

NIDA Funding Opportunities

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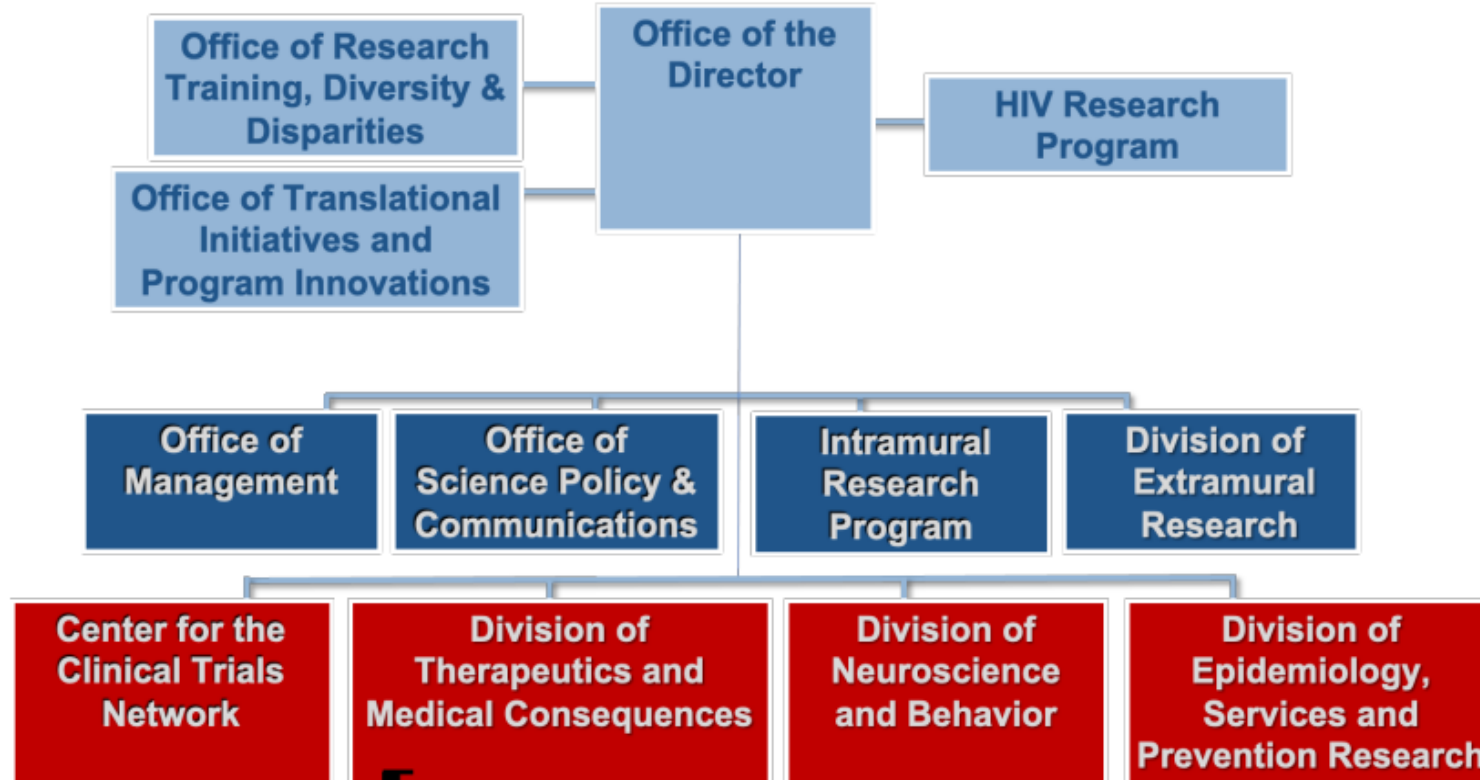
NIDA Office of Research Training

