BRAIN Initiative mission space
- Must be assigned to an institute that participates in the BRAIN Initiative
 - NIMH, NINDS, NIDCD, NIA, NIBIB, NCCIH, NICHD, NEI, NIDA, NIAAA
- Follow Parent K99/R00 eligibility requirements
 - Must be within **4 years** of postdoctoral research experience
 - Must follow eligibility determinations from assigned IC

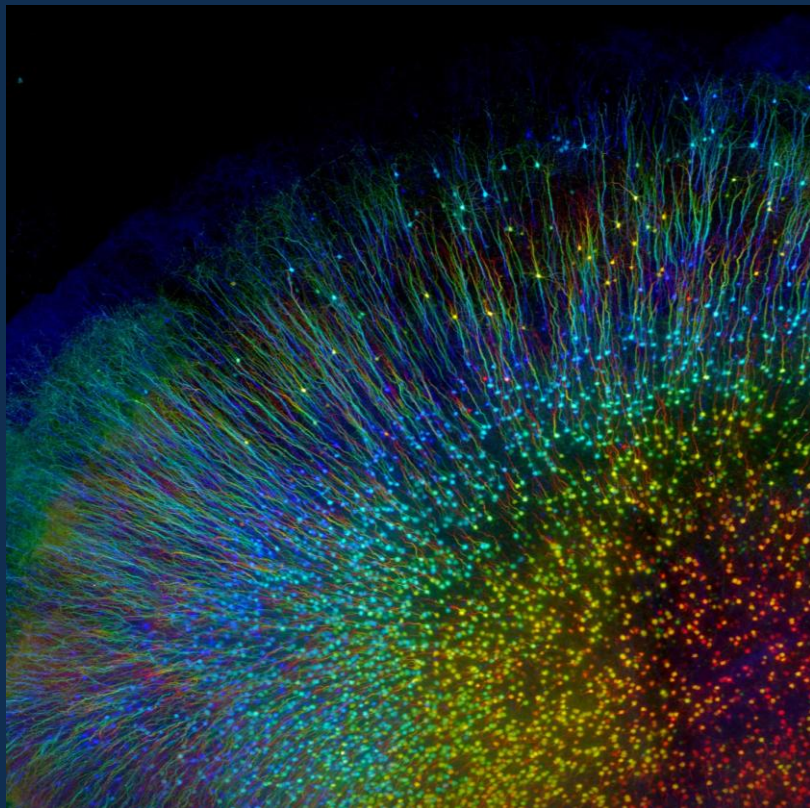
BRAIN-supported K99/R00 Awards

- **Recommendation:** Email BRAIN.Initiative.Training@mail.nih.gov for review of your specific aims before you apply
- **Apply through the Parent K99/R00 funding opportunity (PA-24-193 or PA-24-194)**
 - Applications to all council rounds/receipt dates will be considered
 - Apply to any BRAIN IC
- NIH Staff will identify responsive applications.
 - Final determination of mission fit is done by NIH staff and selection for the program will be communicated at time of award
- Any applications not funded by BRAIN are eligible for funding by the assigned institute



Institutional Awards

- ASCEND R25 – Blueprint and BRAIN
- Computational Training for Next Generation Neuroscientists (T32 and R25) – Blueprint only
- JSPTPN T32 – Blueprint only
- T15 – Blueprint only



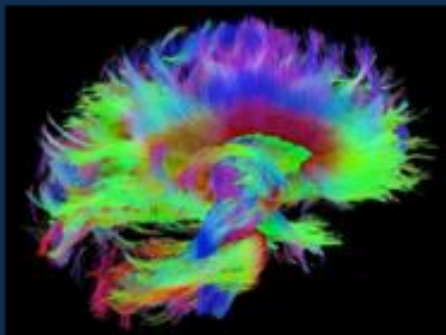
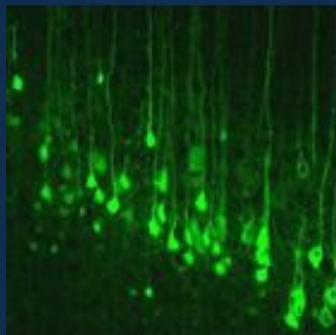
NIH **Blueprint**
for Neuroscience Research



