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Research Fellowships: Why, What, and How?

Peh Hsia

Sponsored Research and Program Development

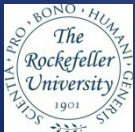
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Caspary 1B

September 9, 2009

Why Apply for Funding

- Prepare for a career as an independent investigator
- Contribute to the University mission
- Be an active member of the larger research community and participate in the discovery process
- Secure resources for training & research expenses
- Write up your findings (for future publications)

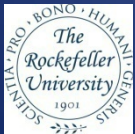


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University Support for Grant-seeking

The process of seeking and applying external resources to support research is a complex and integrated effort supported by the University infrastructure and coordinated by two departments:

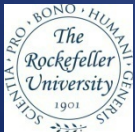
- Sponsored Research & Program Development (pre-award and post-award)
- Finance (post-award)



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Types of Funding

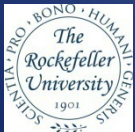
- Fellowships
- Training Grants
- Dissertation Grants



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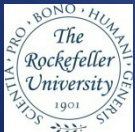
Where to Apply

- Federal
 - [NIH](#)
 - [NSF](#)
 - [Department of Defense](#)
 - Other departments as funding programs are made available
- Foundations
- Internal (via Deans Office and Development)



Resources for Finding Funding Opportunities

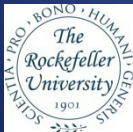
- University Sponsored Research & Program Development (SR-PD)
 - [Your Grants Management Specialist](#)
 - [SR-PD Website](#)
 - SR-PD Emails
- Online resources such as [InfoEd](#) – SPIN, [Grantsnet](#) and others
- Mentor and peers



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NIH Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (NRSA)

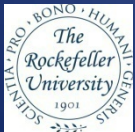
- F31 Predoctoral
supports an individual in a supervised research career development experience in the fields of biomedical and behavioral research
- F32 Postdoctoral
supports an individual with potential to become productive and successful independent research investigators in scientific health-related fields
- T32 Institutional Training Grant
supports institutions with established programs of supervised research career development in the fields of biomedical and behavioral research



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NIH Fellowships Awards Summarized

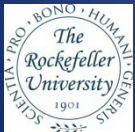
	F30	F31	F32
Citizenship Eligibility	USA or Permanent Resident	USA or Permanent Resident	USA or Permanent Resident
Length of Project Period	Up to 5 years mentored	Up to 5 years mentored	Up to 3 years mentored
Estimated Range of Annual Direct Costs	\$24,922 plus partial tuition & fees	\$24,922 plus partial tuition & fees	\$44,846 - \$58,886 (varies with years of postdoctoral experience)
Type of Training	MD/PhD students	PhD students (or equivalent)	Post-doctoral
Minimum effort committed to research training program	100%	100%	100%
Letters required	Mentor plus 3 referees	Mentor plus 3 referees	Mentor plus 3 referees
Participating NIH Institutes (check PA for listing as not all ICs participate)	PA-09-027	PA-09-208	PA-09-210



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Tips for NIH Training Fellowships

- Require 100% commitment towards research
- Strong/experienced mentor(s) is critical
- Training plan must be clear, focused, as well as exciting and practical
- Biosketches should reflect the potential of the candidate and the qualifications of the mentor
- Highlight coursework and professional work directly related to your research topic



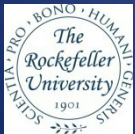
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Timeframe of Grant-Seeking Process

The grant-seeking process is long and may last 12 months from the time of submission to award start date!

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/grants_process.htm#process

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/submissionschedule.htm>

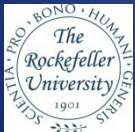


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Steps To Beginning Your Proposal

- Start early, approx. 6-9 months before deadline
- Review the funding program
- Research recently [funded proposals](#)
- Find out [success rate](#) at target agency/institute
- Discuss your research/proposal with your mentor
- Contact the Program Official/Director
- Secure reference letters
- Register with sponsor
- Work with your Grants Management Specialist



