Issued by:	University of Georgia Office for Sponsored Programs	Issued:	01/04/2012
Subject:	National Institutes of Health Career Awards (K series) General Information	Revised:	06/16/2014
Sources:	UC San Diego OCGA, UGA OSP and NIH websites	Pages	3

Overview:

➢ NIH Career Awards (K series) are usually made to individuals, through their university, in order to enhance their careers as researchers. There are also institutional K awards.

➢ The individual awards usually require that at least 75% effort (9 months) be devoted to the research project and to career development each year for 3-5 years.

➢ Most types cannot be renewed.

➢ Some require mentors.

➢ The university must usually agree to release the Principal Investigator (PI) from most teaching and administrative duties.

➢ In return, NIH will pay the PI's salary, up to certain limits.

➢ Some Career Awards also pay a limited amount for research expenses.

➢ Only U.S. citizens or permanent residents are eligible to receive most Career Awards (proof generally required at time of award).

Career Awards Vary by NIH Institute:

➢ There is a great deal of variation among the different NIH institutes as to which Career Awards are available, what PI qualifications they expect, the dollar limits for salary and research expenses that they will award, their application deadlines, and their supplemental proposal instructions.

➢ The different NIH institutes also change their instructions frequently - please contact the relevant NIH institute prior to preparing your proposal.

- Contacts for each institute are also listed in the program announcement for each Career Award mechanism.

- For links to the Training/Career Award pages of all NIH institutes: http://grants1.nih.gov/training/trainingfunds.htm.

Types of Career Awards:

- NIH offers over a dozen basic Career Award mechanisms. The **K Kiosk** (http://grants1.nih.gov/training/careerdevelopmentawards.htm) offers brief summaries and links to the individual program announcements. Some Career Award types for the early phases of career development include K08, K22 and K23.

- Career Awards in specific scientific areas, with special deadlines and dollar limits, are often solicited via announcements (Program Announcements (PAs) and Requests for Applications (RFAs)). NIH has developed a decision tree called the Career Award Wizard to help applicants determine which Career Awards might fit their background and goals. http://grants1.nih.gov/training/kwizard/index.htm

Application Instructions for Competing Proposals:

Please Note: The different institutes within NIH apply the Career Award mechanisms in very different ways. Please contact them directly or check their websites for complete details.

- You will need to be registered in NIH's eRA Commons– contact your UGA Office for Sponsored Programs grants officer for assistance with this. You will then locate the funding opportunity and create your proposal in the UGA eResearchPortal (Portal) using the required federal forms provided there. The Portal is used for proposal creation and submission for Grants.gov applications and is also the vehicle for PI/Co-PI certifications and internal approvals for the proposal. The proposal will be reviewed and submitted by your UGA Office for Sponsored Programs grants officer. There is a separate mechanism for submission of the letters of reference.

- In addition to the standard NIH instructions, NIH has a special set of supplemental Instructions for Individual Career Awards, listed after the standard PHS 398 instructions – see Part I, section 7 for the supplemental instructions - http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/424/SF424_RR_Guide_General_Adobe_VerC.pdf. Additional guidance may be provided in the specific funding opportunity announcement.

- Most Career Award proposals can be submitted for one of the Career Award (K) Standard NIH Receipt Dates (for example, new K series proposals are due Feb 12, June 12 and October 12). Special or more limited deadlines may apply to Career Award applications solicited via specific

PAs or RFAs. Resubmissions are due on the standard career award resubmission deadlines, which is one month later than for new proposals.

➢ The budget will be detailed, not modular. Indirect costs are reimbursed at 8% of MTDC.

➢ At least three Letters of Reference submitted via eRA Commons are needed for certain types of Career Award applications. Submission instructions and guidance for these letters are included in the supplemental instructions - see Part I, section 7.3 – http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/424/SF424_RR_Guide_General_Adobe_VerC.pdf.

Important Resources (recap):

➢ **K Kiosk**: A brief summary of all Career Award types with links to program announcements. This site also has links to historical statistics on the funding success rates, listed for each institute for each type of K award. http://grants1.nih.gov/training/careerdevelopmentawards.htm

➢ Career Award Wizard: NIH's decision tree to determine which Career Awards fit your background and goals. http://grants1.nih.gov/training/kwizard/index.htm

➢ NIH Institutes & Centers - Training Pages: Links to training and Career Award websites at all NIH institutes. http://grants.nih.gov/training/trainingfunds.htm

➢ NOT-OD-08-065 – Revision of NIH Policy Concerning Concurrent Support from Mentored Career Development (K) Award and a Research Grant. http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-08-065.html

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If you have questions, please contact your UGA Office for Sponsored Programs grants officer. http://www.ovpr.uga.edu/osp/contacts/