

K18 Review Criteria
Career Enhancement Award for Stem Cell Research
(Excerpted from Program Announcement PAR-02-069 PAGES 6-9)

The goals of NIH-supported research are to advance our understanding of biological systems, improve the control of disease, and enhance health. In the written comments, reviewers will be asked to discuss the following aspects of the application in order to judge the likelihood that the proposed training will have a substantial impact on the pursuit of these goals.

As you prepare your critique please include sections addressing each of the review criteria (detailed below) including: the applicant, the qualifications of the stem cell expert, the research training plan, the research plan, the environment and institutional commitment, the quality of the training in the responsible conduct of research, and the budget, in addition please note any issues pertaining to human subjects and animal welfare.

APPLICANT

Evidence of excellence in academic, research, and, if appropriate, clinical activities

Potential to become, or continue as, an outstanding investigator, teacher, resource person, and leader in research programs related to the mission of the appropriate NIH Institute or Center.

Quality and breadth of prior scientific training and experience

Degree and extent of previous research support and publications, considering the applicants academic level.

STEM CELL EXPERT (SPONSOR)

The stem cell expert's qualifications as well as prior experience and record of fostering academic growth and productivity

The expert's history of research productivity and peer-reviewed research support

Adequacy of active support for the proposed research project, if applicable.

RESEARCH TRAINING PLAN

Quality and feasibility of the applicants training plan, including plans after completion of the award

Relationship of the research training plan to the applicants previous research focus as well as the applicants future research plans

An assessment of the value of the proposed training experience as it relates to enhancing the applicants capabilities as an independent investigator.

RESEARCH PLAN

Scientific and technical merit of the research question, design, and methodology

Relevance of the proposed research project to the applicants own research interests

Appropriateness of the research plan to the applicants career level and as a vehicle for developing the research skills described in the career development plan.

ENVIRONMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL COMMITMENT

Adequacy of the research facilities and training opportunities for support of this award at the host institution, which may be the applicant institution, or at another institution

Clear evidence from the applicants institution that the applicant will be given sufficient release time (Program Announcement page 2 at least 50%) to complete the proposed training and research project

Level of commitment from the applicants institution in supporting the applicants future plans to use stem cells in her/his research.

TRAINING IN THE RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT OF RESEARCH

Quality of the proposed training in the responsible conduct of research that has been, or will be, completed.

BUDGET

Justification of the requested budget in both time and amount, relevant to your research career goals and interests.

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