

Beyond GEMSSTAR

Thoughts on opportunities and hazards

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National Institutes of Health, DHHS

Three paths to think about

- Career Development – acquiring more research skills
- Research – all I need is more data...
- Organizing – There's a field to build. I can't do it alone

Riders, qualifiers, and contingency clauses

- You are not alone.
- Three paths do not necessarily mean three independent paths
- Persistence is a major virtue.

Career Development Options

Research Career Development Awards contd.

K08 — Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Award

An award for junior clinicians with little-to-moderate research training who wish to become independent clinician-scientists.

\$100k plus fringe (75% effort) \$25k a year research development

For physicians or other health-professionally trained-researchers

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-16-191.html>

Research Career Development Awards contd.

K23 – Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award \$100k salary 25k/50k research development expenses

When a physician and patient are in the same room at the same time and at least one is alive.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-16-198.html>

Beeson K76 award

- Annual RFA
- \$160k to 200k costs per year
- Annual meeting
- Primarily for physicians
- Competitive, attractive

Downsides of Career Development Awards

Money: \$100k is not enough. (The Beeson is better. For patient-oriented research you can combine a loan repayment award with a K.)

Effort: A minimum of 75% (9 person-months). I wish!

Overhead: 8%. Your Institution has to subsidize you. And we know how warm-hearted they are about that!

Research Grants

Preliminary thoughts

Working on someone else's award

Flying solo

Working as part of a team

R01 and R21

R01: You write your own budget. Five years of funding, Early Stage investigators have a 10 point advantage in the funding line.

R01: We cut your budget 18%. A lot of preliminary work needs to be done. Timing has to be right.

R01 and R21

R21: Less preparation needed – though preliminary work is still an advantage. We don't cut your budget.

R21: It is a special purpose award. There is no ESI advantage. Limited budget and time (2 years, \$275k)

Organizing

Going beyond your own research

Sometimes we need to build a field in order to move the ball

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