



Request for Applications

Career Development Program for Early Career Faculty

Center for Clinical & Translational Science K12 Program

Informational Meetings: Monday, August 31 12-1PM and Wednesday,

September 2, 2026, 5-6PM via Teams

Applications due: Wednesday, October 7, 2026, 5PM

The University of Kentucky Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS) is accepting applications for positions supported by the NIH Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) K12 Career Development Program. The K12 program supports early-career faculty who are committed to developing independent academic careers in clinical and translational science. Through structured mentorship, individualized career development, protected research time, specialized training, and access to institutional resources, the K12 program equips early-career investigators with the skills, experience, and professional networks needed to achieve research independence and long-term success in clinical and translational science. Early-career faculty from any University of Kentucky college are eligible to apply. Available positions will begin no later than November 1, 2026. Applicants must meet NIH eligibility requirements for career development support.

The K12 Career Development Program requires 75% protected time for research/career development and provides annual salary support up to a maximum of \$110,000 per year plus benefits for the required effort. An additional \$30,000 in funds will be provided for research personnel, supplies, materials for course work (\$27,500), and travel (\$2,500) to present at appropriate research conferences, as they pertain to the proposed research and career development. Support will be provided for two years.

Eligibility: Candidates for these positions must have a terminal professional degree, such as an MD, DMD, PsyD, PharmD, or PhD. Individuals who were, or currently are, the Principal Investigator (PI) on NIH R01, R29, P01, K01, K08, K22 and K23 awards (or equivalent) are not eligible. Candidates must have a faculty appointment and commit 75% effort to research and career development (certain surgical subspecialties reduce to 50% effort to maintain procedural skill levels). Candidates who currently have pending R01, K01, K08 and K23 applications are encouraged to contact Dr. Victoria King (Vicky.king@uky.edu) to discuss eligibility for this award.

To be eligible for K12 support, candidates must meet NIH K12 Career Development eligibility requirements, which include being either a US citizen, non-citizen national or have permanent residency in the US (**proof of residency status is required**). Individuals who have a pending PHS career development award equivalent to this application are not eligible.

Application Process:

Complete the [electronic application form](#). All documents listed below must be uploaded into the application form as a single PDF file. The research, career development and mentoring plan should be completed using Arial font, size 11. **Completed applications must be submitted electronically no later than Wednesday, October 7, 2026, 5PM.**

1) Cover letter

2) NIH biosketch of the applicant.

3) NIH biosketches of the mentors.

4) Candidates' Career Goals and Objectives: (1 Page) A clear concise description of the candidate's short- and long-term career goals and objectives. A description of how this award fits into the candidates past and future research career development. Describe the specific areas where you need additional training to achieve these goals.

5) Career Development Plan: (3 Pages) The career development plan should be consistent with the candidate's career goals and prior research experience. A description of research skills and knowledge the candidate will acquire because of this award and how this training enhances the proposed research plan and candidate's career goals. If didactic course work and workshops are included in the career development plan, please describe them. Applicants are encouraged to consider courses in clinical and translational science offered at the University of Kentucky (see Center for Clinical and Translational Science website:

<https://www.ccts.uky.edu/education-training/clinical-and-translational-science-degree-programs>). **Please include a Research and Training Timeline.**

6) Mentoring Plan: (2 Pages – plus mentor letters of support) This document should describe a detailed mentoring plan including a description of how each mentor will contribute to the career development of the candidate. The mentoring plan should also include a description of how each member of the mentoring team will monitor the progress of the candidate. A letter of support from each member of the mentoring team committing to the career development of the candidate should be included in this section and should address the previous mentoring training and experience of the mentor.

7) Research Plan: (5 Pages) This should describe the clinical and/or translational research/science project. The project should be consistent with the applicant's level of research development as well as the objectives of the applicant's career development plan.

The research plan should include:

- specific aims of the research project (1 page)
- significance of the research
- innovative aspects of the research
- a description of the translational science relevance of your proposed research (<https://ncats.nih.gov/about/about-translational-science>)
- preliminary data (if any – not required)
- experimental approach
- anticipated outcomes
- possible limitations of the approach and potential alternatives if the research does not proceed according to plan
- future directions of the project

8) Budget: (1 Page) A detailed budget and justification for research personnel, equipment, supplies and patient care costs needed to complete the proposed research and funds to support materials required for course work. The K12 grant provides \$27,500 per year for this purpose and \$2,500 for travel. If research project costs exceed \$27,500 per year, please identify an alternative source(s) of funding that will be available to support the proposed research.

9) Letter from your Department Chair/Division Chief submitted on department letterhead with signature guaranteeing 75% protected research and career development time.
Informational Meeting: We will have an informational meeting on **Monday, August 31, 2026 12-1PM and Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 5-6PM, links provided below**, for those interested in applying to the career development program. We will provide information on the format of the grant application and the review process as well as address any additional questions about the program, application and review process.

Monday, August 31, 2026 12-1PM:

Join: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/28871379489209?p=XW0QwjxEjQsgt7d0P7>

Meeting ID: 288 713 794 892 09

Passcode: e9Mp6H4p

Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 5-6PM:

Join: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/229769410445528?p=sSb7pgSXjPQC5tv0oJ>

Meeting ID: 229 769 410 445 528

Passcode: Jy9nh3AX

Review: Applications will be reviewed by the Faculty Oversight Committee. Applicants with the most meritorious scores will be invited to present their application and interview with several members of the Executive Committee.

Questions concerning the Career Development Program should be directed to Dr. Victoria L. King, CCTS Career Development Director, at vicky.king@uky.edu or 859-218-6167.