LRP Overview

- Legislative History
- LRPCs at a Glance
- Eligibility Criteria
- Program Benefits

National Institutes of Health
Division of Loan Repayment
Legislative History

1988
- AIDS (I)
  Public Law 100-607
  November 4, 1988

1993
- Contraception & Infertility (E)
  Public Law 103-43
  June 10, 1993
- General (I)
  Public Law 103-43
  June 10, 1993
- Clinical – DB* (I+E)
  Public Law 103-43
  June 10, 1993

2000
- Pediatric (E)
  Public Law 106-310
  October 17, 2000
- Clinical (E)
  Public Law 106-505
  November 13, 2000
- Health Disparities (E)
  Public Law 106-525
  November 22, 2000
21st Century CURES Act

- Enacted on December 13, 2016
- Consolidated the eight existing LRPs into two LRPs (Intramural and Extramural)
  - Existing LRPs became subcategories
- Provided the NIH Director with the authority to:
  - establish or eliminate one or more subcategories of the LRPs
  - raise the maximum annual loan repayment amount.
Raised LRP Award Maximum (FY 2020)
- Cap on LRP awards is now $50,000/year
- Previously set at $35,000/year

Expanded Health Disparities Research LRP (FY 2020)
- All NIH Institutes and Centers expected to participate
- Previously limited to NIMHD

Establishes Extramural REACH LRP (FY 2022)
- Designed to pursue major opportunities and gaps in biomedical research and expand critical research in emerging areas of human health
Eligibility Criteria

Citizenship
U.S. Citizen or permanent resident

Doctoral Degree
M.D., Ph.D., or equivalent
Exception: Contraception & Infertility Research LRP

Research Funding
Domestic nonprofit, university, or government organization; NIH grant support is NOT required

Research Time
At least 20 hours/week

Student Loan Debt
At least 20 percent of annual income

Any research funding support or salary from a for-profit institution is not eligible for the NIH LRP
Program Benefits

Award Length
• New awards (Type 1) must be 2 years
• Renewal awards (Type 2) may be 1 or 2 years

Benefits
• Up to $50,000/year in educational debt repayment
• 39% of loan repayment to cover Federal taxes
• LRP awards are portable
Roles & Responsibilities

Division of Receipt and Referral
NIH Institutes/Centers
Division of Loan Repayment
Division of Receipt and Referral

Receipt and Referral of LRP applications
Vonda Smith, Ph.D.
Assistant Director
Division of Receipt and Referral

NIH Center for Scientific Review
Assignment of LRP Applications

• Assignment is based on a match between the research proposed and the overall mission of the IC or Center.

• Referral guidelines- http://share.csr.nih.gov/PeerReview/Applications/Pages/ReferralGuidelinesFundingComponents.aspx

• ICs Shared Interests-Dual Assignments are made where applications are appropriate for more than one IC

• Secondary Considerations
  - PI/PDs request
  - Assignment history

• Review done by ICs
Path for LRP Assignment

1. Forward Completed/Eligible Applications to CSR/DRR
2. Assign Applications to ICs
3. Review Applications
LRP Application Cycle

Program Announcements

Annual Timeline
Program Announcements

Extramural Loan Repayment Program for Clinical Researchers (LRP-CR)

Notice Number:
NOT-OD-20-133

Key Dates
Release Date: July 16, 2020

Related Announcements
NOT-OD-19-116 Rescind - Extramural Loan Repayment Program for Clinical Researchers (LRP-CR)

Issued by
Office of The Director, National Institutes of Health (OD)

Purpose
This Notice replaces NOT-OD-19-116 and provides program-specific information for Extramural Loan Repayment Program for Clinical Researchers (LRP-CR). The NIH Loan Repayment Programs (LRPs) are a set of programs established by Congress and designed to recruit and retain highly qualified health professionals into biomedical or biobehavioral research careers.

Additional detailed information about each LRP is provided at www.lrp.nih.gov/about_the_programs/index.aspx and www.lrp.nih.gov/apply.

The NIH invites qualified health professionals who contractually agree to engage in NIH mission-relevant research for an average of at least 20 hours each week for at least two years, initially, to apply for an award in the Extramural LRP. The Extramural LRP repays up to $50,000 annually of a researcher's qualified educational debt in return for a commitment to engage in NIH mission-relevant research at a domestic, nonprofit, or government entity. Research funding from NIH is not required to participate in the Extramural LRP. LRP awards are based on an applicant's potential to build and sustain a research career.

Extramural LRP applications are accepted annually from September 1 through November 29, 8:00 p.m. EST. All LRP applications must be submitted electronically using the NIH LRP Website, www.lrp.nih.gov.

LRP-CR Objective
The objective of the LRP-CR is to recruit and retain highly qualified health professionals into biomedical or biobehavioral research careers.

