

TRAINING

- **Where can I find more information about fellowships and training and career awards?**

Go to the [NCI Training Career Development and Education](#) page or the Diversity Training Branch (DTB), [Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities](#) (CRCHD) for information on training and career development initiatives.

To identify the appropriate Program Contact for your area of interest, see the Cancer Training Branch's [Program Contact List](#), the DTB, CRCHD [Program Contact List](#), or contact the [program director](#) identified in the Program Announcement.

- **What does NCI support for students and investigators from diverse groups, disadvantaged backgrounds, or with disabilities?**

Information on training and career development for individuals from racially and ethnically diverse and medically underserved populations, including eligibility, is available on the [CRCHD Training](#) web site.

Administrative supplements to existing grants can be provided to investigators who are seeking to support the training of individuals from [underrepresented](#) diverse groups, disadvantaged backgrounds, or with disabilities. For more information, see [Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health Care Research](#).

- **What opportunities are available for oncology fellows to pursue in basic or translational careers?**

The [Ruth L. Kirschstein Individual National Research Service Award](#) (NRSA) uses the F32 grant mechanism to support individuals with a doctoral degree (e.g., M.D., Ph.D., D.P.H.) for a three-year period of supervised research experience to achieve independence. The [Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Institutional Training Grant](#) for T32 programs is also available.

The [Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Award](#) and [Mentored Clinical Scientist Award to Promote Diversity](#) use the NIH K08 grant mechanism to support individuals with a clinical doctoral degree for an intensive, supervised research career development experience in the fields of basic science, biomedical, behavioral, and/or translational research.

The [Pathway to Independence Award](#) (K99/R00) assists post-doctoral investigators pursuing a research career in the biomedical sciences in transitioning from a mentored postdoctoral position to a stable independent research position.

The [NCI Transition Career Development Award](#) and the [NCI Transition Career Development Award to Promote Diversity](#) uses the K22 grant mechanism to support protected time for clinicians, or equivalent, who are pursuing careers in basic science or in patient oriented research.

- **What NCI support mechanisms exist for young investigators in the area of cancer prevention, control, behavioral, and population sciences research?**

The NCI [Cancer Prevention, Control, Behavioral and Population Sciences Career Development Award](#) uses the developmental component of the K07 grant mechanisms to support career development of postdoctoral candidates or mentored junior faculty who are pursuing careers in cancer prevention, control, behavioral, and population sciences.

The NCI [Mentored Career Development Award to Promote Diversity](#) (K01) and the [NCI Transition Career Development Award to Promote Diversity](#) (K22) supports the career development of individuals from racially and ethnically diverse and medically underserved populations in the fields of cancer biology, etiology, pathogenesis, prevention, diagnosis, and/or treatment.

The [NCI Transition Career Development Award](#) and the [NCI Transition Career Development Award to Promote Diversity](#) uses the K22 grant mechanism to support protected time for newly independent investigators (e.g., Ph.D.s, DPHs, MD.s) to develop and receive support for their initial cancer-research programs in the prevention, control, behavioral, and population sciences.

The NIH [Established Investigator Award in Cancer Prevention, Control, Behavioral, and Population Sciences Research](#) uses the K05 grant mechanism to provide protected time to established investigators so that they can devote their time to conduct research and to mentor junior investigators.

For specific funding initiatives, go to Division of Cancer Prevention [Funding and Grants](#) or Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences [Funding Opportunities](#).

- **What type of support is available to transition from postdoctoral positions to independent investigators?**

The [NCI Transition Career Development Award](#) and the [NCI Transition Career Development Award to Promote Diversity](#) use the K22 grant mechanism to support "protected time" for newly independent investigators to develop and receive support for their initial cancer-research programs. This award is intended to facilitate the transition of investigators from the mentored to the independent stage of their careers. It applies to clinicians (e.g., M.D.s and Doctoral level Oncology Nurses) who are pursuing basic science careers; clinicians who are pursuing careers in patient-oriented research; and individuals (e.g., Ph.D.s, DPHs, MD.s) pursuing careers in the prevention, control and population sciences.

The [Pathway to Independence Award](#) (K99/R00) provides up to five years of support, divided into two phases. Phase I provides one to two years of mentored support under a K99 mechanism. Phase II provides up to three years of independent research support under an R00 mechanism.

- **What NCI Career Development Awards exist for physician scientists interested in patient oriented or clinical research?**

For the purpose of this question, the term “physician scientists” includes clinicians pursuing careers in laboratory-based basic science as well as patient-oriented research. Additionally, the term “clinical research” is research in which the identity of the patients or the identity of the patients from whom cells or tissues under study are obtained is known. Finally, patient-oriented research is research conducted with human subjects (or on material of human origin) for which an investigator (or colleague) interacts directly with human subjects.

The NIH [Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award](#) and the NCI [Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award to Promote Diversity](#) use the K23 grant mechanism to support the career development of clinically trained professionals who have made a commitment to focus on patient-oriented research.

The NIH [Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Award](#) and NCI [Mentored Clinical Scientist Award to Promote Diversity](#) Award use the NIH K08 grant mechanism to support individuals with clinical doctoral degrees who have made a commitment to focus on laboratory-based basic science, biomedical, behavioral, and/ or translational research.

The NCI [Mentored Career Development Award to Promote Diversity](#) uses the NIH K01 grant mechanism to support the career development of individuals with a doctoral degree in the fields of cancer biology, etiology, pathogenesis, prevention, diagnosis, and/or treatment. Applicants for this award are limited to individuals from racial and ethnic minority groups; or with disabilities; or from disadvantaged backgrounds.

The [NCI Transition Career Development Award](#) and the [NCI Transition Career Development Award to Promote Diversity](#) use the NIH K22 grant mechanism to support protected time for newly independent physician scientists who are pursuing basic science or patient oriented research careers to develop their first independent research program.

The NIH [Mid-career Award in Patient-Oriented Research](#) uses the NIH K24 grant mechanism to provide mid career clinical investigators with protected time (1) for patient-oriented research and (2) to act as mentors for junior clinical investigators.

The NCI [Paul Calabresi Career Development Award For Clinical Oncology](#) used the K12 grant mechanism to support a research career development experience for medical doctors and basic science researchers in the design, development, and implementation of hypothesis-based therapeutic cancer clinical trials.

- **Does NCI provide support for cancer education?**

Yes. The [NCI Cancer Education and Career Development Program](#) (R25T) supports the development and implementation of curriculum-dependent programs to train predoctoral and postdoctoral candidates. The [NCI Cancer Education Grant Program](#) (R25E) provides funding for the development of cancer education programs and cancer research dissemination projects that can be completed within five years.

- **Are all training mechanisms restricted to U.S. citizens or VISA holders?**

Yes, with one exception: the [Pathway to Independence Award](#) (K99/R00). Otherwise, you must be a U.S. citizen, a noncitizen national, or a permanent resident with a valid [Alien Registration Receipt Card](#) (a "green card") at the time of award.