ASAM Presentation – April 15th, 2023

Disclosures

No financial disclosures or conflicts

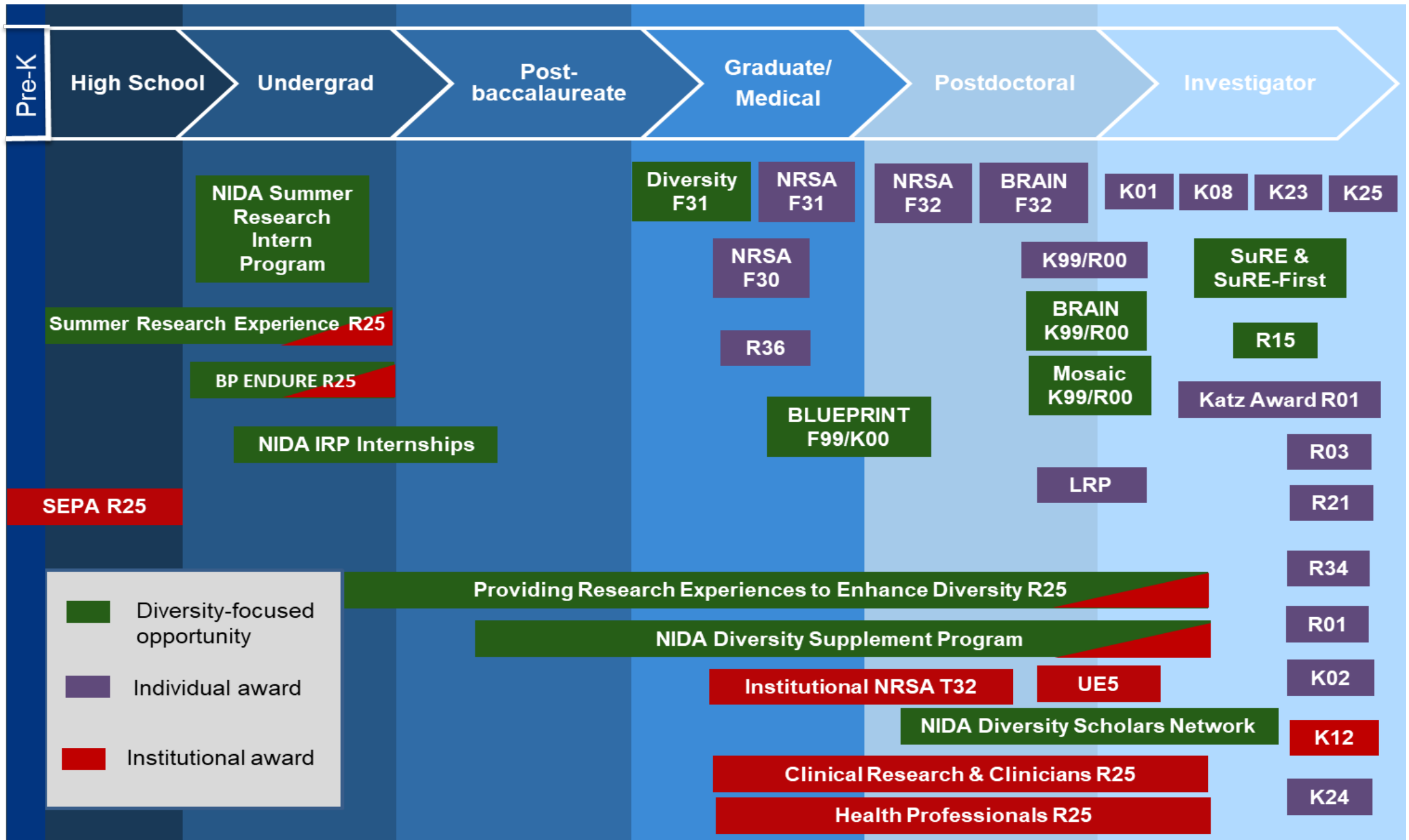
National Institute on Drug Abuse



NIDA: Our mission is to advance science on drug use and addiction and to apply that knowledge to improve individual and public health.

