



Indiana Pediatric Scientist Award (IPSA) Program – K12

Child Health Research Career Development (CHRCDA) Scholarship, Riley Research

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Application Due Date: On or Before January 29, 2025

Decisions will be made mid to late February

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Child Health Research Career Development Award (CHRCDA) Program is a K12 Program grant award. The CHRCDA program is supported by the National Institutes of Health and is **designed to stimulate pediatric translational research over a variety of disciplines through training of productive physician scientists.**

The CHRCDA program enhances the capacity of pediatric research institutions to provide junior faculty investigators with cutting-edge training in an academic research setting and to foster translational research by more rapidly applying basic science findings to clinical problems. In turn, these forward the goal of the CHRCDA program – to promote the performance of research and transfer of findings that will benefit the health of children.

These K12 Program grant awards will ultimately result in a well-qualified cadre of pediatrician scientists who will help strengthen the research capacity and meet the need for highly skilled physician investigators who can take advantage of new technologies and respond to the increasing demands of pediatric research.

Leveraging an existing strong foundation of training, mentorship and research, the Indiana University School of Medicine (IUSM) Indiana Pediatric Scientist Award (IPSA) program will accelerate the success of junior faculty in bridging the gap between training and independence.

Along with training new translational, physician scientists, the goal of the Department of Pediatrics, **Indiana Pediatric Scientist Award (IPSA) Program** is to stimulate multi-disciplinary and translational research. The latter is research that seeks to develop and translate laboratory observations to innovative clinical trials or clinically germane observations to investigate at the laboratory/bench. We are particularly interested in receiving applications from investigators who, with this additional support, are likely to obtain extramural peer-reviewed funding.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Scholars selected will be junior faculty physician scientists committed to a research focused career.

The NIH K12 grant requires the Scholar (faculty member) appointed to the award to commit 75% of effort to the project with a maximum support of \$100,000 in salary and fringe combined, chargeable to the NIH grant. Since \$100,000 is generally not enough to cover the actual 75% of



a pediatric faculty's salary and fringe, the division/section where the scholar is appointed is expected to cost share the balance to ensure that 75% of the scholar's effort is devoted to the K12 grant. In addition to the \$100,000 (salary and fringe combined) supported directly by the grant annually, the K12 allocates \$25,000 for other support with \$3,500 in travel for the scholar and \$21,500 in other costs (lab supplies, lab techs, tuition/fees, data service support, etc.).

Scholars selected must have the potential to develop into independent investigators. At the time of appointment to the K-12 Program, candidates for CHRCDA Scholars must:

- Have been offered or hold faculty appointment at IUSM
 - Abide by CHRCDA requirements
- Pediatrician holding the MD degree who recently completed postgrad residency and fellowship training in peds
- No more than 4 years after getting board eligibility in their subspecialty and committed to a basic or translational research career
- Identify an approved mentor locally
- Candidates who have already obtained an individual mentored career development award such as a K08, K22, K23, K24, K25 or K99 will **not** be eligible

***Selection of Mentors:** Each scholar appointed under the K12 award must have or be assigned a mentor based on the scholar's research experience, intended project, and need for intensive supervision and support. Mentors must hold senior faculty positions, be supported by NIH or other competitively awarded grants, and be acknowledged experts in the application of new advances in basic science or translational research. Mentors with basic science expertise are most valued. They will make available their laboratory facilities to be utilized by scholars for research projects that will enhance their knowledge and skills. Mentors must have track records in mentoring and training and must interact closely with the scholar in order to develop a career development plan. Assigned mentors will provide guidance for the development of each scholar appointed to the program. Mentors are not required to be members of the Department of Pediatrics. Although mentors from collaborating departments may provide needed expertise and resources, the emphasis of the CHRCDA scholars' scientific projects should be on research relevant to pediatrics and its subspecialties. Mentors must meet all criteria as an NIH R01 equivalent funded investigator at the Associate Professor level or above with a demonstrated history of successful past trainees. Most candidates will have already identified a specific research mentor, but for those who have not, the Recruiting Officer (Chandy C. John) and Training Director (Benjamin Gaston) will meet to recommend potential mentors and act as a liaison to help applicants find the mentor that best meets their needs.

