



# UT Rocks K Club

## “Introduction to the K Award”



# Mentored K Award

- What is the *intent* of the mentored K award?
  - To help promising new investigators achieve research independence (i.e., to compete successfully for *R01 funding*).
  - Preparation for the NIH R01 grant application you will submit at the end of the K award should be the *organizing principle* of the K grant application.



# Mentored K Award

- Why do you need a K award?
  - You must explain exactly how additional training and mentored research experience will enable you to compete successfully for R01 funding.
  - Be specific: Give concrete examples of areas where you need additional training or experience in order to conduct the proposed research or areas where you are deficient that are directly related to your research career goals.



# Career Development Plan

- Develop a career development training plan that is *uniquely* suited to you
  - Given your previous training and research experience, and your short- and long-term career goals, propose a mix of didactic training and “hands-on” research experience that make perfect sense for you (and only you).
  - Degree-granting programs (e.g., MPH, MAS) are appropriate for candidates with little or no previous formal training in research, but even these programs should be “customized” whenever possible.



# K Award Features

- Funding is 3 – 5 years in length
- Provides substantial salary support, but limited research funding.
- Contains both a training plan *and* a research plan.
- Includes a team of mentors, co-mentors, advisors, consultants, etc.
- Goal: transition to research “independence”.



# Review Criteria

- May differ somewhat for different types of K awards
  - Applicant
    - Eligibility
    - Training
    - Potential to become independent investigator
  - Mentor and Environment
  - Career Development Plan
  - Institutional Support
  - Research Plan
    - Significance
    - Approach
    - Innovation
  - Potential for project to lead to an independent research career



# Types of K Award

- K01
  - Mentored Research Scientist Development Award: provides for an intensive, supervised career development experience in the biomedical, behavioral, or clinical sciences leading to research independence.
  - Some NIH institutes use this award for individuals who propose to train in a *new field*.
  - Other NIH institutes use this award to increase research workforce in particular types of research.



# Types of K Award

- K08
  - Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Award: Development of an independent clinical research scientist.
- K12
  - Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Program Award: Support for an institution for the development of independent clinical scientists.
- K23
  - Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award: For development of an independent research scientist in a clinical arena.





# Types of K Award

- K99/R00
  - NIH Pathway to Independence (PI) Award: Provides an opportunity for promising *post-doctoral* scientists to receive both mentored (K) and independent (R) research support from the same award.
  - Expected to compete for R01 during the R phase.
  - Provides a nice “bargaining chip” for negotiating a first faculty position.
  - Non-citizens with a work VISA may apply.

- Research Career Development Award Kiosk
  - <https://researchtraining.nih.gov/programs/career-development>

Division of Biomedical Research Workforce



SEARCH

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About DBRW

Career Path

Programs

Institute/Program Matrix

Resources

Training

Fellowships

Career Development

Other Training-Related

## Research Career Development Awards

RTCD Home > Programs

To provide institutional research training opportunities (including international) to trainees at the undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral levels.

### 1. Select Role



Awardee



Appointee

### 2. Select Career Level

Select

APPLY FILTER

RESET FILTER

K01

### Mentored Research Scientist Career Development Award

For support of a postdoctoral or early career research scientists committed to research, in need of both advanced research training and additional experience.

### FAQs

- Who do I contact for questions about my specific application?
- If there are problems with eRA Commons registration or with the grants.gov submission process, where can one get help?
- Who do I contact for questions about my specific institutional training application or grant?
- Do Training Grants have pre-award cost authority?
- NIH uses a formula to calculate what would be awarded for tuition/fees and training related expenses on institutional training grants. Should the grantee use this formula as part of their requested budget in a



# K Award Success Rates

- Success Rates

	2016	2017
– K01	32.1%	31.5%
– K08	37.8%	43.6%
– K12	45.0%	46.4%
– K23	36.0%	34.0%
– K99/R00	23.0%	23.4%
- Success rate definition
  - Percentage of reviewed grant applications that receive funding
- Complete data posted on K Club website

# Important Dates

- K Series Grants

	Cycle 1	Cycle 2	Cycle 3
Due Date	02/12/18	06/12/18	10/12/18
Due in UT ORA	5 working days	5 working days	5 working days
Merit Review	June-July	Oct-Nov	Feb-Mar
Advisory Council	August or October	January	May
Earliest Start Date	September or December 2018	April 2019	July 2019



# K Alternatives

- Foundations and Professional Societies with young investigator grant programs
  - American Heart Association
  - American Liver Foundation
  - Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
  - National Kidney Foundation
  - American Gastroenterological Association
  - NASPGHAN Foundation
  - Lawson Wilkins Pediatric Endocrine Society
  - Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society
  - Society of Critical Care Medicine
  - Others



