Overview

Proposal structure

For example, as listed within the F31 Program Announcement:

The purpose of the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Individual Predoctoral Fellowship (Parent F31) is to enable promising predoctoral students to obtain individualized, mentored research training from outstanding faculty sponsors while conducting dissertation research. Applicants for this F31 program are expected to propose a dissertation research project and training plan in scientific health-related fields relevant to the mission of the participating Institutes and Centers. This training plan should reflect the applicant's dissertation research project, and facilitate and clearly enhance the individual's potential to develop into a productive, independent research scientist. The training plan should document the need for, and the anticipated value of, the proposed mentored research and training in relationship to the individual's research career goals. The training plan should also facilitate the fellow's transition to the next stage of his/her research career.

It is expected that the mentored research training experience will provide:
A strong foundation in research design, methods, and analytic techniques appropriate to the proposed dissertation research;
The enhancement of the applicant's ability to conceptualize and think through research problems with increasing independence;
Experience conducting research using appropriate, state-of-the-art methods, as well as presenting and publishing the research findings as first author;
The opportunity to interact with members of the scientific community at appropriate scientific meetings and workshops;
Skills needed to transition to the next stage of the applicant's research career; and
The opportunity to enhance the applicant's understanding of the health-related sciences and the relationship of the proposed research to health and disease.

Applicants for the F31 must be candidates for the PhD degree and have identified a dissertation research project and sponsor(s).

Qualifying submissions will be identified via the University's electronic proposal submission, leading to the award of the incentive ($1000). Funding will be made via the SPPS Seed Support Budget, with awards provided without further review, with up to 5 awards per fiscal year (contingent on the availability of funding).

* Incentive funds may be used to support travel and/or research expenditures. Additionally, incentive funds may be used as a salary bonus for graduate students (but not for academic fellows).