POSITION DETAILS

Support for scholars will be provided through a minimum of two consecutive 12-month appointments, renewable in annual increments, for up to a total of three years. Support of scholars is renewable at the discretion of the PD/PI (Wade Clapp), contingent upon presentation of evidence of satisfactory progress as determined by the Advisory Committee.



The scholar's position is a faculty appointment, not a fellowship or extension of a fellowship position. Completion of subspecialty training is not required. Scholars may be appointed to the K12 program in the final research year of subspecialty fellowship training, if the fellowship provides basic science training similar to this K-12 program.

Some individuals who are interested in the K12 program may have had a career hiatus because of family responsibilities, uniformed service, or other circumstances. For such individuals, the hiatus will not count against the 4-year limit specified above. New scholar appointments may be made any time during the year.

During the period of this award, scholars may not accept or hold any other award that duplicates the provisions of this career award. However, scholars may remain eligible for other individual mentored career development awards (e.g., K01, K08, K22, K23, K25, K99) at the conclusion of the K12 appointment if additional training is needed to establish research independence.

Combined support through the K12 and other mentored career development award programs must not exceed six years. Scholars should contact NICHD staff if there are questions regarding eligibility.

K12 scholars are strongly encouraged to apply for independent research grant support (e.g., R01, R21, R03) during the award.

HOW TO APPLY

Application to the program is due by 11:59 p.m. on or before January 29, 2025, which includes:

1. Coversheet
 2. Proof of US citizenship or permanent residence (Details on citizenship requirements are available in the [NIH Grants Policy Statement](#)).
 3. Personal Statement including career goals, objectives and interests (1 page)
 4. Research Project Description (5 page limit), which includes:
 - a. Specific Aims (1 page limit)
 - b. Mentor(s) names/specialty
 - c. Research Plan (3 - 4 pages):
 - Background/Significance/Rationale
Significance will be evaluated on: 1) Will scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice be improved if the aims of the project are achieved? 2) How will successful completion of the aims change the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions?
 - Approach: Prospect for significant progress will be evaluated on: 1) Whether the hypothesis sufficiently novel and competitive? 2) What is the likelihood of success of the proposed project? 3) If the expected preliminary data is obtained (clinical or correlative), is a competitive grant submission likely to result?
 - Project Timeline
 5. NIH bio-sketch (not included in the 4 page limit) (Please refer to link below for formatting questions)
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>
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6. A letter from Department Chair/Division/Section Chief signing off that 75% of your time will be protected if selected;
7. Letters of support from your mentor(s), including the five page NIH bio-sketch from your primary mentor, and a roster of their past and current post-doctoral and junior faculty trainees.

You will need a faculty mentor during this program. If you have already chosen a faculty mentor and they have read the position requirements and agreed to serve as your mentor, please fill in his/her information. If you do not have a mentor, please indicate your area of interest and you will be matched with a faculty member.

Interested and eligible investigators should submit application materials via the WebCAMP portal using the application found at this link [Indiana CTSI IPSA K12 Link](#) on or before the **deadline of January 29, 2025.**

WebCAMP portal questions: Contact **Julie Driscoll** [judrisco@iu.edu](mailto:jdrisco@iu.edu) or jayalley@iu.edu.

UPLOAD via the **Start a Submission** Indiana CTSI link [Indiana CTSI IPSA K12 Link](#) .

SELECTION PROCESS:

Candidates will be evaluated on seven (7) areas:

1. Demonstrated research potential/scientific merit of proposed research,
2. Commitment to research career,
3. Viability of research plan,
4. Dedication to meet the program benchmarks that drive or advance tools and technologies,
5. Potential for subsequent funding (i.e. external peer-reviewed funding, foundation/donor funding, internal pilot funding, etc.),
6. Mentor's commitment,
7. Strength of mentor's relevant experience and training record

An initial review of applicants will be conducted based on the proposed project's demonstrated research potential. A decision will be made mid to late February.