ORTDD addresses research training, research workforce diversity, and health disparities science:

- ***Committed*** to providing training opportunities to ensure a cutting-edge, diverse research workforce that will advance the knowledge base needed to address urgent public health substance use and addiction problems.
- ***Offers*** a wide range of programs, workshops, and funding mechanisms to support the development of substance use and addiction research scientists throughout the career pipeline.
- ***Dedicated*** to supporting research aimed at reducing health disparities experienced by vulnerable populations.



Mentored Career Development (K) Awards

Mechanism	Purpose	Clinical Trial?
K01 : Research Scientist Career Development Award	Supports individuals with a research or health-professional doctoral degree for additional training and career development in biomedical or behavioral research. <i>NIDA encourages training to be in a different area from previous research experiences.</i>	Clinical Trial Optional
K08 : Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award	Supports clinically trained professionals with a doctoral degree (MD, PhD clinical psychology, etc.) to pursue research and career development in biomedical, behavioral, and/or translational research.	Clinical Trial Optional
K23 : Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award	Supports clinically trained professionals with a doctoral degree (MD, PhD clinical psychology, etc.) to pursue training and career development in patient-oriented research .	Clinical Trial Optional

Common Features (K01, K08, K23)

- **Purpose**

- To provide 3-5 years MENTORED research experience
- Support 75% (9 months) 'protected' time

- **Eligibility**

- Full time faculty appointment at time of award
- US citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents

- **Application Suggestions**

- Clearly demonstrate need for additional mentored experience
- Show match between mentor and applicants' goals
- Provide plan to obtain independent research support (R01) near the end of K award

- Total NIH mentored career award support (institutional and individual) cannot exceed 6 years

Review Criteria – K Awards

K Application Review Criteria

Applicant

Research Plan

Career Development Plan

Mentor(s), Consultant(s),
Collaborator(s)

Institutional Environment &
Commitment to Training

Protection of Vertebrate
Animals/Human Subject, Biohazards,
Resubmission, Resource Sharing
(Unscored)

Your entire applications is reviewed

Initial Review

- 3 Assigned Reviewers
 - Will read the entire application thoroughly
 - Score and critique each review criteria, and overall impact (**not the average of criteria scores**)
- The rest of the committee
 - Will likely only read the Specific Aims

At the Review Meeting:

- 3 Assigned Reviewers:
 - Discuss strengths and weaknesses
 - Give overall impact scores
- The rest of the committee:
 - Vote within the range of scores from primary reviewers (usually)

The final score is the average of the entire committees' overall impact scores

Review Criteria – K Awards

Your entire applications is reviewed

9-Point Scoring Scale

Impact	Score	Descriptor
High Impact	1	Exceptional
	2	Outstanding
	3	Excellent
Medium Impact	4	Very Good
	5	Good
	6	Satisfactory
Low Impact	7	Fair
	8	Marginal
	9	Poor

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Reviewer Considerations – Applicant Section

- Publications, review articles, scientific talks, awards
- Previous NIH funded awards and grant support
- Research experience
 - Previous mentors
 - Breadth of research experience
 - Level of interest in your field (related training, work, volunteer experience)
- How this training experience fits in to your professional career plan
- What added value this proposal will give your career
- Letters of recommendation

Reviewer Considerations – Research Strategy

- Proposed research is new and unique
 - Explores new scientific avenues
 - Novel hypothesis
 - Creates new knowledge
- Clarity of the research
- Research will refine, improve, or propose a new application of an existing method
- For new investigators: do not over promise
- Clearly defined next steps (publications, subsequent grants)
- Attention to review criteria (where applicable):
 - Protection for human subjects
 - Rigor and Transparency
 - Inclusion across the lifespan
 - Training in Responsible Conduct of Research
 - Statistical power

Reviewer Considerations – Career Development

- Are there specific details and timelines provided for
 - Publication submissions
 - Scientific conference attendance and oral presentations
 - Didactic training in the of field study
- Training Potential
 - This proposal provides skills and training that address gaps in the applicant's experience
- How often are you meeting with your mentors?
- Will the proposed training prepare the applicant to be successful at the subsequent career stage?

