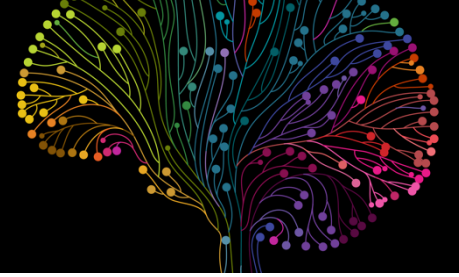




K Award Changes Open House

NINDS Office of Training and Workforce Development
September 29, 2026

Agenda



Welcome and Introductions

K Award Updates

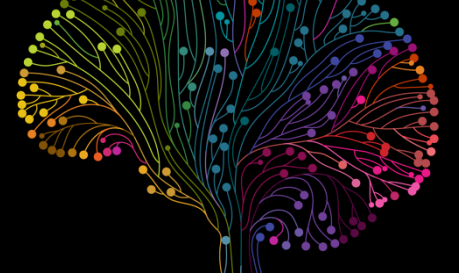
- Overview
- Timeline of changes
- Consolidated K Award Activity Codes
- Revised Scored Review Criteria
- Clinical Trials Policy Changes

Resources

Q&A Breakouts

- Non-Clinician Ks
- Clinician Ks
- Clinical Trials

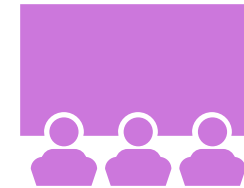
Webinar Housekeeping



You will be muted during the presentation.



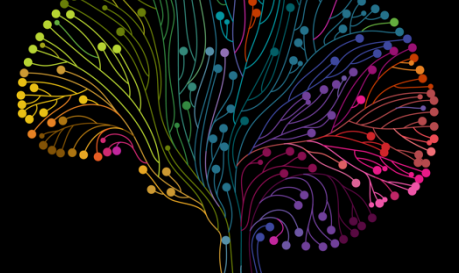
Type questions in the Q&A box or save for the breakout rooms at the end.



The webinar will be recorded. Slides and the recording will be shared with registrants after the event.

If you experience technical difficulties during the webinar, please direct message Luis Guerra.

The NINDS Training Team is here to help!



Tish Weigand, PhD
Director
K12s, Short Course
R25



Lauren Ullrich, PhD
Deputy Director
K99/R00, F99/K00, K01
NIH BRAIN & Blueprint



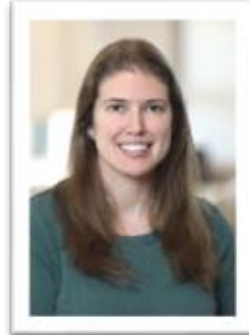
Myriam Megouache, MBA
Operations Liaison



K. Rezaizadeh, PhD
Program Director
Clinician Programs



Marguerite Matthews, PhD
Program Director
F30
Research Experiences R25
HEAL N CREW



Elizabeth Sypek, PhD
Program Director
HEAL Workforce
Programs
K32, NINDS T32



Jenny Kim, PhD
Program Director
F31



Joshua Sanchez, PhD
Health Program
Specialist
LOAN Repayment
Program, R15, R16



Nina Hsu, PhD
Program Director
F31



Emily Davis, PhD
Health Program Specialist

Proposed K Award Changes for Fall 2027



Updates Coming to Career Development (K) Award Programs



All current K NOFOs will be expired by July 2027, except the K00, K12, K43, and K76

Upcoming changes to K awards in FY28

1. NOFO Consolidation: Fewer K activity codes
2. Revised scored review criteria (from 5 to 3)
3. Eliminating the requirement for Data Management and Sharing Plans
4. Clarifying allowable clinical trial research activities

