Why apply for a K Award? NIH career development grants (K series) provide support for trainees and early- to mid-career researchers to develop their competitiveness for continued NIH (or equivalent) research support. Reasons to apply for a K-series grant include:

- Awards include career development support including mentorship, training and protected time to conduct research.
- K awards can help early-stage researchers establish independent research programs, collect preliminary data, generate publications and learn new skills.
- Earning a K award is a significant achievement and will increase your reputation and visibility in the scientific community.
- K-award recipients are more likely to remain in research, publish in prestigious journals and achieve later success with an R01 grant.

Am I a good fit for a K Award? The NIH K series provides opportunities for researchers at different career development stages. If your research is in alignment with the NIH mission and you have a development or training need, a K-series grant may be right for you. You must review all of the K mechanisms, choose one that is a fit for your needs and career stage, and then justify that you need the training and support that the award provides.

Which of the K Awards should I apply for? Review the NIH Research Career Development Awards (K) Kiosk to learn more about each mechanism, eligibility criteria and active funding opportunities. Your college research development professional also can help you identify mechanisms that align with your research goals and development needs. Alternatively, you can schedule an appointment with the Division of Research professional development team.

**K-Series Awards by Career Stage**

**Postdoctoral Researchers:**
- **K99/R00** - NIH Pathway to Independence Award
- **K01** - Mentored Research Scientist Development Award
- **K07** - Academic Career Development Award
- **K08** - Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award
- **K22** - Career Transition Award
- **K25** - Mentored Quantitative Research Development Award

**Early-Career Researchers:**
- **K01** - Mentored Research Scientist Development Award
- **K02** - Independent Research Scientist Development Award
- **K07** - Academic Career Development Award
- **K08** - Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award
- **K76** - Emerging Leaders Career Development Award
Early-Career Researchers continued:

- **K22** - Career Transition Award
- **K23** - Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award
- **K25** - Mentored Quantitative Research Career Development Award
- **K76** - Emerging Leaders Career Development Award

Established Investigator:

- **K05** - Senior Research Scientist Award
- **K07** - Academic Career Development Award
- **K12** - Clinical Scientist Institutional Career Development Program Award
- **K18** - Research Career Enhancement Award for Established Investigators
- **K24** - Midcareer Investigator Award in Patient-Oriented Research
- **K25** - Mentored Quantitative Research Career Development Award
- **K26** - Midcareer Investigator Award in Biomedical and Behavioral Research