NIH defines Clinical Research as patient-oriented research conducted with human subjects, or research on the causes and consequences of disease in human populations involving material of human origin (such as tissue specimens and cognitive phenomena) for which an investigator or colleague directly interacts with human subjects in an outpatient or inpatient setting to clarify a problem in human physiology, pathophysiology or disease, or epidemiological or behavioral studies, outcomes or health services research, or developing new technologies, therapeutic interventions, or clinical trials.

Eligible Applicants

Eligibility criteria to participate in the Extramural LRP:

- Applicants must be U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, or permanent residents of the U.S.
- Applicants must have total qualifying educational debt equal to or in excess of 20 percent of their institutional annual base salary at the time of award. Institutional annual base salary is the annual amount the organization pays for the individual's appointment, whether the time is spent on research, teaching, patient care, or other activities. Institutional annual base salary excludes any income that an applicant may earn outside of the duties of the organization. This criterion is not applicable to applicants for a renewal award.
- Applicants must be employed by and conduct qualifying research (as defined above) supported by a domestic nonprofit foundation (e.g., universities), professional nonprofit association, or other nonprofit institution, or a U.S. government agency (Federal, State, or local). A domestic foundation, professional association, or institution is considered to be nonprofit if exempt from Federal tax under the provisions of Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code (26 U.S.C. 501). NIH grants and university salaries are considered eligible.

NIH
National Institutes of Health
Office of Extramural Research
Annual Timeline

NIH Loan Repayment Programs
FY 2021 Extramural Application Cycle

Legend:
- Deadline
- CSR actions
- DLR actions
- IC actions

2020
- September 1: DLR opens Application Cycle
- September 1 – January 15: DLR conducts non-financial eligibility vetting
- September 15 – December 1: CSR refers applications to ICs
- November 20: Submission Deadline for Applications. Recommendations, and Organizational Contact Certifications

2021
- January 15 – February 15: ICs review Applications (if necessary)
- February 1 – April 30: ICs host Peer Review of Applications
- March 1: ICs provide list of Non-Responsive Applications to DLR
- April 1: ICs provide DLR allocation levels obtained from IC budget offices
- May 17: ICs submit initial selections to DLR
- July 30: ICs submit Funding Decisions to DLR
- August 17 – September 2: IC Directors sign Contracts
- September 15: IC Budget Officers approve Obligations
- January 15: DLR opens RFP Review Site
- Application PDFs loaded to IMPAC II
- January 31: Change of Institution Deadline for Applicants
- April 8: DLR adds preliminary contract costs and IC allocations to Review Site
- August 16: DLR notifies Unfunded Applicants
- August 17 – September 10: DLR sends Obligations to IC Budget Officers for approval
LRP Online Application System

- Application Components
- Reference Letter
- Post-Submission Changes
Starting an LRP Application

Applicants
- Apply for a new LRP award, or
- Renew your LRP award, or
- Manage your LRP application, or
- Check on the status of your LRP application

GO TO APPLICANT DASHBOARD

Mentors
- Submit New Primary Mentor Reference Letter
- Review and Download Previously Submitted Primary Mentor Reference Letter

PROCEED

Referees/Recommenders
- Submit New Reference Letter
- Review and Download Previously Submitted Reference Letter

PROCEED

Institutional Business Officials
- Provide Applicant’s salary information, and
- Certify Institutional Support for Applicant(s)

PROCEED
Starting an LRP Application

Eligibility Questions

- I understand that completing this questionnaire is not a guarantee of eligibility for the program and that my eligibility will be further assessed throughout the process.
- I understand that the NIH Loan Repayment Programs are competitive and the submission of an LRP application does not guarantee an award. I understand that only designated agents of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/National Institutes of Health can make commitments for the LRP awards.
Eligibility Questions

1) Are you a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or permanent resident of the U.S.? (If no) Will you be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or permanent resident of the U.S. by the contract start date?

2) Do you possess an M.D., Ph.D., D.D.S., D.M.D., D.V.M., A.D.N., B.S.N., or equivalent doctoral degree from an accredited institution; or hold the position of Physician Assistant?

3) Will you conduct full-time qualifying research over the entire contract period?

4) Do you receive any research funding support or salary from a for-profit institution or organization?

5) Are you a full-time (5/8 or greater) employee of a U.S. Government agency (CDC, DOD, or the Veteran's Administration)? Please note, receiving research or salary support from Federal grants or fellowships does not equate employment by the Federal government.

6) Do you or did you ever have a judgment lien arising from a federal debt?
Mentored or Independent

**Mentored**
- Research is partially funded by another investigator’s grant(s)
- Research is conducted entirely in another investigator’s assigned space
- Not allowed to submit an application as the PD/PI of an NIH research grant application
- Receiving support and protected time from a fellowship or career development award.

