The National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) has primary responsibility for meeting the biomedical workforce needs in dental, oral, and craniofacial health research. The NIDCR research training and career development programs span the career stages of scientists. Training support is provided for basic, clinical, behavioral, and other research related to the NIDCR mission. The NIDCR supports both individual and institutional research training and career development awards. Individuals eligible for research training support include: (1) combined dual degree DDS/DMD-PhD students, predoctoral PhD students, and individuals with dental degrees earning PhD or equivalent research degrees; (2) individuals with a DDS/DMD or other clinical degree seeking protected time for research and research career development; (3) individuals with a DDS/DMD, PhD, or other doctoral degree pursuing postdoctoral training; and (4) mid-career or senior scientists who want to train or retrain in new areas of research or research methodology.
Programs for **Predoctoral Students**

**Ruth L. Kirschstein NRSA for Individual Predoctoral DDS/PhD Fellows (F30)**

Provides up to 6 years of support to students pursuing both DDS/DMD and PhD degrees. An annual stipend and partial tuition are provided. Additional funds are available for other training-related expenses. Applicants must be enrolled in a DDS/DMD program at an accredited U.S. dental school and accepted in a related scientific PhD (or equivalent degree) program. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents at the time of award.

**Ruth L. Kirschstein NRSA for Individual Predoctoral Fellows (F31)**

Provides up to 5 years of support for training that leads to a PhD. An annual stipend and partial tuition are provided. Additional funds are available for other training-related expenses. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents at the time of award.

**Ruth L. Kirschstein NRSA for Individual Predoctoral Fellowships To Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research (F31)**

Provides up to 5 years of support for training that leads to a PhD. An annual stipend and partial tuition are provided. Additional funds are available for other training-related expenses. Applicants must be from an underrepresented minority group or have a disability. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents at the time of award.

Programs for **Postdoctoral Fellows and Junior Investigators**

**Ruth L. Kirschstein NRSA for Individual Postdoctoral Fellows (F32)**

Provides up to 3 years of support for postdoctoral training. Individuals must have received a PhD, DDS/DMD, MD, or equivalent degree from an accredited institution. Dentists may pursue a PhD under this award. An annual stipend is provided; the level depends on the number of relevant years of postdoctoral experience at the time of award. Additional funds are available for training-related expenses. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents at the time of award.

**NIDCR Mentored Career Development Award To Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research (K01)**

Provides 3-5 years of salary and research support for individuals from groups shown to be underrepresented in the basic, translational, and clinical biomedical, behavioral, and social sciences, including those with disabilities and members of racial and ethnic groups. Awardees are required to devote at least 75% full-time professional effort to mentored research and career
development activities. Applicants must have a doctoral degree and be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents at the time of award.

**Mentored Research Scientist Award (Parent K01)**

Provides 3-5 years of salary and research support for reentry of individuals into the dental, oral, and craniofacial research workforce whose active careers have been interrupted by family responsibilities and other qualifying circumstances. Awardees are required to devote at least 75% full-time professional effort to mentored research and career development activities. Applicants must have a doctoral degree and must have been in a postdoctoral or faculty position and actively involved in dental, oral, or craniofacial research at the time of career interruption. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents at the time of award.

**Individual Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Award (K08)**

Provides 3-5 years of salary and research support for dentists or other clinicians developing careers in basic and/or translational oral health research. Awardees are required to devote at least 75% full-time professional effort to mentored research and career development activities. Salary, fringe benefits, and research support are provided. The award may be used by junior faculty seeking protected research time, dentists pursuing a PhD or other research doctoral degree, or individuals with a clinical doctoral degree conducting postdoctoral research. The NIDCR does not support clinical specialty training under this program. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents at the time of award.

**Individual Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award (K23)**

Provides 3-5 years of salary and research support for dentists or other clinicians developing careers in patient-oriented oral health research. Awardees are required to devote at least 75% full time professional effort to mentored research and career development activities. Salary, fringe benefits, and research support are provided. The award may be used by junior faculty seeking protected research time, dentists pursuing a PhD or other research doctoral degree, or individuals with a clinical doctoral degree conducting postdoctoral research. The NIDCR does not support clinical specialty training under this program. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents at the time of award.

**Individual Mentored Quantitative Research Career Development Award (K25)**

Provides 3-5 years of salary and research support for the career development of investigators with quantitative scientific and engineering backgrounds outside of biology or medicine who wish to integrate their research expertise with behavioral, basic, or clinical biomedical research. Salary, fringe benefits, and research support are provided. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents at the time of award.
Programs for **Career Transition**

**NIH Pathway to Independence Award (K99/R00)**

This award provides an opportunity for promising postdoctoral scientists to receive both mentored and independent research support. An initial 1-2 year mentored phase is followed by an independent phase in a tenure track (or equivalent) position. Applicants must have no more than 4 years of postdoctoral research experience since their most recent degree. U.S. citizens and non-U.S. citizens are eligible to apply.

**NIDCR Dentist Scientist Pathway to Independence Award (K99/R00)**

This award provides an opportunity for promising dentist scientists to receive both mentored postdoctoral and independent research support. Eligibility is limited to individuals who have both a clinical DDS/DMD and a PhD (or equivalent degree). Applicants must have no more than 4 years of postdoctoral research experience since their most recent degree. The mentored phase of the award is expected to last 2 years. In the independent phase, if a U.S. dental school agrees to provide part-time (25% effort) dental specialty training, the independent phase is awarded for 5 years. If an applicant does not wish to pursue specialty training, support is limited to 3 years. U.S. citizens and non-U.S. citizens are eligible to apply.

Programs for **Independent Scientists**

**Ruth L. Kirschstein NRSA for Individual Senior Fellows (F33)**

Provides up to 2 years of mentored oral health research training for experienced scientists, enabling them to update their skills or make changes in the direction of their research career. Typically used for sabbatical support. A stipend and an additional allowance are available for training-related expenses.

**Individual Independent Scientist Award (K02)**

Provides 3-5 years of support and protected time for newly independent scientists who can demonstrate the need for a period of intensive research focus as a means of enhancing their research career. Candidates must have a doctoral degree and concurrent NIDCR R01 support. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents at the time of award.

**Short-term Mentored Career Enhancement Award (K18)**

Provides 2.5-12 months support to mid-career or senior investigators who will engage in mentored short-term training in the areas of behavioral and social sciences or genetic and genomic research. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents at the time of award.

More information is available through the NIDCR web page:

http://www.nidcr.nih.gov/careersandtraining

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