National Institutes of Health
The BRAIN Initiative

Advancing Specialized Collegiate Experiences through Neuroscience Discoveries (ASCEND) R25 Program

Marguerite Matthews, PhD (NINDS)



NCCIH NEI NIA NIAAA NIBIB NICHD NIDA NIDCD NIDCR NIEHS NIMH NINDS OBSSR



Most recent NOFO: RFA-NS-24-014

- This R25 aim to provide undergraduate research education training through partnerships between research-intensive institutions and institutions with a substantial enrollment of undergraduate interested in neuroscience and/or undergraduates without access to neuroscience research opportunities
- Programs expected to prepare undergraduate students to enter PhD training programs in the neurosciences through the following educational activities:



Institutional
Partnerships



Authentic
Research
Experiences



Skills
Development



Mentorship



Annual
Meeting



Graduate
Recruitment
Fair



Networking



- The ASCEND R25 Program will:
 - Build collaboration between R1 and R2 institutions with rigorous neuroscience graduate training programs and resource limited institutions
 - Provide undergraduates from across the country with access to authentic neuroscience research training experiences
 - Reduce barriers for undergraduates with limited access to neuroscience research to matriculate into neuroscience PhD programs
 - Provide a connected, cross-IC neuroscience trainee community



Advancing Specialized Collegiate Experiences through Neuroscience Discoveries (ASCEND) Program through the Research Activities Parent R25

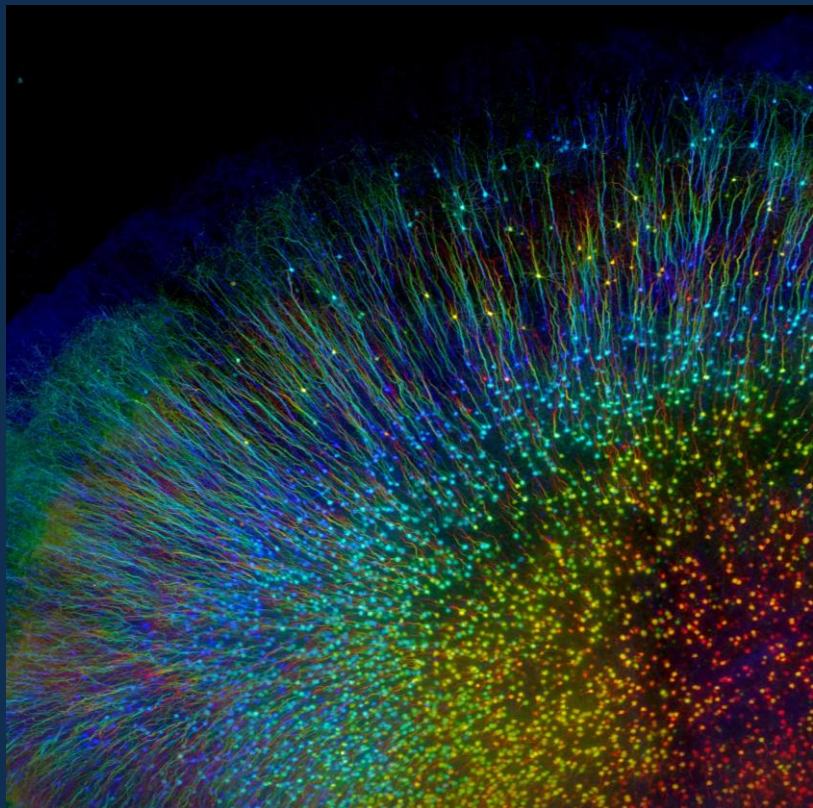
Key features for each program:

- Partnership between research-intensive institution(s) and resource-limited institution(s)
- Purposeful preparation for PhD training programs
- Outstanding mentorship
- Authentic research experiences year-round
- Variety of opportunities to develop students' technical and professional skills
- Networking opportunities with new and established neuroscientists

