

CIRA Early-Career Scientists Panel: “NIH K01 Awards”

Event Summary

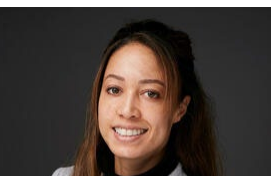
October 18, 2023



Patrick Cudahy, MD
Yale School of Medicine
Panelist, Fogarty K01



Skyler Jackson, PhD
Yale School of Public Health
Panelist, NIMH K01



S. Raquel Ramos, PhD, MBA,
MSN, FNP, FNYAM, FAHA
Yale School of Nursing
Panelist, NHLBI K01



Trace Kershaw, PhD
Yale School of Public Health
Panelist, Faculty Mentor



Luke Davis, MD, MAS
Yale School of Public Health
Moderator

NIH Mentored Research Scientist Development Award K01

The objective of this award is to provide support and “protected time” (3-5 years) for an intensive, supervised career development experience in the biomedical, behavioral, or clinical sciences leading to research independence.

Key Takeaways

- Start early to develop short-term and long-term research plans. Planning can start during postdoctoral training or fellowship.
- Collect preliminary or pilot data to inform K01 application through 1) working with senior investigators within existing grants, or 2) applying for a small grant opportunity designed for early-career researchers (e.g., CIRA pilot project).
- Develop a mentoring team that includes primary mentors, faculty advisors, consultants, and collaborators who can 1) support the candidate in preparing the application and obtaining the award, and 2) commit to the candidate's career development and research supervision.

Highlights from the Panel Discussion

✦ “On choosing an NIH institute or center”

1. Consider the proposed research aims’ geographical focus (domestic vs. international) and alignment with the NIH institute or center's priority research areas.
2. Discuss shared areas of research interest and expertise with primary mentors.
3. Consult with project officers at relevant NIH institute or center.

⚖️ “On balancing the proposed research and training aims”

1. Identify new skills and knowledge to gain from the proposed application.
2. Avoid cramming research plans with coursework and instead, participate in skill-building programs aligned with research aims.
3. Propose attainable milestones related to training, mentoring, and research.
4. Discuss with mentoring team members how they can help candidate achieve the proposed milestones.

🧑‍🔬 “On responding to reviewers’ critiques regarding feasibility”

1. Methods: provide significance and specificity of the proposed research approaches or methodologies as it relates to accomplishing the specific aims of the project.
2. Mentoring team: distinguish candidate’s research plans from primary mentors’ research areas and clarify contribution of mentoring team members to candidate’s specific milestones and overall development.



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Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS
at Yale University

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Resources

National Institutes of Health

- [Research Career Development Awards \(K\) Kiosk](#)
- [Choose an Award by Career Stage](#)
- [Mentored Research Scientist Development Award \(Parent K01 - Independent Clinical Trial Not Allowed\)](#)
- [Mentored Research Scientist Development Award \(Parent K01 - Independent Clinical Trial Required\)](#)
- [International Research Scientist Development Award \(IRSDA\) \(K01\) Independent Clinical Trial Not Allowed](#)
- [International Research Scientist Development Award \(IRSDA\) \(K01 Independent Clinical Trial Required\)](#)

Yale University

- [Yale Center for Clinical Investigation](#) (budgeting, recruitment, clinical trial planning)
- [Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS](#) (peer review, pilot grant, career consultation)
- [Yale Center for Analytical Sciences](#) (statistical design and analysis)
- [IMED 655 Writing Your K- or R-type Grant Proposal](#) (course)