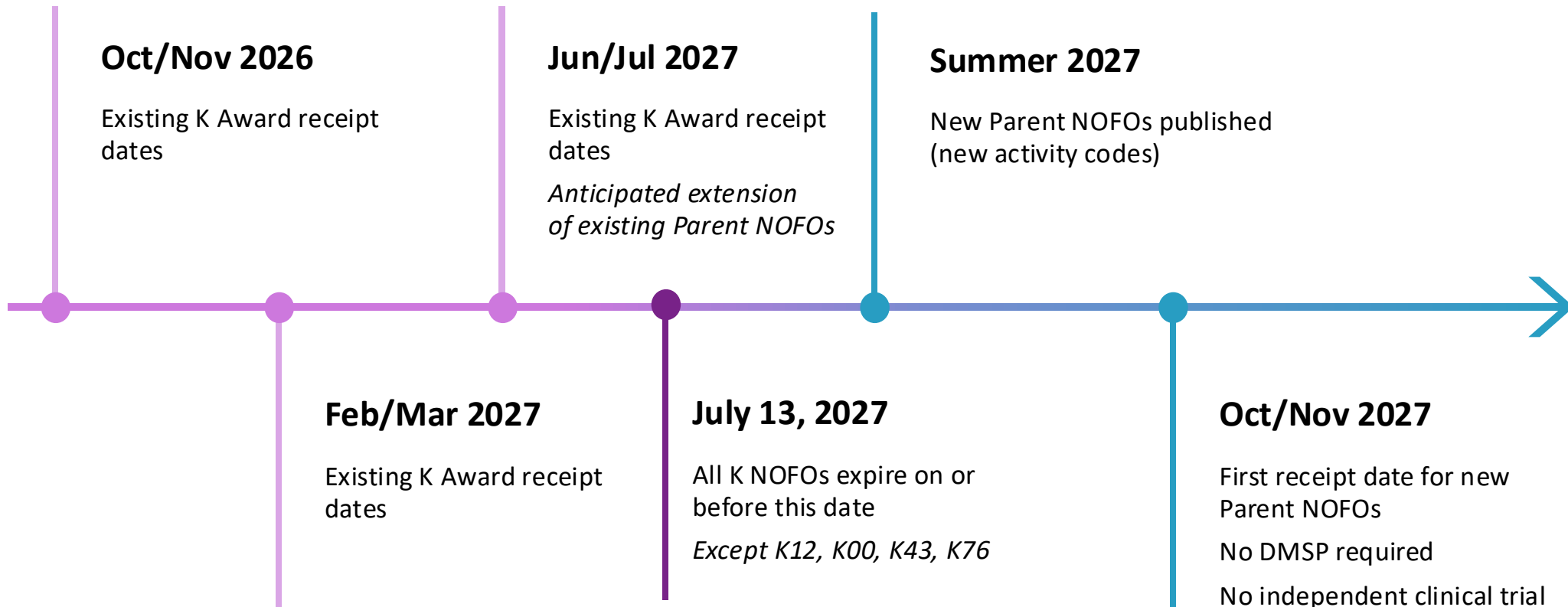
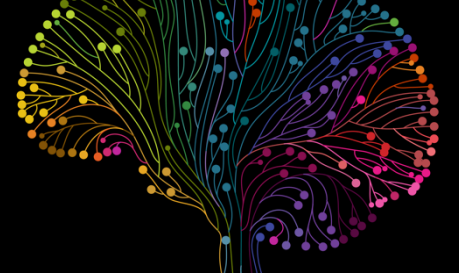
Current Parent NOFOs will be extended through **July 2027**.

Updates will be effective beginning with due dates on or after **October 12, 2027**.

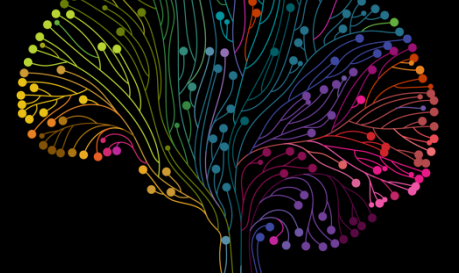


[Notice of NIH Updates to Career Development \(K\) Award Programs NOT-OD-26-098](#)