Reviewer Considerations – Sponsors, Collaborators, and Consultants

- Sponsors have expertise to train the applicant according to the research training plan
- Does the sponsor(s) have a track record of training graduate students/postdocs and helping them transition to the next career stage.
- Is there adequate meeting time with primary and co-mentors, both individually and together?
- Mentoring plan is succinct, integrated between mentors, and contains clearly defined roles

Reviewer Considerations – Letters of Reference

- Is this a generic letter or detailed to the applicant?
- Get to know your referees
- Outline commitment to your career trajectory
- Concerns tend to stick out in LOR
- Quality over quantity

Reviewer Considerations – Institutional Environment

- Are there strong letters of support from co-sponsors and collaborators
- Does the institution provide funding and training commitment to the applicant not contingent on receiving the grant
- Are the resources – access to equipment; lab space; people (collaborators), necessary facilities all adequate for the applicant to conduct the proposed research?

NIH Loan Repayment Program (LRP)

- NIH will repay up to \$50,000/year of qualified educational debt for those spending at least 50% effort in:
 - Clinical Research
 - Pediatric Research
 - Health Disparities Research
 - LRP- REACH: NIDA-specific priorities:
 - Forensic Pathologists and Medical Examiners working in the field of drug overdose
 - Addiction scientists working in drug development
 - Data Scientists/Computational Neuroscientists focusing on addiction
- Individuals from underrepresented backgrounds are encouraged to apply

Eligibility

- Doctoral-level degree (**postdocs** and **ESIs** encouraged to apply)
- Government or domestic nonprofit research funding
- Student loan debt must be at least 20% of annual salary
- U.S. citizens or permanent residents

<http://www.lrp.nih.gov>

NIDA_LRP@NIDA.nih.gov

**Application
deadline
November 17th
2023**

Support for Research Excellence (SuRE) Program R16 (SuRE-First)

Purpose: to develop and sustain research excellence of faculty at institutions that award science degrees, receive limited NIH research support, and serve students from groups underrepresented in biomedical research

Goals:

- Provide research grant support for faculty investigators
- Provide students with research opportunities
- Catalyze institutional research and enrich the research environment

SuRE PAR-21-169	SuRE First PAR-21-173
<p>\$100,000 direct costs/year, up to 4 years, renewable PI Eligibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must have a full-time tenure-track (or equivalent) faculty appointment (tenured faculty included)• Cannot have an active NIH Research Project Grant (RPG) as a PI (R01, R35, U01, P01, R21, R03, R00, R15 grants)• Grants in NCE are considered the same as active grants• SCORE, SuRE and SuRE-First awardees may apply in the last year of funding	<p>\$125,000 direct cost/year, up to 4 years, mentored, non-renewable PI Eligibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must have a full-time tenure-track (or equivalent) faculty appointment (tenured faculty included)• Have not been the PI of an externally-funded, peer-reviewed SCORE or research grant from any source• PI must have a research advisor from a domestic institution• Preliminary data not required but if provided will be reviewed• Research Strategy must include a Student Involvement Plan

Early-Stage Investigators (ESIs)

New Investigator – an investigator who has not yet competed successfully for a substantial, independent NIH research award, such as an R01 or R01-equivalent.

ESIs - New Investigators who are within 10 years of completing their research degree or medical residency at the time they apply for R01 grants

ESIs are given special consideration during review and during funding decisions

- Applications from ESIs are grouped together in review
- Reviewers should focus more on the proposed approach than on the track record, and expect less preliminary data than from an established investigator
- NIH Program Staff give special consideration and attention when recommending funding of ESI applications

ESI applicants will be given special consideration until they successfully compete as a PI for a substantial NIH grant (e.g. R01, DP1, etc.)

