

Clinical Research Education and Career Development Program (CRECD)

Addressing Health Disparities among Oklahoma Minority and Rural Communities through Clinical Research Education and Career Development

Phase II Training

Program information and the application link can be found at:

<http://osctr.ouhsc.edu/training-and-education-opportunities>

Deadlines:

- The application deadline is posted on a rolling basis depending on position openings (please contact Julie Stoner, julie-stoner@ouhsc.edu, for additional information).

Required Materials:

- a. Three letters of reference.
 - One letter of reference must be from the proposed primary research mentor and should address the mentor's commitment to the planned research project and career development plans, including funding if available. The mentor should also comment on mentoring plans including the proposed meeting frequency with the applicant, opportunities for professional development of the applicant, and engagement of the applicant in existing research programs. The mentor should also comment on the applicant's potential to become a productive, independent clinical or population health research investigator in the areas of minority health, rural health and health disparities research. The mentor should summarize his or her experience mentoring junior investigators in research. In addition, briefly summarize the mentor's area of research expertise, experience in writing and securing grant funding, experience in publishing, and experience in mentoring trainees/students and early-career faculty. Also indicate if the mentor is providing support for key resources/laboratories that are needed for the planned thesis project.
 - One letter of reference must be from the applicant's program director, department chair, or current employer ensuring sufficient, dedicated time necessary to successfully complete the CRECD program, including a commitment to protect 75% FTE for participation in the CRECD program (75% effort funded through the CRECD). Specific information should be provided regarding the expectations for the remaining 25% FTE and how typical responsibilities (e.g., teaching, clinical service, etc.) will be reduced to ensure 75% protected research time.
 - One letter of reference may be from any individual who is familiar with the applicant's academic and professional experience and can comment on the applicant's qualifications, character, and ability to successfully complete the program.
- b. Current Curriculum Vitae

c. NIH Biosketch

d. A two-page typed (single-spaced, 12 point font with 1 inch margins) Personal Summary describing:

- The applicant's interest, background, and experience in clinical research, translational and/or patient-oriented research, or population health research particularly on diseases that disproportionately impact minority, rural, or health disparity populations that qualifies the applicant to successfully launch an independent research career in minority or health disparities research.
- Career goals related to clinical, population health, and/or translational research related to minority and health disparities research, indicating how the CRECD program will help the candidate meet the career goals. In particular, comment on how the proposed career development program aligns with the overall and long-term research goals of the applicant.
- Also include a brief summary of the applicant's satisfaction of the program eligibility criteria, including prior completion of training equivalent to the Master of Science in Clinical and Translational Science, Master of Public Health, or Master of Science in Public Health, Research Methods, or a related field.
- Alignment of the career goals and proposed research with the goals of the CRECD program

The CRECD program seeks to facilitate the education of participants from diverse backgrounds underrepresented in biomedical research to pursue clinical research, translational and/or patient-oriented research, particularly on diseases that disproportionately impact minority and health disparity populations. NIH-designated U.S. health disparity populations include 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.

The Personal Summary must include a statement regarding the applicant's interest in the CRECD program and pursuing clinical research, translational and/or patient-oriented research, or population health research particularly on diseases that disproportionately impact minority and health disparity populations. To be competitive for CRECD funding, the applicant must propose research projects focused on diseases that disproportionately impact minority and health disparity populations.

- Protected time

Participation in Phase II of the CRECD program requires 75% protected time (9.0 person months of full-time professional effort) for conducting health-related clinical and/or patient-oriented research. This effort includes completion of pilot research projects, delivery of professional presentations, manuscript submission, and grant writing and submission.

In the Personal Summary, the applicant should state specifically how their current position and expectations will change to ensure that they have 75% protected time to devote to the program and research. It would be helpful to present a summary of the current distribution of effort and the proposed distribution of effort if the applicant is selected for CRECD funding.

- e. Trainees are expected to submit a pilot or seed grant application within their first year of program funding. A Research Summary is required that reflects the proposed seed or pilot grant project. If the applicant recently completed a seed grant and plans to use the first two years of the CRECD program to publish papers from the resulting data, the Research Summary should reflect the completed project. A two-page (single-spaced, 12 point font with 1 inch margins) Research Summary briefly describing the following should be submitted:

- The planned research project including hypothesis, specific aims, background and significance, and research study design.
- The CRECD program seeks to facilitate the education of participants from diverse backgrounds underrepresented in biomedical research to pursue clinical research, translational and/or patient-oriented research, particularly on diseases that disproportionately impact minority and health disparity populations. NIH-designated U.S. health disparity populations include 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.

In the Research Summary, state specifically how your proposed research project relates to “diseases that disproportionately impact minority and health disparity populations”. Please refer to the definition above for health disparity populations. Note that age alone does not meet the definition of a disparity or underserved population. **To be competitive for CRECD funding, the applicant must propose a project focused on diseases that disproportionately impact minority and health disparity populations.**

- Include a summary of preliminary data, if available (not required).
- Identification of a primary research mentor.
- The applicant’s role in the ongoing research project if the project is a component of a larger study. Provide specific information regarding the role of the trainee in aspects of the proposed research project, including but not limited to, developing the research question, designing the study, recruiting patients, performing clinical procedures, performing laboratory procedures, collecting data, and analyzing data.
- Proposed project timeline relative to the trainee’s professional appointment (e.g., length of fellowship or residency program), if applicable.
- The potential for the planned project to inform the design and approach for a K-award, R-series or other award application.

- NOTE: The proposal must be limited to two pages. The cited references do not count towards the page limit.
- f. Two-page (single-spaced, 12 point font with 1 inch margins) summary of milestones and research goals to be accomplished during the 3-year funding period, including a career development plan

Provide milestones and research goals to be accomplished at the end of each year of the CRECD program. The milestones should be tangible and measurable outcomes that the proposed work is likely to produce. Trainees are expected to submit a pilot or seed grant application within their first year of program funding. The first year will also involve secondary data analysis, systematic review and meta-analysis, or other projects and manuscript writing related to the field of study. The listed first-year milestones are expected to be met in order to obtain a second-year of funding. While second year and third year milestones may change based upon changes in the project, changes to the listed first-year milestones will require justification to obtain a second year of funding. There should also be a description of how this work will lead to extramural funding (K-award, R-series award, or other career development awards) and the planned funding program to which this project will be submitted. It is anticipated that submission for K-award or R-series funding will occur no later than early in third year so project can obtain extramural funding as CRECD funds are ending. Planned publications should also be noted in the goals and timeline. The summary should also include a career development plan including any training that will be pursued during the program period.

- g. Proposed mentor's NIH biosketch:
 - In the Personal Statement of the biosketch, the mentor should summarize his/her past research mentoring experience.

Review Criteria:

Applicants will be reviewed by members of the Clinical and Translational Science Advisory Committee and will be evaluated based on program eligibility criteria; prior training in clinical or population health research, specifically in minority health, rural health and health disparities; the potential of the applicant to become a productive, independent clinical or population health research investigator in the areas of minority health, rural health and health disparities research; scientific rigor, significance, and feasibility of the proposed pilot project; track record of the mentor in the related research field and success in research mentoring; scientific contributions of the applicant including publications and presentations; strength of the 3-year career development plan; and commitment from the applicant's department or section for the applicant to complete the program. The top four applicants may be invited to deliver a 30-minute oral presentation of their research goals, interests, and career development plans. Applicants will present a summary of their proposed research project and will answer questions regarding the proposed project as well as the alignment of the CRECD goals with the applicant's career goals. The proposed mentor will also be invited to attend the interview.

For additional information, please contact:

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