School Year	Summer
• Part-time research • Mentoring • Technical and professional development	• Full-time research • Mentoring • Networking



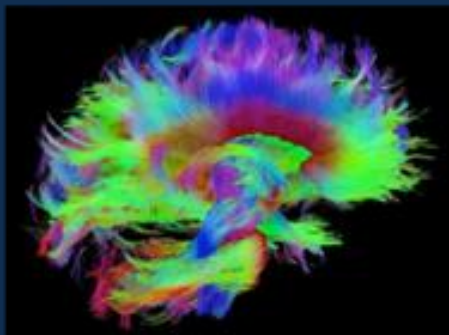
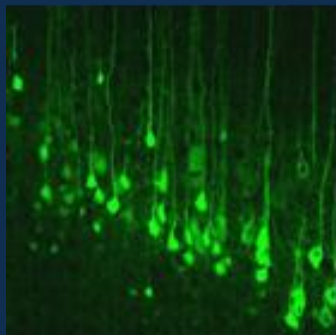
- Recommend interested institutions email BPTraining@nih.gov for review of your specific aims
- Apply through the **Research Education Program Parent R25** funding opportunity ([PA-27-036](#))
 - Help us identify your interest in this program by referencing the "**Neuroscience Blueprint**" in the Specific Aims of the Research Plan Section
 - Request assignment to NINDS
 - Prioritize applications for August Council (January due date)
 - Final determination of mission fit is done by NIH staff and selection for the program will be communicated at time of award



NIH Blueprint
for Neuroscience Research

Computational Training (T32 and R25) For Next Generation Neuroscientists

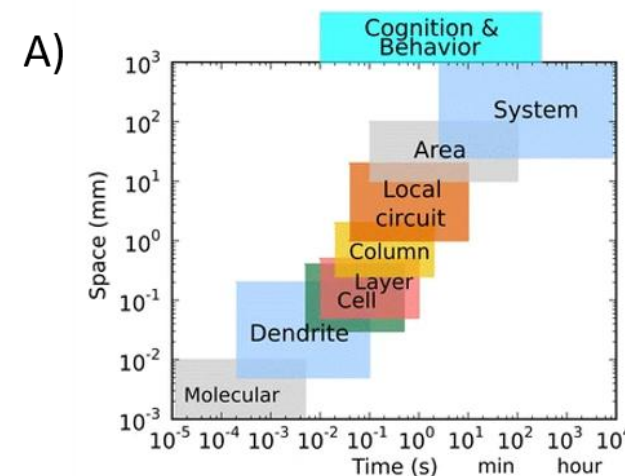
Jessica Mollick, PhD (NIDA)



NCCIH NEI NIA NIAAA NIBIB NICHD NIDA NIDCD NIDCR NIEHS NIMH NINDS OBSSR

Justification

- Neuroscience data has grown in complexity across scales, which necessitates enhanced training in complex analytic and computational approaches
- Automated neuroscience analysis in many areas is widespread (see B)
- Neuroscience training requires cross-disciplinary communication (experimentalists/computational neuroscientists/clinicians)
- Computational neuroscience has barriers to entry, necessitating training



B) Areas of automated analysis

Pose and behavior tracking

Automated cell-tracking

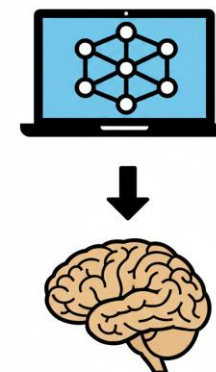
Multimodal data integration

Neural and behavioral prediction

General training goals

Shared goals across programs:

- Expand knowledge/use of computational neuroscience, big data, AI, and machine learning in basic neuroscience topics of broad interest across Blueprint ICs
- Establish a strong foundation of computationally-based analytic techniques, experiment designs, modeling, and methods
- Preparation for scientific careers in computational neuroscience, including research, industry, academia, or government