Strategic Resources

- Mentor
- Peers
- RU [SR-PD](#)
 - Forms and format
 - Budget (e.g personnel effort & costs, indirect costs)
 - Boilerplates
 - Your Grants Management Specialist
 - Website
- Sponsor's website
- NIH
 - Program Official
 - [Award trends and success rates](#)
 - [Office of Extramural Research](#)



Preparing the Proposal

- Review scope of the funding opportunity announcement
- Make note of the deadline
- Verify eligibility with your Grants Management Specialist
- Read closely the guidelines/instructions – including special submission requirements
- Design your outline and research plan according to the sponsor's instructions
- Discuss training and research plan with your mentor
- Fully address the review criteria in the order presented by the sponsor

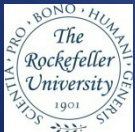


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NIH Review Criteria

1. Candidate
2. Sponsor/Mentor and Training Environment
3. Research Proposal
4. Training Potential

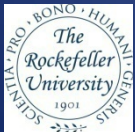


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Compliance Issues: Human Subjects

- Research protocol must be submitted and reviewed by the University Institutional Review Board (IRB) before research can start
- Individuals involved with human subjects must have Protection of Human Subjects Certification
- Applications must be reviewed by the IRB before an existing approved protocol can be applied in the proposal
- Address sponsor's requirements

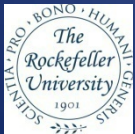
Check <http://clinfo.rockefeller.edu/> for more information



Compliance Issues: Vertebrate Animal Subjects

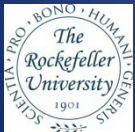
- Research protocol must be submitted and reviewed by the University Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) before research can start
- Applications must be reviewed by the IACUC before an existing approved protocol can be applied in the proposal
- Individuals involved with animal subjects must have proper training
- Address sponsor's requirements

Check <http://www.rockefeller.edu/larc/iacuc.php> for more information



Additional Elements

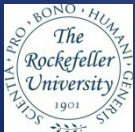
- Easy to Read
- Format
 - Font type and size
 - Margins
- Page limit



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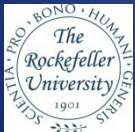
Submission Process

- Complete University “[routing sheet](#)”
- For full review and institutional sign-off, submit complete packet to SR-PD at least 5 business days before sponsor’s deadline
- If paper submission: after institutional sign-off, send the required # of copies and forward a final copy to SR-PD
- If electronic submission: final copy will be submitted by Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR)



Post-submission

- Receive confirmation of receipt and assignment
- Note sponsor's decision date
- Receive summary statement
- If fundable score: submit "Just-in-Time" information and address any pending issues on your application; resolve any overlap of science and effort
- If low score or unscored: evaluate the reviewers' comments; speak with your Program Official; prepare resubmission and work with your GMS

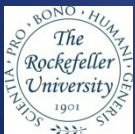


Managing Awarded Grants

Work with SR-PD and Finance on post-award management of your grant:

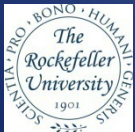
- Review the award documents
- Note scientific reporting requirements and other terms and conditions
- Follow funding restrictions/requirements
- Work with SR-PD and Finance if you need to revise your budget and if approval is required by sponsor
- Brief your mentor and lab administrator and keep them informed of your award and progress

All financial reporting is handled by University Finance department.



Award Management Contacts

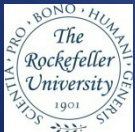
- Pre-Award Issues x7791
- Post-Award Issues
 - Cindy Fuqua x8055 at SR-PD
 - Research Administration x8308 at Finance



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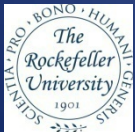
Helpful References

- Sponsored Research and Program Development
<http://www.rockefeller.edu/sr-pd/index.php?page=index>
- New Investigators
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/new_investigators/
- Center for Scientific Review
<http://cms.csr.nih.gov/ResourcesforApplicants/>
- NIH “Writing Your Application”
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/writing_application.htm
- InfoEd
<https://spas.rockefeller.edu/login.asp>
- “Research Proposals: A Guide to Success”m 3rd Edition
- “Making the Right Moves: A Practical Guide to Scientific Management for Postdocs and New Faculty”, 2nd Edition



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Questions and Suggestions



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