NIMHD Loan Repayment Technical Assistance Webinar

October 5, 2017
4:00-5:00 PM

Dorothy Castille, Ph.D.; Adelaida Rosario, Ph.D.;
Vincent Thomas, M.S.W., M.P.A.; Maryline Laude-
Sharp, Ph.D.; Xinli Nan, M.D., Ph.D.; Richard
Palmer, Ph.D.; Andru Ciosek, M.B.A.
Introductions

**Program Officers**
Dorothy M Castille, PhD
Adelaída Rosario, PhD

**Program Manager**
Vincent Thomas, MSW, MPA

**Scientific Review Team**
Maryline Laude-Sharp, PhD; Xinli Nan, MD, PhD;
Richard Palmer, DrPH, JD; Thomas Vollberg, PhD

**Division of Loan Repayment**
Andru Ciosek, MBA
TIP: Know the funding priorities of your NIH Institute or Center. (On the LRP Web site under the Contact Us tab.)
Mission of the NIMHD

The mission of NIMHD is to lead scientific research to improve minority health and eliminate health disparities.

To accomplish this, NIMHD:

• Plans, reviews, coordinates, and evaluates all minority health and health disparities research and activities of the National Institutes of Health

• Conducts and supports research in minority health and health disparities

• Promotes and supports the training of a diverse research workforce

• Translates and disseminates research information

• Fosters innovative collaborations and partnerships
NIH Extramural Loan Repayment Programs

**NOT-OD-17-080**

- **Loan Repayment Program for Health Disparities Research (L60)**
  - NOT-OD-17-080

**NOT-OD-17-081**

- **Loan Repayment Program for Clinical Researchers from Disadvantaged Backgrounds (L32)**
  - NOT-OD-17-081

**DLR**

- **Loan Repayment Program for Contraception and Infertility Research**
- **Loan Repayment Program for Pediatric Research**
- **Loan Repayment Program for Clinical Research**
NIMHD Loan Repayment Program Purpose

OVERALL PURPOSE: recruit and retain health professionals as research investigators to careers in research

- **L32**: Health professionals from disadvantaged backgrounds
- **L60**: Research focus on minority health disparities or other health disparity issues

NIH funded research career

*NIH National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities*
Health Disparities Research Definitions

**Health Disparities Research**

- Basic, clinical, social, or behavioral research on health disparity populations (including individual members and communities of such populations)
- That relates to health disparities, including the causes of such disparities and methods to prevent, diagnose, and treat such disparities.

**Health Disparity Populations**

- Determined by the Director of NIMHD, after consultation with the Director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.
- Populations where there is significant disparity in the overall rate of disease incidence, prevalence, morbidity, mortality, or survival rates in the population as compared to the health status of the general population.
- The following populations have been designated as health disparity populations: Blacks/African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, American Indians/Alaska Natives, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, socioeconomically disadvantaged populations, underserved rural populations, and sexual and gender minorities.

**Minority Health Disparities Research**

- Basic, clinical, or behavioral research on minority health conditions, including research to prevent, diagnose, and treat such conditions.

**Minority Health Conditions**

- All diseases, disorders, and other conditions (including mental health and substance abuse) that are unique to, more serious, or more prevalent in members of minority groups (racial or ethnic minority groups), for which the medical risk or types of medical intervention may be different for members of minority groups, or for which it is unknown whether such factors or types are different for such individuals, or research involving such populations as subjects or data on such individuals is insufficient.
Quick Links to References

FAQs
- DLR FAQs  https://www.lrp.nih.gov/faqs
- NIMHD FAQs

NOTICES

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS
-  https://www.lrp.nih.gov/
Application Process Timeline

September 1 – November 15: Application Cycle
November 15, 8 p.m. ET: Application Deadline
February – May: Application Peer Review
May: Initial Selection Begins
May – July: Financial Vetting
Late Summer: Final Funding Decisions and Recipient Notification
August – September: Contract Signing
November: First Payment to Lender
Apply online by 8.p.m. ET on November 15 at http://www.lrp.nih.gov
Important Updates to the 2018 LRP Application Cycle

**Commons ID**
A Commons ID is required to submit an LRP Application. If you do not have a Commons ID, it can take up to 6 weeks to obtain one. If you have a Commons ID, ensure that your password is valid before starting your NIH LRP Application.

