

Request for Applications
Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA)
Mentored Career Development Program: K12 and CTSA Scholars

The UF+FSU CTSA is pleased to announce the Mentored Career Development Program in Clinical and Translational Science, funded by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS), which is now accepting pre-applications from emerging scholars committed to conducting clinical or translational research. The mission of the CTSA Mentored Career Development Program is to prepare emerging investigators to build successful careers focused on clinical or translational research. NCATS mission is to turn research observations into health solutions through translational science. *As such, applicants should incorporate education in translational science in their IDPs and Career Development Plans.* This opportunity will support selected Scholars for at least two years with 75% salary support, up to \$102,164 plus fringe, and \$23,000 for research, training, and travel.

ELIGIBILITY:

- Candidates must be U.S. citizens, citizen nationals, or have permanent residency status.
- Eligible applicants will have earned a clinical or research doctorate, including PhD, ScD, DrPH, MD, DO, DC, ND, DDS, DMD, DNS or equivalent in the prior 10 years.
- Candidates must be (1) junior level at the rank of post-doctoral scholar, Instructor, Research Faculty, Assistant Professor, and (2) be full-time faculty or be able to provide confirmation from Division or Department leadership of a faculty appointment on or before July 1, 2027. Associate Professors and full Professors are not eligible for this award.
- Candidates cannot hold an extramural career development award or have an extramural career development application under review at the time of submission.
- Candidates cannot have an R01 or R01-level proposal under review at the time of submission.

The UF CTSI welcomes applicants from any of the Health Science programs at UF, all UF campuses (Jacksonville, Lake Nona, UF-Scripps, and Sid Martin Biotech/UF Innovate), and Florida State University and related campuses via the UF+FSU CTSA partnership.

AWARD BENEFITS

K12 Scholars receive:

- Partial salary support for two years to cover approximately 75% assigned effort up to a maximum of \$102,164 plus fringe benefits. Support may be extended in selected circumstances.
- \$23,000 per year for research-related activities, such as textbooks, supplies, course fees, CTSI consulting, and travel to academic conferences.

AWARDEE EXPECTATIONS

- Awardees will be expected to participate once in the annual Association for Clinical and Translational Science national meeting and once in the regional CTSA conference.
- Awardees will be required to attend monthly Translational Science Academy (TSA) sessions.
- Awardees are highly encouraged to submit and secure funding from a K or R award prior to the end of your K12 funding period. We can assist you in this effort and offer mock reviews and expert grant reviews prior to your submission.
- Individual Development Plans (IDP) must be reviewed and approved by the K2R Director.
- Awardees must meet with the K2R Director at the start of the award and every 3 months thereafter.
- All awardees submitting subsequent K award applications are expected to participate in the K Mock Study Section if the timeline aligns with their grant submission, which significantly increases their chances for extramural funding.
- **FSU Only:** All FSU awardees must attend the All About Funding series, complete an NIH approved Responsible Conduct of Research program, submit Human Subjects and CITI certificates, and complete a Clinical Research and Translational Science course or training program.

KEY DATES:

- Cycle Begins: August 2026
- K12 Orientation and Q&A Session (hosted by UF): August 31, 2026, at 12PM ET
- K12 Orientation and Q&A Session (hosted by FSU): October 14, 2026, at 12PM ET
- Pre-Application Submission: December 9, 2026, by 11:59PM ET
- Full Application Due: January 11, 2027, by 11:59 PM ET
- Application Review: January-February 2027
- Candidate Interviews: March 11, 2027, at 12PM ET
- Award Decisions Released: Late March-Early April 2027

PRE-APPLICATION: The following materials are required for the pre-application:

- Letter of Intent with Research Overview (1-2 pages)
- NIH Biosketch for the Candidate
- NIH Biosketch for Primary Mentor
- Two (2) Letters of Support: 1 from the Primary Mentor and 1 from the Candidate's Supervisor (1-2 pages each)

Name this file: 27-29_K12_LNAME_PreApp.pdf, for example: 27-29_K12_Budhwani_PreApp.pdf



INVITED APPLICATION: The following materials are required for the full invited application.

Required: Please include these materials in this order in a single PDF.

- Application Face Page including Citizenship Attestation (1 page)
- Table of Contents (1 page)
- NIH Biosketch for the Candidate (in SciENCv format)
- NIH Biosketches for all Mentors (in SciENCv format)
- Project Abstract (not to exceed 1 page)
- Candidate Section:
 - Candidate Statement (up to 2 pages)
 - Training Plan (1 page)
 - Mentoring Plan (1 page per mentor)
- Research Section:
 - Specific Aims (1 page)
 - Research Strategy (4 pages)
 - Other Summary Information: Including Study Timeline, Protections of Human Subjects, etc. (2 pages)
- Letters of Support: Up to 4 letters, including 1 from Primary Mentor and 1 from the Candidate's Supervisor

Name this file: 27-29_K12_LNAME1.pdf, for example: 27-29_K12_Budhwani1.pdf

Optional: You may also submit a supplemental PDF document including:

- Letter of Intent (from pre-application)
- Candidate's CV
- Individual Development Plan (IDP)
- Example of Written Product by the Candidate (10 pages or less; can be a journal article)

Name this file: 27-29_K12_LNAME_Suppl.pdf, for example: 27-29_K12_Budhwani_Suppl.pdf

CONTACTS:

Potential **FSU** candidates are encouraged to contact the Program's team with any questions:

- K12 Co-Director (FSU), Henna Budhwani, PhD, MPH: hbudhwani@fsu.edu
- Program Coordinator, Andrea Johnson, MPH at aj22bd@fsu.edu

Potential **UF** candidates are encouraged to contact the Program's team with any questions:

- K12 Co-Director (UF), Christiaan Leeuwenburgh, PhD: cleeuwen@ufl.edu
- K12 Assistant Director (UF), Colleen K. Gutman, MD: ckays21@ufl.edu
- Research Administrator I, Genesis Vera Morales: verag810@ufl.edu

To learn about the FSU K2R program, visit our website at <https://ctsa.fsu.edu/uf-fsu-ctsa-k12-mentored-career-development-program>

ADDENDUMS:

- **AGENCY PRIORITIES:** NIH funds may not be used to support activities that are outside the revised scope of the award, including diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) research programs or related research training activities or programs. Any funds used to support activities outside the scope will result in a disallowance of costs, and funds will be recovered.
- **RESTRICTION ON THE USE OF FUNDS FOR RESEARCH INVOLVING LIVE VERTEBRATE ANIMALS:** Under governing PHS Policy, federal funds administered by the Public Health Service (PHS) shall not be expended for research involving live vertebrate animals without prior OLAW approval of an Animal Welfare Assurance to comply with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals and the project has been reviewed and approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). The present award is made without currently valid verification of IACUC approval for this project. Only activities that do not involve live vertebrate animals may be conducted pending NCATS' acceptance of verification of IACUC approval. No funds may be drawn down from the payment system, and no obligations may be made against Federal funds for research involving vertebrate animals at any site engaged in such research for any period not covered by appropriate IACUC approvals. Failure to comply with this special condition can result in suspension and/or termination of this award, withholding of support, audit disallowances, and/or other appropriate action.