National Institutes of Health Loan Repayment Programs

Matthew Lockhart
Acting Director
Division of Loan Repayment
The Basics
Role of LRPs as an Important Career Path and Funding Option

Graduate/Clinical Training
- T32, T35
- F30, F31

Postdoctoral Training/ Clinical Residency
- T32
- K01, K07, K25, K12, KL2
- R38, (K38)
- R25, K12

Early Research Career
- K08, K23, K12, KL2
- R03, R21, R01, R35
- K22, K99
- K22, R00

Established Investigator
- R01, R35, P01, P50
- K02, K24

Loan Repayment Programs

Diversity Supplements

Re-Entry Supplements

https://researchtraining.nih.gov
Purpose of the NIH LRPs

NIH LRPs are a **vital component** in our nation's effort to keep health professionals in research careers.

*Here’s how it works:*

**YOU:** Commit to perform research for 2 years

**NIH:** Repays up to $100,000 of your qualified educational debt **and** covers resulting Federal tax (39%)

**Outcome:** Increase in nation’s stock of biomedical research scientists
### Extramural LRP Subcategories

**For individuals conducting research at non-profit institutions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Research</td>
<td>• Patient-oriented research conducted with human subjects or materials of human origin (including cognitive phenomenon) on the causes and consequences of disease in humans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pediatric Research</td>
<td>• Research related to diseases or disorders in children&lt;br&gt;• Basic research allowed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Disparities Research</td>
<td>• Research focusing on minority and other health disparity populations&lt;br&gt;• Basic, clinical, social and behavioral research allowed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contraception &amp; Infertility Research</td>
<td>• Research focusing on conditions impacting ability to conceive or bear children and provide new or improved methods of preventing pregnancy&lt;br&gt;• Applications reviewed by Eunice Kennedy Shriver NICHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Disadvantaged Backgrounds</td>
<td>• Same as Clinical Research LRP&lt;br&gt;• Available to clinical researchers from verifiable disadvantaged backgrounds&lt;br&gt;• Applications reviewed by NIMHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research in Emerging Areas Critical to Human Health (REACH)</td>
<td>• Available beginning September 2021 to recruit and retain researchers pursuing major opportunities or gaps in emerging areas of human health&lt;br&gt;• NIH ICs determine gap/emerging areas of research priority areas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Basic LRP Eligibility Criteria

CITIZENSHIP
U.S. CITIZEN, NATIONAL, OR PERMANENT RESIDENT

EDUCATION
DOCTORAL DEGREE (FEW EXCEPTIONS)

EDUCATIONAL LOAN DEBT
AT LEAST 20% OF ANNUAL BASE INCOME

RESEARCH FUNDING
DOMESTIC NONPROFIT, UNIVERSITY, OR GOVERNMENT;
(NIH GRANT SUPPORT NOT REQUIRED)

RESEARCH TIME
AT LEAST 20 HOURS/WEEK OF QUALIFIED RESEARCH
Ready to Apply?
NEW in FY 2022

LRP Application is now in ASSIST
Research in Emerging Areas Critical to Human Health (L70)

NEW in FY 2022

24 Participating ICs

Emerging areas of research are determined by each NIH Institute/Center

Targets researchers who wouldn’t qualify under existing LRP subcategories

NOT-OD-21-144
LRP Application – Major Sections

Research Activities (‘meat and potatoes’)
- Personal Statement
  - Highlight previous training, development of scientific interests; accomplishments; short and long-term career goals
- Training/Career Development Plan
  - Skills acquiring along your path to independence (e.g., training, professional and leadership development opportunities; grantmanship workshops, conference attendance, etc.) – include 2-year timeline
- Proposed Research Plans
  - Planned research activities, specific roles/responsibilities – include 2-year timeline

Research Environment
- Why are you where you are? Who or what is important there?

Loan Information (new applicants only)
- Lender and servicer information, loan number, total loan amounts, loan status (e.g., in repayment/forbearance)
Writing a Competitive LRP Application

- Know the funding priorities of the NIH Institute or Center reviewing your application
- Effectively demonstrate qualifications and commitment to research
- Thoroughly describe research environment, resources and support
- Show a strong research plan
- Provide strong reference letters
What are Reviewers Looking For?

