VA ORD Supported Research

- Search on NIH RePORTER website: report.nih.gov/index.aspx
- Search on Clinical Trials website: clinicaltrials.gov

VA ORD Main Site: www.research.va.gov
- Career Development Program: www.research.va.gov/funding/cdp.cfm
- Centers: www.research.va.gov/programs

Grant Writing Seminars:

- Training in Grantsmanship for Rehabilitation Research (TIGRR) http://tigrr.bme.unc.edu/
- NIA Butler-Williams Scholars Program (formerly Summer Institute on Aging Research) – Applications accepted in March for attendance in July
- US Bone & Joint Initiative (USBJI) Young Investigator Initiative http://www.usbji.org/programs/yii

Additional ORD Information

- Rehabilitation Research and Development http://www.rehab.research.va.gov/
- Health Services Research and Development http://www.hsrdr.research.va.gov/
- Biomedical Laboratory Research and Development http://www.research.va.gov/services/blrd/default.cfm
- Clinical Science Research and Development http://www.research.va.gov/services/csrd/default.cfm
Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
Office of Research & Development (ORD)
Rehabilitation Research & Development Service (RR&D)

RR&D Scientific Program Managers

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RR&D Research Award Types

All applications undergo scientific peer review

- **Center Awards**
  - 5 years, $1.26M/year

- **Research Enhancement Award Program (REAP)**
  - 5 years, $440K/year

- **Merit Awards**
  - $1.2M total budget cap for 4 years

- **Small Projects in Rehabilitation Research (SPiRE)**
  - 1-2 years, $115K/year

  Intended for:
  - High Risk/High Impact research; for preliminary data & feasibility
  - Small projects that can be completed in a two-year period, no powered studies
  - Preference given to Early Career Stage Investigators
  - New scientific areas of focus for established investigators
  - Editorial-style review; 3 independent reviews in written form only
  - Scoring limited to three designations: Highly Meritorious, Meritorious, or Not Meritorious

- **Research Career Scientists**
  - 5 - 7 years, salary support

- **Career Development Awards (CDA)** - mentored research opportunities

  All awards
  - US citizen
  - VA at time of award but not required at time of application
  - VA primary mentor
  - Support includes awardee salary (except MD, shared with clinical care), protected research time
  - Review criteria emphasize candidate’s qualifications, as well as mentorship, career development,
  - and research plans

- **CDA – 1**
  - Must apply within 2 years of training
  - Award up to 2 years, provides full salary support, $20K/year operational funds

- **CDA – 2**
  - Must apply within 5 years of training
  - Award up to 5-years, full salary support, $75K/year operational funds

- **Minority Serving Institution (MSI)** (previously Historically Black Colleges & University (HBCU))
  - Features of CDA-2
  - Additional mentor(s) from MSI/HBCU
# CDA Submission Deadlines and Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SERVICE</th>
<th>DEADLINE per Cycle</th>
<th>Email ADDRESS</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biomedical Laboratory R&amp;D</td>
<td>May 1 Nov 1</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vhacadereview@va.gov">vhacadereview@va.gov</a></td>
<td>Questions about the program should be send to the Career Development mailbox.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Science R&amp;D</td>
<td>May 1 Nov 1</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vhacadereview@va.gov">vhacadereview@va.gov</a></td>
<td>Questions about the program should be send to the Career Development mailbox.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Services R&amp;D</td>
<td>April 15 Oct 15</td>
<td><a href="mailto:robert.small@va.gov">robert.small@va.gov</a></td>
<td>Robert Small, BA (202) 443-5743</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation R&amp;D</td>
<td>May 1 Nov 1</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rrdreviews@va.gov">rrdreviews@va.gov</a></td>
<td>Shirley Groer, PhD (202) 443-5767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSI-CDA (HBCU &amp; other)</td>
<td>Follows Service LOI Deadlines</td>
<td>BLRD/CSRD: <a href="mailto:vhacadereview@va.gov">vhacadereview@va.gov</a> HSRD: <a href="mailto:Robert.Small@va.gov">Robert.Small@va.gov</a> RRD: <a href="mailto:rrdreviews@va.gov">rrdreviews@va.gov</a></td>
<td>Contact the appropriate Service representative above regarding submissions</td>
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</tbody>
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## CDA Award Types: Eligibility and Conditions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CDA-1 (CS/BL* &amp; RR&amp;D)</th>
<th>CDA-2</th>
<th>MSI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinician salary</td>
<td>9 calendar months plus 1/8th from VAMC</td>
<td>6-9 calendar months plus 1/8th from VAMC</td>
<td>6-9 calendar months plus 1/8th from VAMC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-clinician salary</td>
<td>7.5-12 calendar months</td>
<td>7.5-12 calendar months</td>
<td>7.5-12 calendar months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project funds</td>
<td>$20K/yr to extend work of mentor</td>
<td>$75K/yr for independent Work</td>
<td>As per service-specific RFA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award duration</td>
<td>Up to 2 years</td>
<td>3-5 years</td>
<td>Up to 2 years (BL/CS)* 3-5 years (RR&amp;D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligibility</td>
<td>Max of 2 years beyond completion of training</td>
<td>Max of 5 years beyond completion of training</td>
<td>Same as 1 or 2 plus mentors at both HBCU and VA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*BL & CSR&D have targeted CDA-1 RFAs for VA psychiatrists, US military veteran scientists, suicide prevention, & MSI
Does VA fund research in my scientific area of interest and at what facilities?

- Search NIH RePORTER tool and use guidance as indicated below
  - User’s guide manual and video: [https://obssr.od.nih.gov/research-support/nihreporter/](https://obssr.od.nih.gov/research-support/nihreporter/)
  - NIH RePORTER query form: [https://reporter.nih.gov/](https://reporter.nih.gov/)
  - Enter topic(s) of interest in the Quick Search box. Then from the results:
    - Click on “Agencies” and choose “VA” (red arrow above)

- Or begin query for VA funded research and for VA Investigators:
  - NIH RePORTER query form: [https://reporter.nih.gov/](https://reporter.nih.gov/)
  - Scroll down to Advanced Projects Search
  - Search by Agency/Institute/Center: Select Veterans Affairs (VA) (red arrow below)
The query will generate a list of all active VA funded projects.
- Click on the project title hypertext in the search results to get more information on each project.
- Note the panel on the left for categories of information on the project.

To search only for rehab funded VA projects, click on the option to “view All Search Fields” (blue arrow above). Under Project Number in the screen below, enter RX in the third box. See highlight.
- RX for Rehabilitation R&D
- BX for Biomedical Laboratory R&D
- CX for Clinical Science R&D
- HX for Health Services R&D

Who can I contact to learn more about VA research mission and priorities in my scientific area of interest?
- Contact the Office of Research and Development Scientific Program Managers:
  - Rehabilitation R&D: https://www.rehab.research.va.gov/staff/science1.html
  - Biomedical Laboratory R&D and Clinical Science R&D: https://www.research.va.gov/services/shared_docs/contacts.cfm
  - Health Services R&D: https://www.hsrd.research.va.gov/about/portfolio.cfm

Does VA support researchers early in their career?
- Yes, go to https://www.research.va.gov/funding/cdp.cfm

How do I find a VA mentor?
- Search the NIH RePORTER tool https://reporter.nih.gov/ for VA investigators working in your area of interest.

How do I learn more about starting research at a VA near me?
- Contact Associate Chiefs of Staff for R&D: https://www.research.va.gov/about/national_directory.cfm