NCATS
Improving Health Through Smarter Science

Research Supplements to Promote Diversity and Re-entry in the Clinical and Translational Science Workforce

NCATS' Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) Program supports a national network of medical research institutions—called hubs—that work together to improve the translational research process to get more treatments to more patients more quickly. The hubs collaborate locally and regionally to catalyze innovation in training, research tools and processes. The CTSA Program diversity and re-entry research supplements opportunities promote diversity in health-related research and re-entry into biomedical and behavioral research careers. The goal of these supplements is to build the clinical and translational research workforce that is prepared to improve the quality, safety, efficiency and speed of clinical and translational science research nationally.

Aisha Langford, Ph.D., M.P.H., New York University School of Medicine, CTSA diversity supplement awardee

What Do Diversity and Re-entry Supplements Offer?

- **Diversity supplements** provide opportunity (salary, fringe benefits, travel and limited supplies) to improve the diversity of the research workforce by recruiting and supporting students, postdoctorates and eligible investigators from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups that have been shown to be underrepresented in health-related research.

- **Re-entry supplements** provide opportunity (salary, fringe benefits, travel and limited supplies) to support individuals with high potential to re-enter an active research career after an interruption for family responsibilities or other qualifying circumstances.

Juan Vasquez, M.D., Yale School of Medicine, CTSA diversity supplement awardee

Important Application Information

The NCATS CTSA Program supports diversity and re-entry research supplements to active and eligible UL1 grants through funding opportunity announcements.

- Each CTSA Program hub can submit up to two diversity supplements and up to two re-entry supplements applications per year.

- Supplements candidates must not have effort on other Public Health Service funded grants.

- Proposed research cannot involve leading an independent clinical trial, a clinical trial feasibility study or an ancillary clinical trial. Applicants can propose a research experience in a clinical trial led by their mentor or co-mentor.

- Typically, a grant should have at least two years remaining in order to provide an optimal career development experience for the candidate.

- Applications are administratively reviewed by NCATS program staff.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

NIH…Turning Discovery Into Health

NIH National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

Who is an Eligible Candidate?

- The **diversity research supplement** is designed for individuals from groups underrepresented in the biomedical sciences, including racial and ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, and individuals from economically and educationally disadvantaged backgrounds.

- The **re-entry research supplement** is designed for individuals with a duration of career interruption of at least one year and no more than eight years. Examples of qualifying interruptions would include a complete or partial hiatus from research activities for child rearing; an incapacitating illness or injury of the candidate, spouse, partner or a member of the immediate family; relocation to accommodate a spouse, partner or other close family member; pursuit of non-research endeavors that would permit earlier retirement of debt incurred in obtaining a doctoral degree; and military service.
- CTSA Program hub Principal Investigators are encouraged to identify eligible applicants.
- Diversity or re-entry candidates interested in this opportunity must work with the CTSA Program hub Principal Investigator to develop an application. See the Funded activities under the NCATS CTSA Program sheet to find the CTSA Program hubs and contact information for the Principal Investigators: https://ncats.nih.gov/files/ctsa-funding-information.pdf

At a Glance

- Submission Deadline: **November 1** of each year.
- **Parent Grant:** Active NCATS CTSA Program UL1 cooperative agreements are eligible. UL1 grants should have at least two years remaining in order to request a supplement and to provide an optimal career development experience for the candidate. Institutional Career Development Core (KL2) and Training Core (TL1) programs are not eligible.
- **Candidates:** Citizens or non-citizen nationals of the U.S. or individuals who have been lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the U.S. and meet the eligibility criteria described in the funding opportunity announcement.
- **Award Budget:** Up to $100,000/year for salary, plus fringe benefits. Costs may not exceed $150,000 direct costs after including funds for travel and limited supplies.
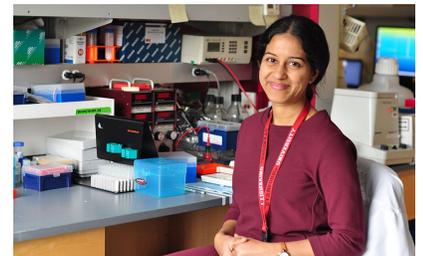
Success Stories

Here we highlight outstanding clinical and translational scientists who have used NCATS CTSA Program diversity and re-entry research supplements to become successful researchers in their field. Personal stories from current and former trainees and scholars showcase their scientific career and provide real-world examples of how these programs help to build the clinical and translational research workforce that is prepared to improve the quality, safety, efficiency and speed of clinical and translational science research nationally.

Read the success stories: https://ncats.nih.gov/ctsa/projects/profiles.