

# NIDA Diversity Scholars Network

## A Mentoring and Grant Writing Professional Development Program

Application Deadline: **January 15, 2021**

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), [Office of Diversity and Health Disparities \(ODHD\)](#) is accepting applications for the [NIDA Diversity Scholars Network \(NDSN\) program](#). The NDSN is a competitive, rigorous, and comprehensive program aimed at enhancing the funding success of independent underrepresented early-stage investigators conducting addiction research. The NDSN program consists of two separate meetings with an interim application development period to assist scholars in applying for and receiving NIH career development awards and/or research grants.

The Part I meeting includes: research proposal feedback, discussion of relevant NIH funding mechanisms, the NIH review process, application strategies, as well as professional development presentations. **Scholars will be paired with an experienced scientist to discuss their research proposal** which will be used as the basis for their NDSN mock review grant application. **The Part I session will likely take place in June 2021, location TBD.\***

The Part II meeting includes a mock review study section, discussion with the review panel following the mock review, and additional application development presentations likely to be held in September 2021, location TBD.\*

All participants accepted to the program are required to participate in both the Part I and Part II meetings.

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- Early-stage investigators, junior faculty, clinicians, and postdoctoral fellows (with a minimum of two full years postdoc experience); applicants should be within 10 years of receipt of their terminal degree and have not been awarded an NIH R01 (or equivalent grant); previous NDSN participants are not eligible;
- Minimum of **two published first-authored peer reviewed papers within that last three years**;
- Individuals from underrepresented backgrounds; individuals with disabilities; and individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds are encouraged to apply; though all individuals are eligible to participate; and
- Applicants should be positioned to submit an NIH Research Grant or Mentored Career Development Award application within 6 months of program participation.

### APPLICATION COMPONENTS:

The following application components should be submitted in **Word format and emailed by midnight (local time) on or before January 15, 2021** to Dr. Albert Avila ([aavila@nida.nih.gov](mailto:aavila@nida.nih.gov)):

- Full Curriculum Vitae (include past/current funding support, previous unfunded grant application info);
- Personal Statement (eligibility, motivation to participate in NDSN, current/past professional grant training);
- Specific Aims Page of prospective NIH grant research proposal (1 pg. max.);
- Research concept proposal for prospective NIH grant (5 pgs. max.), grant mechanism; **research must be directly relevant to the [NIDA mission](#)**, (a detailed grant proposal will be required prior to the Part I meeting); and
- E-mail subject line should include: 2021 NIDA Diversity Scholars Network Application.


### APPLICATION DEADLINE: **Midnight (local time), on or before January 15, 2021**

Applicants will be notified of their acceptance status by February 12, 2021. NIDA will provide travel awards for selected scholars including: round-trip airfare, two nights lodging, per diem, and ground transportation for both meetings, unless the meetings become virtual.\*

\*Travel accommodations, meeting dates, and location depend on the meeting format. As more information regarding COVID-19 and travel guidelines become available, updated program information will be shared with all participants.

### For additional information contact:

Albert Avila, Ph.D.

 301-496-8804; [aavila@nida.nih.gov](mailto:aavila@nida.nih.gov)

National Institute on Drug Abuse, NIH/DHHS

Director, Office of Diversity and Health Disparities