**Electronic Signatures**
An interface to affix your electronic signature to the LRP Contract and the Certifications for Online Applications has been implemented — it is no longer necessary to print, sign, and return these documents.

**Research Documents**
(Mentored Applicants Only)
Mentors are not required to review submitted research documents in the Mentor’s Portal area — the NIH LRP expects that your Mentor is knowledgeable enough about the final submitted documents to certify these items without reviewing a copy in the portal area.

**Reference Letters**
All applicants must obtain a minimum of three references letters, but no more than five will be accepted.
The NIH LRP will no longer contact your referees/recommenders to obtain reference letters. Applicants are now required to contact their recommenders and request that letters are submitted on their behalf.
Detailed in instructions on this process will be sent to you by email and are available in the 2018 Instruction Guide (available on the LRP website at www.lrp.nih.gov).

**Proof of US Citizenship**
Applicants are no longer required to send proof of U.S. Citizenship to DLR.
Your Institution’s Business Official will certify your US Citizenship using employment records, such as an I-9 form.
Component Parts of the LRP Application

**Application Status**
- Conveys important information about the status of your application
- Provides a means to track your recommenders and other submissions

**Personal Information**
- Contact information such as address, phone number, and email
- Commons ID
- Race and Ethnicity Information

**Eligibility**
- Chose Award Type (New or Renewal)
- Chose LRP Type (Extramural)
- Chose LRP Program (Clinical Research LRP – Disadvantaged Backgrounds/Health Disparities LRP)
- Respond to Eligibility Questions

**Employment and Affiliation**
- Your place of employment (domestic, non-profit research center)
- Your academic affiliation (if applicable)
Component Parts of the LRP Application

Education and Training
- Your qualifying Degree (M.D., Ph.D. or other Doctoral Degree)
- Residency Information (if applicable)
- Post Doctoral Fellowship Information (if applicable)

Research Information
- Research Project/Activities
- Research Accomplishments (renewal applications only)
- Career Development Plan/Training and Mentoring Plan
- Research Environment
- NIH Biosketch
- Personal Statement

Colleague Information
- Research Supervisor contact information
- Mentor’s contact information (mentored applicants only)
- Institutional Business Official contact information

Loan Information (New Applicants Only)
- Student Loan Balance
- Account Numbers
- Servicing Agents
Component Parts of the LRP Application

TIP: Ensure a positive overall impression

http://www.lrp.nih.gov/pdf/0310_1_application_tips.pdf
Colleague Submitted Information

Referees/Recommenders
- Letter of Reference
- A minimum of three is required and a maximum of five will be accepted

Mentors (Mentored Applications Only)
- NIH Formatted Biosketch
- Biosketch of an additional lab member/co-mentor
- Letter of Reference
- Concordance with Research Documents

Institutional Business Official
- Salary and Citizenship Confirmation
- Application Certification

Complete Application
Eligibility and Qualifying Loans
Andru Ciosek
Basic Extramural LRP Eligibility Criteria

Citizenship
U.S. Citizen or permanent resident

Loan Debt Amount*
At least 20% of applicant’s base salary. No cap on the amount owed.

Research Funding
Domestic, nonprofit research funding. NIH grant support NOT required.

Research Time
At least 20 hours/week at a domestic nonprofit institution.

Doctoral Degree
M.D., Ph.D., or equivalent
Exception: Contraception & Infertility Research LRP

*For first
Loan Repayment Program
Eligibility

*Individuals are not eligible for the NIH LRPs if they:*

- Have a Federal judgment lien against their property arising from a Federal debt
- Are a full-time Federal government employee or VA Fellow
- Owe an obligation of health professional service to the Federal government, a state, or other entity, unless deferrals are granted for the length of their LRP service obligation
  - *NRSA T32, T90 and F32 awardees are eligible. NIH grants a deferral of the NRSA service obligation.*
An Individual from disadvantaged background means an individual who:

(1) comes from an environment that inhibited the individual from obtaining the knowledge, skill and ability required to enroll in and graduate from a health professions school; or

(2) comes from a family with an annual income below a level based on low-income thresholds according to family size published by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, adjusted annually for changes in the Consumer Price Index, and adjusted by the Secretary for use in all health professions programs. The Secretary periodically publishes these income levels in the Federal Register.
Loan Repayment Program
Qualifying Loans (1)

NIH will repay:
- Educational loans guaranteed by the U.S. Government
- Educational loans from accredited U.S. academic institutions and commercial lenders