Anticipated Timeline

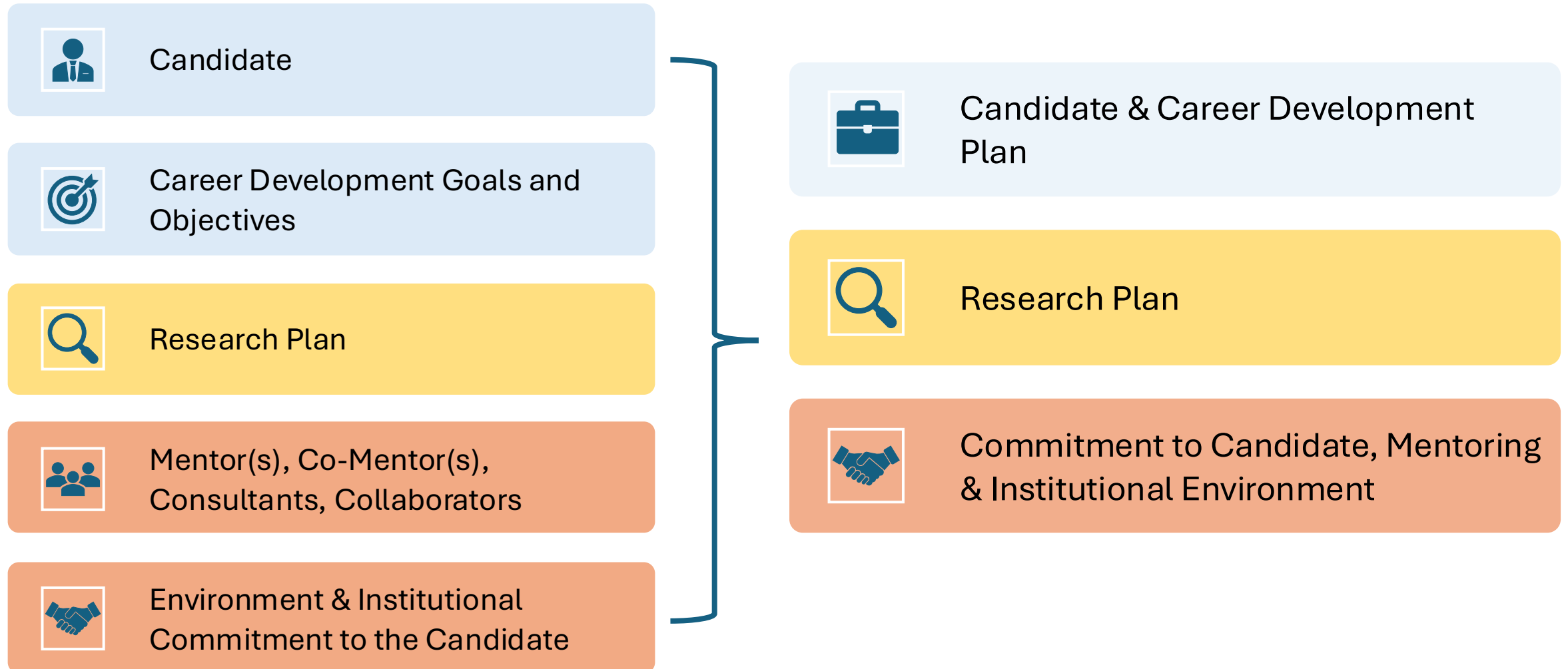


Consolidated Individual K Award Activity Codes* – Effective for Due Dates On or After October 12, 2027

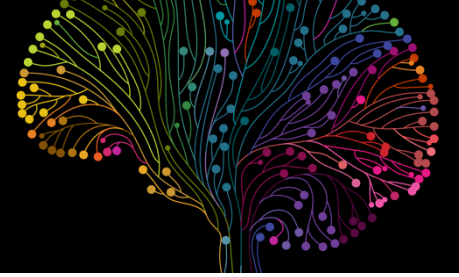


New Code	Award Name	Current Similar Codes	Description
KR1	Mentored Research Scientist Career Development Award	<u>K01</u> , <u>K32</u> , <u>K25</u>	Mentored career development for early career researchers who hold research doctoral degrees (such as Ph.D. or equivalent).
KC1	Mentored Clinician Research Scientist Career Development Awards	<u>K08</u> , <u>K23</u>	Mentored career development for clinician scientist researchers who hold clinical doctoral degrees (such as M.D., D.O., PharmD, DVM).
KT1/R00	NIH Career Transition to Research Independence Award	<u>K99</u> , <u>K22</u>	Mentored career development for postdoctoral researchers to transition to independent research careers.
KS1	Investigator Award to Support Mentoring of Early Career Clinician Scientists	<u>K24</u> , <u>K26</u>	For established investigators to provide protected time to mentor and develop the careers of future clinician scientists.

Anticipated Revised Scored Review Criteria



Policy changes in support of the refocused K program

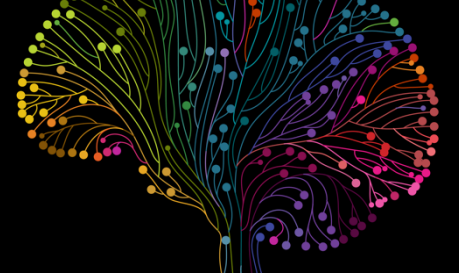


NIH will no longer support "Independent Clinical Trial Required" K award Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs).

K award funds may not be used to support or offset the costs of conducting a clinical trial, clinical feasibility study, or a separate ancillary study to an existing clinical trial.

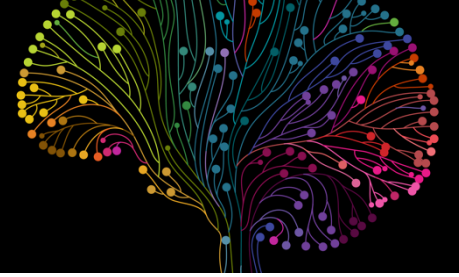
K award recipients who wish to lead a clinical trial as PI must secure separate funding (e.g., institutional, philanthropic, or other research grant support) to support those activities.

K awards will continue to support:



- Activities that prepare investigators for independent clinical trial research careers including
 - additional coursework
 - participation in a clinical trial led by a mentor or co-mentor (CTRE)
 - research that builds skills relevant to clinical trial leadership (e.g., qualitative research, observational studies, or secondary data analyses)
 - development of a clinical trial protocol

Please Participate – Clinical Trials Training Request for Information (RFI)!