Specific program goals: T32 and R25

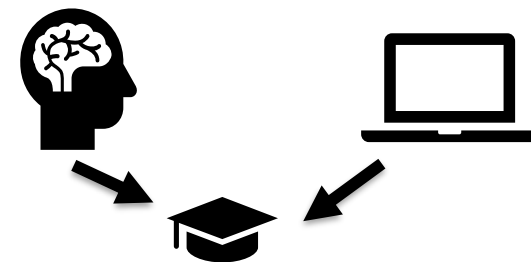
T32:

- Cross-disciplinary graduate education in neuroscience and computational methods such as AI/data science or computational modeling
 - Combined mentorship by computational and experimental neuroscience faculty

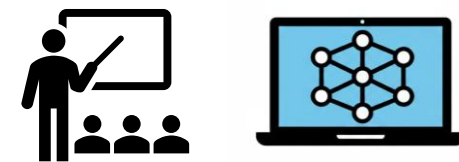
R25

- Reducing barriers and scaffolding future work by providing training in math, programming, statistics, modeling, and other computationally-based analytic techniques
- Can incorporate training in a specific area in computational neuroscience, such as a modeling toolbox, technique or topic

Neuroscience Computational



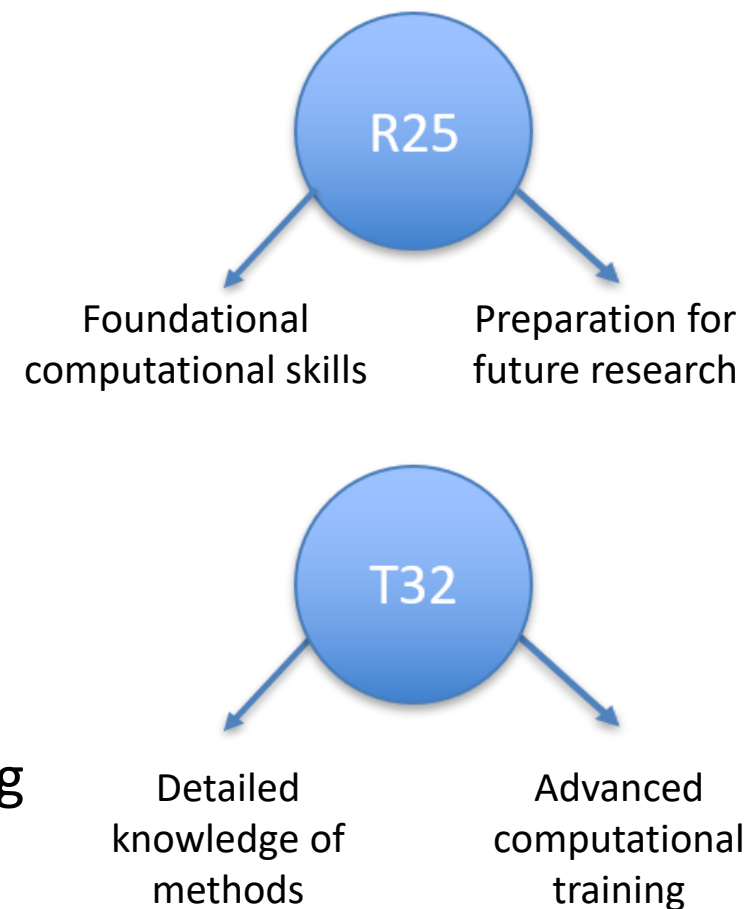
T32: Combined
graduate mentorship



R25: Short
computational
courses

Activities

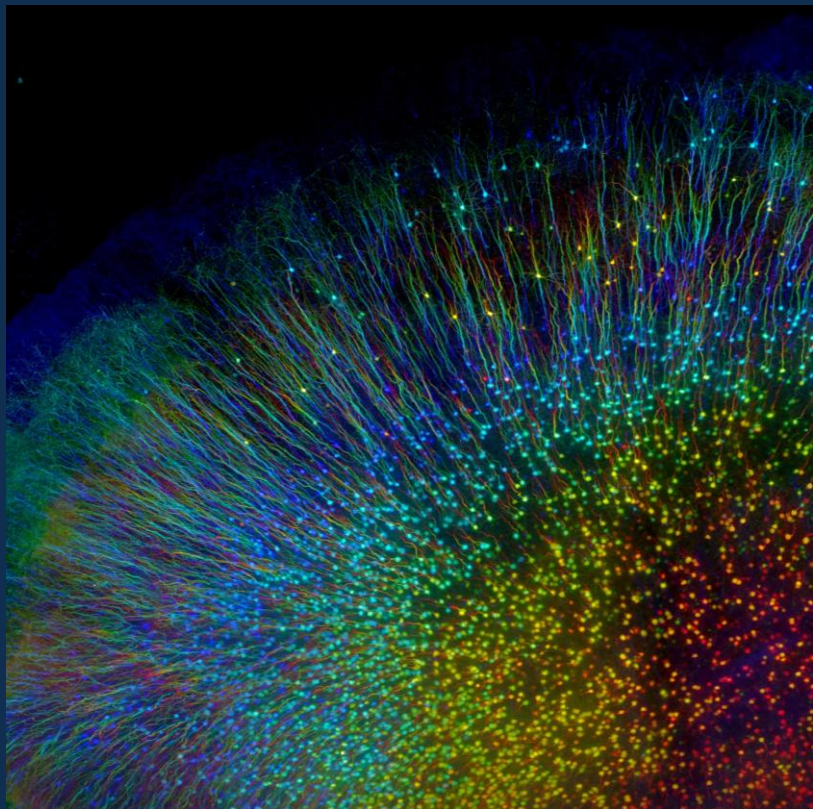
- R25: Short Computational and AI Courses for the Next Generation of Neuroscientists
 - Short courses in mathematics, AI, programming, and/or toolboxes and workflows
 - T32: Computational Training for Neuroscience and Psychiatry
 - Graduate research training in computational neuroscience
- Both aspects will grow computational expertise, expanding knowledge, and use of AI/ML and computational modeling