**Independent**
- Has a full-time faculty position
- Received a start-up package for support of his/her independent research
- Has research space dedicated to his/her own research
- May be the responsible supervisor for graduate students, and/or hire technical support or postdoctoral fellows
- Eligible to apply for independent research funding as the PD/PI of a Federal or non-Federal research grant.
Mentored or Independent

**Mentored**
- Research is partially funded by another investigator’s grant(s).
- Mentoring/Training Plan
- Reference Letter
- Not allowed to submit an application as the PD/PI of an NIH research grant application.

**Independent**
- Has a full-time faculty position.
- Received a start-up package for support of his/her independent research.
- Has research space dedicated to his/her own research.
- May be the responsible supervisor for graduate students, and/or hire technical support or postdoctoral fellows.
- Eligible to apply for independent research funding as the PD/PI of a Federal or non-Federal research grant.

**Applicant must submit**
- Career Development Plan
- Additional Biosketch (optional)

**Mentor must submit**
- Mentor’s Biosketch
- Mentor Assurances
- Not Applicable (no mentor)
Post-Submission Materials

• Accepted after submission but **before the peer review** if they result from unforeseen administrative issues or events

• Acceptable materials include:
  
  - Change of institution (e.g., applicant moved to another university)
  
  - Updates related to changes in senior/key personnel pivotal to the LRP project (e.g., biosketch for new mentor)
  
  - Adjustments resulting from unforeseen events (e.g., natural disasters)
  
  - Citations of newly accepted manuscripts for publication
  
  - Newly awarded funding or decisions on pending proposals

**Must be received by the Division of Loan Repayment by email by January 31**
LRP Review

- Review Meeting—No Meeting
- Evaluation Criteria
- Funding Process
LRP Review Criteria

1) Applicant’s potential to pursue a career in research
   • Applicant’s previous training and experience
   • Proposed research activities during LRP contract period
   • Commitment to a research career
   • Strength of reference letters

2) Quality of the overall environment to prepare the applicant for a research career
   • Quality and availability of scientific mentors and colleagues
   • Quality and appropriateness of institutional resources and facilities

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Evaluation Form for NIH Loan Repayment Program Applications

CLINICAL RESEARCH (L30)

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Rating for this criterion: Choose a rating
Comments (optional): _____________________________

3. Commitment to a clinical research career, as reflected by the personal statement of long-term career goals and plan to achieve those goals.
Evaluation Form for NIH Loan Repayment Program Applications

CLINICAL RESEARCH (L30)
New (Type 1) and Renewal (Type 2) Applications

Name of applicant: __________________________
Application number: ________________________

Instructions to Reviewers:
For each review criterion below, select the word that best represents your rating of the application for that criterion from the dropdown menu. After rating the individual criteria, in four or five sentences, summarize your overall impressions of the applicant’s potential to remain in a clinical research career. Provide comments (optional) for each criterion if desired.

Renewal applications (Type 2) are reviewed using the same criteria as new applications (Type 1) plus an additional criterion focusing on the period during which the renewal applicant received the Loan Repayment award – assessment of his/her research accomplishments and development as an independent investigator.

Finally, assign an Overall Score at the end of this template, and enter the same Score under “Preliminary Score” in IAR when submitting your critique.

The numeric and/or adjective rating scale in the drop-down menus is: 1 = Exceptional, 2 = Outstanding, 3 = Excellent, 4 = Very Good, 5 = Good, 6 = Satisfactory, 7 = Fair, 8 = Marginal, 9 = Poor.

Review Criteria:
The primary consideration is to assess the potential of the applicant to pursue a career in clinical research. The review panel shall not consider the merit of the already funded research of the applicant or the mentor.

A. Potential of the applicant to pursue a career in clinical research
   1. Appropriateness of the applicant’s previous training and experience to prepare for a clinical research career

   Rating for this criterion: Choose a rating
   Comments (optional): __________________________

   2. Appropriateness of the proposed research activities during the LRP award period to foster a career in clinical research. (Note: do not evaluate the research on its scientific merits per se, but as a vehicle to help the applicant pursue a research career)

   Rating for this criterion: Choose a rating
   Comments (optional): __________________________

   3. Commitment to a clinical research career, as reflected by the personal statement of long-term career goals and plan to achieve those goals

   Rating for this criterion: Choose a rating
   Comments (optional): __________________________
**LRP Funding Process**

**Initial Selections**
- Initiates the financial vetting process
- No funding commitment
- Preliminary contract cost

**Funding Decisions**
- Budgetary commitment to fund an applicant for entire award
- Final (fixed) contract cost

**Calendar**
- **May 15**
- **July 31**
Other Features include:

• Application Instruction Guide
• LRP Technical Assistance Webinar
• Repayment Calculator
• Application Process Interactive Roadmap


Available on LRP website throughout the year
Thank You