NIH will not repay:
- Non-education loans (e.g., home equity loans)
- Loans consolidated with another individual (e.g., spouse or child)
- PLUS loans to parents
  EXCEPTION: PLUS loans disbursed to graduate and professional students on or after July 1, 2006, qualify for LRP repayment
- Loans that have been converted to a service obligation
- Delinquent loans, loans in default, or loans not current in repayment
- Non-US based loans (i.e.: Loans from another country)
Loan Repayment Program
Qualifying Loans (2)

Most student loans qualify:

• NIH prioritizes the order in which loans are paid, giving priority to DHHS loans and Federal Loans first. If the debt on government loans is paid down, the NIH will then repay institutional loans. Private Loans have the lowest priority rating (click here to find more information on prioritization).

• NIH issues payments directly to lenders (not awardees) on a quarterly basis.
Loan Repayment Program
Consolidated Loans

The LRP will repay Consolidated Loans, provided all loans in the Consolidation are eligible for repayment.

- You can consolidate your loans from undergraduate, graduate/medical degree training
- You can not consolidate your loans with loans held by another person
- You can not consolidate your student loans with non-educational loans.
Responsiveness of Application
Adelaida Rosario, PhD
NIMHD Loan Repayment Program Purpose

L32
Clinical Research for Individuals from Disadvantaged Backgrounds

Recruitment & Retention of qualified health professionals as research investigators to careers in research

L60
Extramural Loan Repayment Program for Health Disparities
NIH Definition of Clinical Research

- Conducted with human subjects
  - Epidemiology
  - Behavioral
  - Outcomes
  - Health Services
  - New technologies/interventions

- Involving material of human origin that is DIRECTLY collected by PI or colleagues
  - Tissues
  - Cognitive

- Patient Oriented Research
- Causes & Consequences of Disease

- Applicant from Disadvantaged Background
- Inpatient OR Outpatient Setting

Research setting does not matter!

[Link to NIH website](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-17-081.html)
Minority Health or Health Disparities

TIPS:

- Tell your story!
  Narrate coming out from under mentor’s umbrella and showcase path of growth into an independent investigator

- Current research explicitly health disparity focused

- Highlight previous health disparities research

- Clearly delineate your next steps: future research linked with career next steps

Demonstrates commitment to health disparities research in all areas of application

Research focused on minority health disparities or other disparities

LRP Review Process
Maryline Laude-Sharp, Ph.D.
Peer Review at NIMHD

Submission to DLR (1 Sep to 15 Nov)

To CSR to get an application number

To NIMHD for review (Dec)

The application is reviewed by two scientists (Feb-May)

Score is released to program officer and DLR Staff. (Mid May)
How are NIH LRP applications evaluated?

Likelihood that the applicant will continue in a career focused on research

- Strength of the reference letters (recommendations) attesting to the applicant's potential for a successful career in research
- Commitment to a research career, as reflected by the personal statement of long-term career goals and plan to achieve those goals
- Appropriateness of the applicant's previous training and experience to prepare for a research career
- Appropriateness of the proposed research activities during the LRP award period to foster a career in research

Commitment to a research career, as reflected by the personal statement of long-term career goals and plan to achieve those goals
How are NIH LRP applications evaluated?
Quality of the overall environment to prepare the applicant for a research career:

- Quality and availability of appropriate scientific mentors and colleagues
- Mentors' record in mentoring researchers, funding history and research productivity
- Quality and appropriateness of institutional resources and facilities
How are NIH LRP applications evaluated?

How are renewal applications evaluated?

Assessment of the applicant's research accomplishments during the previous LRP support period

Assessment of the applicant's development as an independent investigator
Weakening an applicant’s competitiveness.

Weak or lukewarm letters of recommendation

Questionable research commitment

Mediocre research plan, such as unclear or incremental goals

Rushed application (grantsmanship).

Inadequate research environment

Very modest publication record without explanation
How are NIH LRP applications evaluated?

Scores are not released to applicants

How are results of LRP peer review communicated?

Call the Program Staff for feedback (late July)
Please contact us as needed

➢ **Division of Loan Repayment**—Contact at any time

➢ **Program Officer**
  To submit for the current application cycle—May to November 15, 2018
  For feedback after review is completed—late July, 2018 or later

➢ **Scientific Review Officer**
  To address issues once the application has been submitted—November 16, 2017–May 1, 2018
Contacts

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