Instructions

- Recommend emailing BPTraining@nih.gov for review of your specific aims
- Request assignment to NIDA
- Prioritize applications for January Council (May due date). Apply in Fiscal Year 2028.
- Final determination of mission fit is done by NIH staff and selection for the program will be communicated at time of award
- **T32:** Apply through the **Research Education Program Parent T32** funding opportunity ([PA-25-168](#))
 - Help us identify your interest in this program by referencing "**Blueprint Computational**" in the Training Program Section 2. Program Plan
- **R25:** Apply through the **Research Education Program – Courses, Curriculum and Methods, Parent R25** funding opportunity ([PA-27-036](#))
 - Help us identify your interest in this program by referencing "**Blueprint Computational**" in the Specific Aims of the Research Plan Section

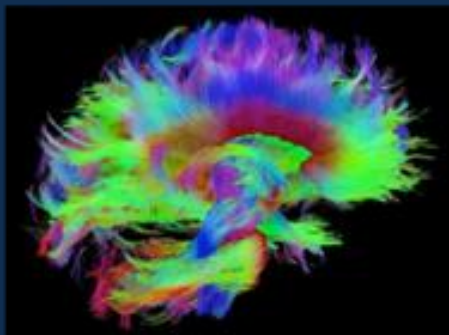
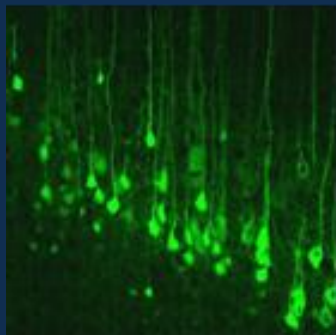


NIH **Blueprint**

for Neuroscience Research

The Jointly Sponsored Institutional Predoctoral Training Program in the Neurosciences (JSPTPN – T32)

Ashlee Van't Veer, PhD (NIMH)