# CFRI Access

- Scientific Editor
  - Amanda Preston ([Amanda.Preston@lebonheur.org](mailto:Amanda.Preston@lebonheur.org))
- Biostatistics
  - Tamekia Jones ([tjone100@uthsc.edu](mailto:tjone100@uthsc.edu))
- Bioinformatics
  - Eunice Huang ([ehuang@uthsc.edu](mailto:ehuang@uthsc.edu))
- Grant/Contract Development Coordinator
  - Venessa Spearman ([Venessa.Spearman@lebonheur.org](mailto:Venessa.Spearman@lebonheur.org))
- IRB/Regulatory Coordinator
  - Molly Rolen ([Molly.Rolen@lebonheur.org](mailto:Molly.Rolen@lebonheur.org))
  - Derita Bran ([Derita.Bran@lebonheur.org](mailto:Derita.Bran@lebonheur.org))
- Clinical Trials
  - Sheon Lynch ([Sheon.Lynch@lebonheur.org](mailto:Sheon.Lynch@lebonheur.org))
- Universal Contact
  - Dennis Black ([dblack@uthsc.edu](mailto:dblack@uthsc.edu))

## Research and Education

### Research

Research Facilities

Meet Our Team

Biomedical Informatics and  
Biostatistics

Biorepository and Integrative  
Genomics Initiative

Investigator Resources

### Education

## Research at Le Bonheur

Le Bonheur Children's is committed to the **prevention, treatment and elimination of pediatric disease.**

At the Children's Foundation Research Institute, our researchers are looking for new discoveries and treatments to promote the health of children. Le Bonheur continues to develop an infrastructure to support research and to enhance collaboration among our physician scientists.

Researchers at Le Bonheur are working on projects aimed at improving the health of children. Some of those studies include:

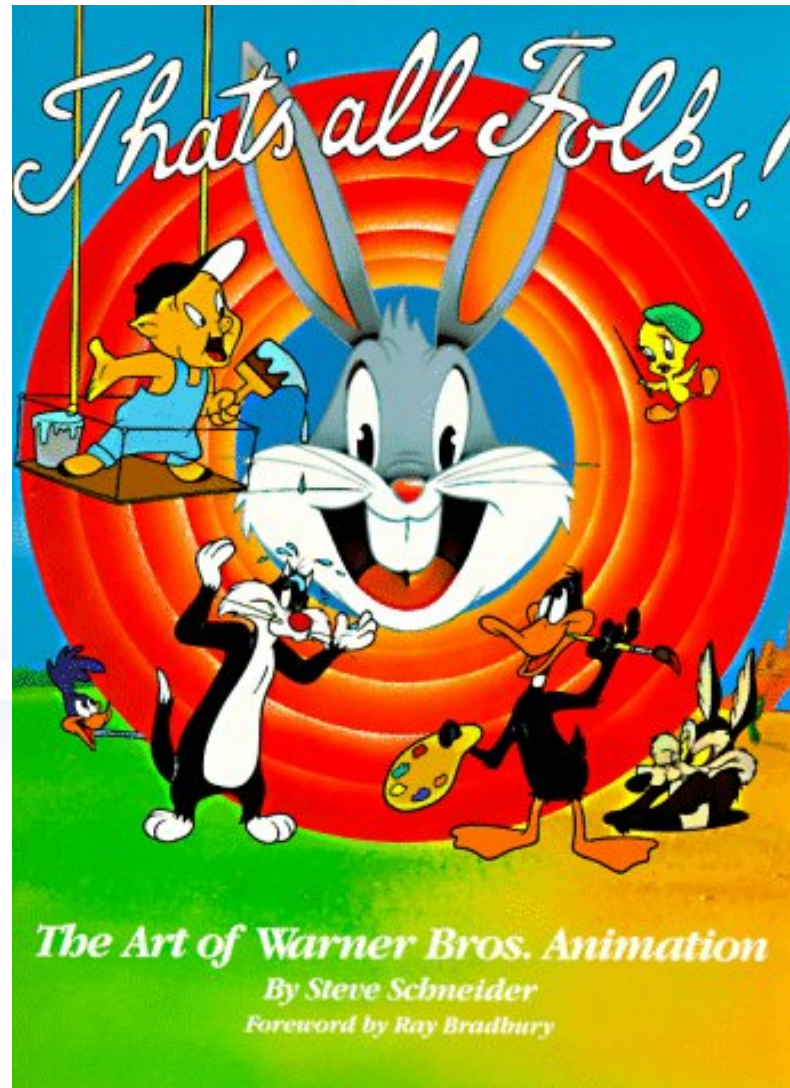
- A study investigating the **effects of commonly prescribed anti-epileptic drugs** to establish effects on learning and behavior in patients with new seizure onset
- Research aimed at developing a new class of asthma medication to provide options for patients who don't respond well to steroids and bronchodilators
- A study examining functional connectivity in **tuberous sclerosis** patients with and without autism
- An initiative building national patient databases to better understand issues like **inflammatory bowel disease and home parenteral nutrition therapy**

### About the CFRI

The Children's Foundation Research Institute is a **partnership** of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Le Bonheur Children's Hospital, and the Children's Foundation Research Institute.



Children's Foundation  
Research Institute



*That's all Folks!*

*The Art of Warner Bros. Animation*

*By Steve Schneider*

*Foreword by Ray Bradbury*





# Upcoming Topics

- The K Award Career Development Plan
- The Specific Aims Page
- Tactics for Each Grant Section
- The New Biosketch Form
- How Do Study Sections Work? Writing to Your Audience
- The Budget: How to Propose, Justify and Fill Out the Form
- K Awards: Submitting the Grant
- The Critique and the Score: How To Nail It Next Time
- Mock Study Section