- Receiving an R00, R03, R21, R15, R25, R36, SC2, SC3, Ks and Fs (among others) does not exclude ESIs from their special consideration status

Unsolicited Grant Mechanisms

	R01	R03	R21	R15
Purpose	Discrete, specified , circumscribed research projects Builds on current knowledge	Small research projects, including pilot and feasibility studies; Secondary analysis of existing data; Development of research methodology and new technology	Exploratory and developmental research projects in early and conceptual stages; May involve some risk but may lead to breakthrough in field or other methods or technical developments with major impact on field	Small-scale research projects to expose students to meritorious research projects and strengthen the institution research environment; Institution not major recipient of NIH funding
Budget	As appropriate	\$50K/year	\$275K	\$300K
Project Period	5 years	2 years	2 years	3 years
Renewable	Yes	No	No	Yes
NI/ESI Status	Yes	No	No	No
Foreign Inst?	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

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RPG Application Review Criteria

Significance

Investigator(s)

Innovation

Approach

Environment

Protection of Vertebrate Animals/Human Subject, Biohazards, Resubmission, Resource Sharing (Unscored)

General Tips

Use plain language, be simple, precise and direct.

Hypothesis driven

Propose novel and innovative research, ask a PO for input on this prior to applying

Keep the project simple/feasible – avoid being viewed as over ambitious.

Alternative approaches, pitfalls, be on the offensive

Clean application

Credit and cite others, especially if they are listed on the study section

NDSN Program Framework

Part 1 Grant Process/Strategy (March)

- Matched with NIDA Program Officer and Scientific Coach
- Provide information on NIDA Grant Funding Opportunities & Review Strategies for Submitting
- Q&A on all NIH mechanisms and how to determine which is the right for you
- Discussion on NIH contacts

Part 2 Grant Review/Strategy (June)

- Presentation on NIH Grant Applications and Review
- Application strategies and instructions
- Panel discussion with previous NDSN Scholars: Q&A

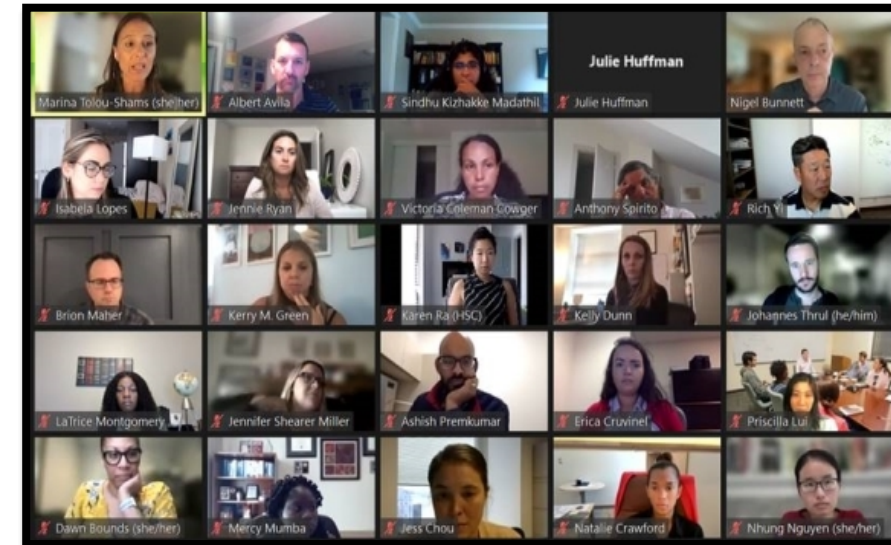
Part 3 Mock Review (September)

- Full mock grant submission to ODHD
- Mock study section review meeting
- Debrief with mock reviewers
- Strategies on resubmitting an NIH grant

Consult with Coaches & NIDA POs on an as-needed basis

Goal: Transform the NDSN application into an NIH grant application incorporating the skills and knowledge gained from the program

The 2023 NDSN Application season opens: **November 21, 2023**



Reach out to NIDA Program Officers

- Our job is to provide **administrative and technical assistance** in preparing and submitting NIH grants and, when possible, facilitating your research
 - Give general **feedback on project aims** and career development proposal
 - Help **determine the best grant mechanism for your career stage**
 - Discuss **eligibility and application components**
 - Review **summary statements** (reviewer comments)

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