NCCIH NEI NIA NIAAA NIBIB NICHD NIDA NIDCD NIDCR NIEHS NIMH NINDS OBSSR



JSPTPN T32

- Longstanding program to support graduate neuroscience research training. The first funding opportunity was issued in November 1996.
- Goal to provide joint support from multiple NIH institutes for broad training in the neurosciences during early years of graduate education (before full-time thesis research).
- Previously supported through own announcement (most recent PAR-22-265)
- In FY25, accepted applications through Parent T32 announcement



JSPTPN T32

To prepare individuals for careers in neuroscience that have a significant impact on the health-related research needs of the nation. The NIH Blueprint will only support programs that fulfill the following criteria:

1. Provide broad and fundamental research training in the neurosciences (comprehensive, 2-yr training plan for years 1 and 2 of PhD)
2. Include laboratory rotations that allow students to explore different research areas, scientific approaches, and laboratory cultures
3. Include a curriculum that provides a strong foundation in experimental design, statistical methodology, quantitative reasoning, and scientific rigor
4. Provide professional skills development (written and oral communication, data presentation)
5. Include exposure to career opportunities that will make use of their training



JSPTPN T32

First 2 Years

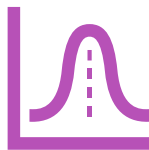
JSPTPN T32

Other support (e.g., T32,
Fellowship, R01)

Graduate Training Period



Broad
Neuroscience
Curriculum



Rigor &
Quantitative
Literacy



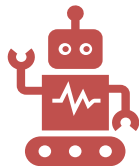
Rotations



Professional
Skills



Community

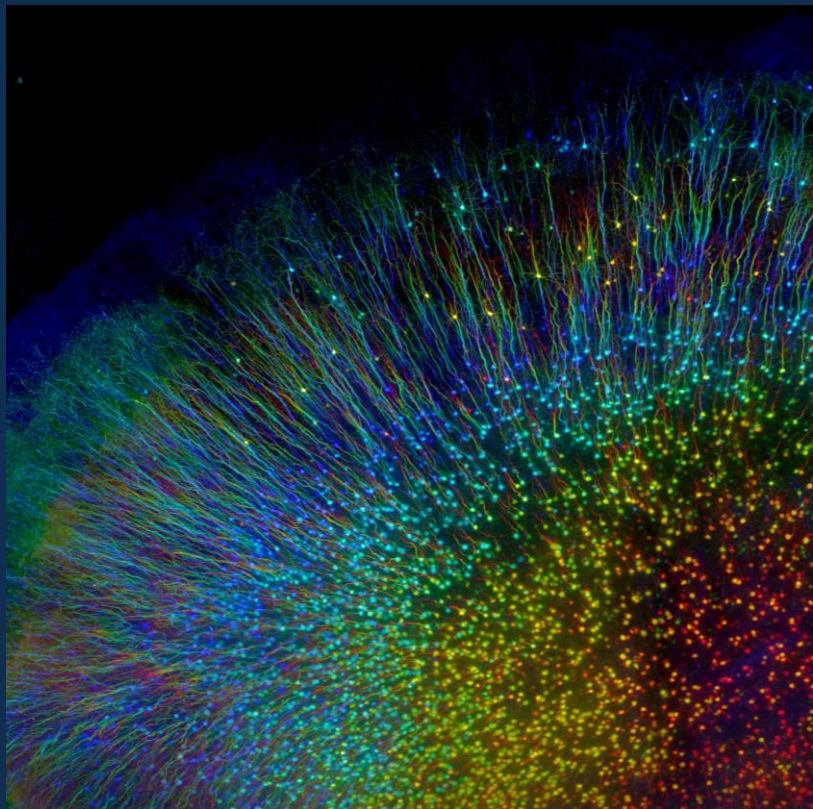


GenAI



JSPTPN T32

- **Recommendation:** Email BPTraining@nih.gov for technical assistance
- **Apply through the [Parent T32](#) funding opportunity (PA-25-168)**
 - Help us identify your interest in this program by referencing "**JSPTPN**" in the Training Program Section 2. Program Plan
 - Request assignment to NINDS or NIMH
 - Prioritize applications for January Council (May due date)
 - Final determination of mission fit is done by NIH staff and selection for the program will be communicated at time of award