NIH is seeking input on 2 potential approaches to supporting the career development of future clinical trialists.

Approach 1

Mentored K Award + Limited-Competition
Clinical Trial Research Project Grant (RPG)

Approach 2

Phased Transitional Award (Mentored Phase
Followed by an Independent Research Project
Grant Phase)

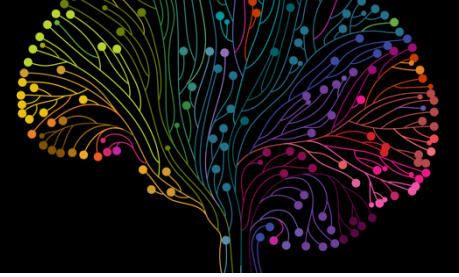


[RFI: Input On Potential NIH Funding Approaches To
Support The Development Of Future Clinical Trial
Investigators \(NOT-OD-26-095\)](#)

HOW TO SUBMIT A RESPONSE

All comments must be submitted electronically at [this website](#). Responses must be received by 11:59:59 PM (ET) on **September 30, 2026**.

K Award Changes – Resources & Contacts



- **NIH EXTRAMURAL NEXUS ARTICLE:** [“Simplifying the Landscape of NIH Career Development Awards, Including an Opportunity to Provide Feedback”](#)
- **Policy Questions?** nihtrain@nih.mail.gov.
- **NINDS K Award Questions?** NINDSKAwards@ninds.nih.gov.
- **K Award Questions for Other NIH Institutes?** NIH ICO Grants & Funding Profiles Page

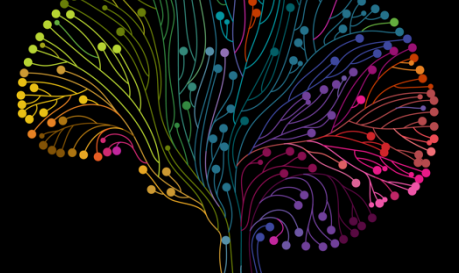


[NIH ICO Grants & Funding Profiles](#)



[Simplifying the Landscape of NIH Career Development Awards, Including an Opportunity to Provide Feedback](#)

NINDS Training Office Resources



NIH GRANTS & FUNDING

Search this Site

Home > Funding > Find a Fit for Your Research > NIH Institutes, Centers, Offices > National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)

Funding

Back to Find a Fit for Your Research

NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices

- Regeneron International Center (RIC)
- NIH Brain Research Through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies Initiative (BRAIN)
- NIH Helping to End Addiction Long-term Initiative (HEAL)
- National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS)
- National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH)
- National Cancer Institute (NCI)
- National Eye Institute (NEI)
- National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI)
- National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI)
- National Institute on Aging (NIA)
- National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)
- National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)
- National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS)
- National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB)

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)

On this page:

- Mission Statement
- Interest Areas
- General Topics
- Additional Information by Funding Category

Mission Statement

The NINDS Mission is to gain fundamental knowledge about the brain and nervous system and to use that knowledge to reduce the burden of neurological disease for all people.

Interest Areas

General Topics

The NINDS supports research providing a deeper understanding of the workings of the brain and nervous system, driving improvements in the quality of life for all people with neurological disorders, and with the ultimate goal of preventing or curing neurological diseases and disorders. General topics of interest for research and training or career development support include:

- Understanding the brain, spinal cord, peripheral nerves, and neuromuscular system
- Understanding the basic mechanism of neurological diseases and disorders
- Neurological biomarkers and outcome measures
- Improving treatments
- Preventing neurological disorders
- Improving neurological health disparities

Additional Information by Funding Category

- Administrative Supplements
- Conferences and Meetings
- Individual Career Development
- Individual Fellowship
- Institutional Career Development
- Institutional Training
- Research Education
- Small Business

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<https://bit.ly/NINDSTrainingList>

NIH National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

NINDS Training Newsletter

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BUILDING UP THE NERVE

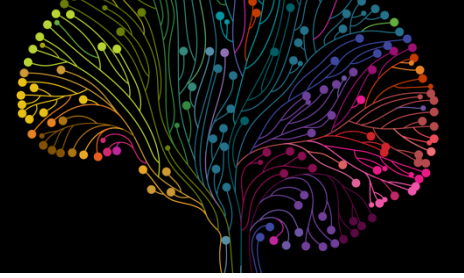
A podcast from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, part of the National Institutes of Health

WITH HOSTS

Lauren Ullrich, PhD  Marguerite Matthews, PhD 

- 1 The Life Cycle of an NINDS Grant
- 2 Building a Grant Application
- 3 Mentoring in Science
- 4 Demystifying the Hidden Curriculum
- 5 Scientific Communication

Breakout Rooms



- 1: Non-Clinician Ks
- 2: Clinician Ks
- 3: Clinical Trials