Evaluate an applicant’s *potential to succeed* in a research career by rating:

- Applicant’s previous *training and research experience*
- Applicant’s *commitment to a research career*
- **Strength and quality** of letters of recommendation
- **Quality and appropriateness** of the research environment
- Research progress (*for Renewal applications only*)

**THESE TIPS APPLY TO ANY FELLOWSHIP, GRANT, ETC.**
Connect with an LRP Program Officer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institute/Center</th>
<th>LRP Liaison</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NCI</td>
<td>Dr. Mark Damico</td>
<td>240-276-5630</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nclrpinquiries@mail.nih.gov">nclrpinquiries@mail.nih.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEI</td>
<td>Dr. Neeraj Agarwal</td>
<td>301-451-2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:agarwalnee@mail.nih.gov">agarwalnee@mail.nih.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHLBI</td>
<td>Dr. Shilpy Dixit</td>
<td>301-402-9064</td>
<td><a href="mailto:shilpy.dixit@nih.gov">shilpy.dixit@nih.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHGRI</td>
<td>Ms. Heather Colley</td>
<td>301-402-0343</td>
<td><a href="mailto:junkinsh@mail.nih.gov">junkinsh@mail.nih.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIA</td>
<td>Dr. Sanoj Suneja</td>
<td>301-402-7710</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sunejas@mail.nih.gov">sunejas@mail.nih.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIAAA</td>
<td>Dr. Elizabeth Powell</td>
<td>301-443-0786</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Elizabeth.powell3@nih.gov">Elizabeth.powell3@nih.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIAID</td>
<td>Ms. Rausmanah Newman</td>
<td>240-669-2925</td>
<td><a href="mailto:newmanrau@niaid.nih.gov">newmanrau@niaid.nih.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIAMS</td>
<td>Dr. Melinda Nelson</td>
<td>301-435-5278</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nelson1@mail.nih.gov">nelson1@mail.nih.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIBIB</td>
<td>Dr. Joan Greve</td>
<td>301-451-6649</td>
<td><a href="mailto:joan.greve@mail.nih.gov">joan.greve@mail.nih.gov</a></td>
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LRP Ambassador Network

LRP Ambassador Program

What is the LRP Ambassador Program?
The LRP Ambassador Program is a network of former and current LRP awardees that promote the NIH LRP within their local extramural scientific community.

What does an LRP Ambassador do?
LRP Ambassadors serve as a personalized link/connection between the Division of Loan Repayment (DLR) and potential applicants at their home institutions by identifying potential eligible applicants to the LP within their institutions and sharing information about the LP with them.

Since the Ambassador Program is being updated, all ambassadors must provide their current information to gain access to the Ambassador Resources on this page that are password-protected. Click on the “Become an LRP Ambassador” button to connect to the sign-up form. Login information will be emailed to you following sign-up.

Find an LRP Ambassador
If you are an LRP applicant, you can view the Ambassador Directory to find an Ambassador at an institution near you.
If you are an Ambassador, you can use the Ambassador Directory to find other Ambassadors at an institution near you.

LRP Ambassador Resources
LRP Ambassadors can access resources here to better understand their role and to effectively conduct outreach to potential applicants. Resources include a toolkit that provides an overview of the LRP Ambassador Program and a wide array of tools: a presentation about the LP, and information about how to order print materials. This section of the page is password-protected for Ambassadors only.

View Resources
# LRP Video Tutorials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Loan Repayment Program (LRP)</th>
<th>Video</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Date Posted</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Loan Repayment Program – Extramural Application Submission</strong>[^2]</td>
<td>![Video Icon]</td>
<td>11:52</td>
<td>08/09/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This video focuses on the steps an LRP applicant will take to submit an extramural loan repayment application to NIH.</td>
<td>![Transcript Icon]</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Anchor link to distribute for video:</strong></td>
<td>![Transcript Icon]</td>
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<td><a href="https://era.nih.gov/era-training/era-videos.html#lrp-assist">https://era.nih.gov/era-training/era-videos.html#lrp-assist</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Loan Repayment Program – Submission of a Reference Letter</strong>[^2]</td>
<td>![Video Icon]</td>
<td>05:17</td>
<td>08/09/2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>This video demonstrates how a referee or recommender submits a reference letter to NIH on behalf of an LRP applicant.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Loan Repayment Program – How the Primary Mentor Submits a Reference Letter</strong>[^2]</td>
<td>![Video Icon]</td>
<td>04:05</td>
<td>08/09/2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>This video demonstrates how the primary mentor submits a reference letter on behalf of an applicant of a Loan Repayment Program (LRP) award.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Loan Repayment Program – How the Institutional Business Official Certifies an LRP Applicant</strong>[^2]</td>
<td>![Video Icon]</td>
<td>04:23</td>
<td>08/03/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This video tutorial demonstrates how an Institutional Business Official (IBO) certifies an applicant of a Loan Repayment Program (LRP) award.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Loan Repayment Program – How an Application Checks the Status of an Application Submission</strong>[^2]</td>
<td>![Video Icon]</td>
<td>05:44</td>
<td>08/24/2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>This video tutorial demonstrates how a Loan Repayment Program (LRP) applicant checks on the status of their application submission through the Status Information screen in eRA Commons. It focuses on the steps an applicant will take to review the status and various components of their LRP application.</td>
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[^2]: Video tutorial is not available for download.
Key Takeaways

- 2-year Research Commitment
- Up to $50,000/year
- Plan Ahead
- Use LRP Resources!
- Extramural LRP Application Deadline November 18, 2021

NIH Repays Your Student Loans