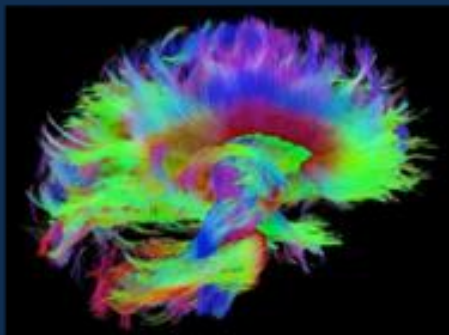
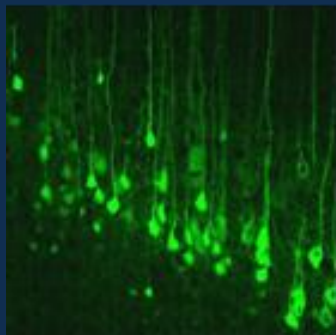


NIH **Blueprint**

for Neuroscience Research

NLM Institutional Grants for Research Training in Biomedical Informatics, Data Science, and AI

Ashlee Van't Veer, PhD (NIMH)



NCCIH NEI NIA NIAAA NIBIB NICHD NIDA NIDCD NIDCR NIEHS NIMH NINDS OBSSR



NLM Institutional Training Grants for Research Training in Biomedical Informatics and Data Science T15

- The National Library of Medicine (NLM) has supported university-based programs to train researchers in biomedical informatics for over 40 years
- The NLM T15 supports advanced training for the next generation of biomedical informatics and data science researchers
- RFA-LM-21-001 (expired) focused on development of training curricula, professional development, and preparedness for independent careers in biomedical informatics and data science



NLM T15

- Need for highly trained biomedical informatics researchers who directly advance NLM's mission in data science, artificial intelligence (AI), and knowledge management for health and biomedicine
- Critical workforce need especially in areas of clinical data integration, machine learning (ML), and translational science
- T15 program provides support for stipends, tuition and fees, and training-related expenses to support building the biomedical informatics research workforce



NLM T15

Key Features:

- Incorporate innovative curricula to reflect rapidly evolving fields
- Support NIH and NLM strategic priorities with emphasis on development of portable and translatable technical skills and experience in informatics, data science, and AI/ML in health and medicine
- Integrate methods and perspectives across disciplines



NLM T15

- **Recommendation:** Email NLMProgram@nih.gov for technical assistance
- **Check grants.gov RFA-LM-26-004 for publication status**
 - Blueprint may co-fund slots for training in basic, translational, and clinical neuroscience
 - Final determination of mission fit is done by NIH staff and selection for Blueprint support will be communicated at time of award



Stay in Touch

- Contact BPTraining@nih.gov or BRAIN.Initiative.Training@mail.nih.gov
- Visit our program pages:
 - <https://www.nih.gov/neuroscience-blueprint>
 - <https://www.nih.gov/brain>
- Monitor NIH ICO Profiles: Mission Areas, Funding Priorities, and Opportunities pages
 - <https://grants.nih.gov/funding/find-a-fit-for-your-research/nih-institutes-centers-offices>
- Subscribe to alerts on grants.gov
- Monitor the NIH Grants & Funding Calendar of Events
 - <https://grants.nih.gov/news-events/calendar-of-events>



Breakout rooms

- F99/K00 – Blueprint and BRAIN
- K99/R00 – BRAIN only
- ASCEND R25 – Blueprint and BRAIN
- JSPTPN T32 & NLM T15 – Blueprint only
- Computational Training (T32 and R25) – Blueprint only

To choose and join a breakout room:

1. Select **Rooms**  in your meeting controls.
2. Hover over the room you want to join and select **More options ...** >
Join.
 - Select the arrow next to a room name to see who's in that room.

When you join the breakout room, your camera and mic will be turned off until you turn them on. Switch to a different open room by returning to **Rooms**  in your meeting controls and selecting **Join** next to the room you want to switch to.