

# UC San Diego

## Altman Clinical and Translational Research Institute

### Call for Concept Proposals: New Linked Training Grant Opportunities

The ACTRI invites faculty to propose concepts for new **linked R25 training grant opportunity** that will complement the ACTRI's Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) application. This training grant is submitted as a separate grant, and will be independently scored from the ACTRI's UM1 and K12 grants. UCSD is allowed to submit only one R25 application. ACTRI intends to develop one concept submission into an NCATS R25 application, which can be submitted in May 2025. However, the R25 submission date may be delayed depending on the funding score of our UM1 CTSA grant.

**The R25 concept submission (details below) is due at 5 p.m., September 30, 2024.**

#### **Description of the R25 Opportunity from NIH**

**R25 Clinical and Translational Science (CTS) research education grants with a maximum annual budget of \$100k per year up to a maximum of 5 years.**

**Link to funding opportunity announcement (FOA): <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-21-339.html> Please note that an updated NCATS R25 FOA will be distributed to applicants once it is posted by NCATS.**

The NIH Research Education Program (R25) aims to enhance formal training programs in biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research through research experiences. The main goals are to:

1. Enhance workforce training in biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research.
2. Encourage diverse individuals, including underrepresented groups, to pursue research careers.
3. Recruit individuals with specific expertise to research careers in these fields.
4. Foster a better understanding of these research areas and their implications.

Research experiences are expected to be relevant to NCATS mission of studying translation on a system-wide level, agnostic to a specific disease, to better understand the scientific and operational principles underlying each step of the translational process. The goal is not to focus on specific diseases, but on what is common among them and the translational science process.

Proposed research experiences should involve an innovative approach to provide hands-on exposure to clinical and translational science research in a laboratory or a field setting for a full-time (40 hours per week) period of 10 to 15 weeks in order to stimulate the interest and advance the knowledge base of participants to consider further education and training for future careers as clinical and translational science researchers. The proposed programs should offer research experiences that are not available through formal NIH training mechanisms. Specifically:

- **Undergraduates:** Reinforce interest in clinical and translational science.
- **Postdoctoral Fellows and Medical Residents:** Extend skills for clinical and translational science research.
- **Junior Faculty:** Enhance research skills through collaboration with senior faculty.

#### **Application Components and Requirements:**

**Eligible applicants:** Faculty member at UCSD or an ACTRI partner institution

**How to Apply:** Submit your application by email to [ACTRI-Education@health.ucsd.edu](mailto:ACTRI-Education@health.ucsd.edu), no later than 5 p.m., September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**1. A 3-page concept document with the following sections:**

- a) Proposed Research Education Program Plan, including proposed Research Experiences
- b) Proposed Program Duration (3-5 years)
- c) Program Leadership and Faculty
- d) Proposed Participants (Trainees/Scholar Population)
- e) Relevance to Clinical and Translational Science (CTS)
- f) Relevance to ACTRI

**2. Biosketches from the PI or MPIs**

**Next Steps and Timeline:**

**1. R25 Concept Submission (Due at 5 p.m., September 30, 2024)**

**2. Interview meeting with top scoring applications (TBD)**

After receipt and internal review of the R25 applications, the ACTRI leadership team we will meet with the PIs of the top selected applications to discuss the proposal. Following this, we will select which application to submit.

**3. Collaboration with ACTRI grant writing and finance/business teams to submit application (October 2024 through submission in May 2025)**

**Questions?** For questions or consultation regarding this opportunity, please contact [ACTRI-Education@health.ucsd.edu](mailto:ACTRI-Education@health.ucsd.edu)

**Additional Opportunity:** NCATS also offers opportunities for both pre- and post-doctoral T32 programs (e.g., <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-21-338.html>). Given the current fiscal challenges in supporting T32 programs at UCSD, we are unsure of the viability of pursuing these opportunities and there is no formal call for applications at this time. That said, we would like to understand if there are PIs with ideas for T32 programs that respond to the NCATS opportunity. Should you be interested in discussing, please reach out to Colin Depp (cdepp@health.ucsd.edu).