09/14/17

Dear Deans, Department Chairs and Directors,

Please share this announcement as appropriate.

The National Institutes of Health has recently announced Stimulating Access to Research in Residency (StARR) (R38), a limited competition award (see the description at https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HL-18-023.html) with a deadline date of October 24, 2017. The University may put forward a single application for this award. Participating NIH Institutes include National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). Please see the solicitation for the Specific Areas of Research Interest of Participating Institutes and Centers.

The overall goal of the Stimulating Access to Research in Residency (StARR) program is to provide clinicians with in-depth research experiences early in their careers, in order to recruit, retain and accelerate independence of a pool of clinician-investigators with both clinical and research experience necessary to perform basic, clinical and/or translational research. The purpose of this program is to recruit and retain outstanding, postdoctoral-level health professionals who have demonstrated potential and interest in pursuing careers as clinician-investigators.

The Institutional PD/PI(s) should be an established clinician-investigator in a relevant scientific area and capable of providing both administrative and scientific leadership to the development and implementation of the proposed program. The PD/PI(s) must have a regular, full-time appointment (i.e., not adjunct, part-time, or emeritus) at the applicant institution. This person should hold a health professional degree (e.g. MD, DVM, DDS or equivalents), have an appointment in a clinical department related to at least one of the residency programs proposed for participation, have clearly demonstrated education/mentoring experience and have a strong recent history of NIH funding. Exceptional individuals without a clinical doctorate and with demonstrated leadership and mentoring experience in clinical departments may also serve as PD/PI.

If you are interested in submitting an application for this program, please upload your Letter of Interest (LOI) as a single document file into UVM’s InfoReady Portal for Institutional Competitions (https://uvm.infoready4.com/). The LOI should be no more than 3 pages (excluding references and the CV) and include the CV of the interested applicant. Please also include a description of the proposed research program plan to include: 1) the proposed PI’s clinical and/or research expertise and related funding history; 2) the available research opportunities and the methods and technology skills to be acquired; 3) the proposed residency program/s involved; 4) the names of the proposed research preceptors and their experience as researchers and mentors of clinician-investigators and; 5) the plan for recruiting the Resident Investigators. LOIs will be evaluated on 1) alignment with the program goals; 2) qualifications of the PI and Preceptors; 3) Feasibility and; 5) the potential for the proposed program to prepare Resident-Investigators for
successful careers as clinician-investigators. The deadline for submitting LOIs through the InfoReady Portal is September 25, 2017 before 4:30 pm after which the Portal will automatically close.

If the number of interested applicants exceeds the number allotted by the sponsor, selection of the candidate to move forward shall be made shortly thereafter.

Please direct questions concerning this announcement to Hilda Alajajian.

Sincerely,
Hilda

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