

To: UC San Diego Health Sciences Faculty, School of Engineering, UCSD Campus Faculty
From: Adriana Tremoulet, MD, MAS; Colin Depp, PhD and UC San Diego Altman Clinical and Translational Research Institute (ACTRI)
Subject: UC San Diego ACTRI Invites Applications for a program to support research/training grant resubmission for under-represented minority scholars

Dear Colleagues,

UC San Diego Altman Clinical and Translational Research Institute (ACTRI) is pleased to provide our Career Development program for under-represented faculty at UCSD, SUSTAIN (**S**ustaining **U**nder-represented **S**cholars in **T**ranslational **A**nd **I**nterdisciplinary **N**etworks). This retention-focused, institutionally-supported program is intended to support under-represented minority (URM) faculty members in submitting successful resubmissions of NIH K or R grant applications (or equivalent). The SUSTAIN program's goal is to increase the likelihood of successful proposal resubmission by providing up to 1-2 years of protected time, grant writing training, and linkage to didactic, mentorship, and other resources customized to the applicant.

The SUSTAIN program provides 1-2 years of support at 50% of full-time salary (up to \$60,000), which must be matched by the department and confirmed in a letter from the candidate's Department Chair. The combined effort must enable a total of at least 75% research effort.

In this program, applicants must meet the following Eligibility Criteria:

1. Applicants must have already applied for a NIH K or R award (or equivalent such as a VA CDA or Merit award) and received a summary statement but did not meet the funding payline.
2. Applicants must be planning to resubmit the grant within 1 year (or submit a new grant in 1 year that is either an NIH K, KL2, R or equivalent).
3. The program is intended for faculty members who meet a, b or c:
 - a. Identify as URM (see UC San Diego Health Sciences definition) <https://medschool.ucsd.edu/vchs/faculty-academics/faculty-affairs/Resources/Pages/helpful-links.aspx>
 - b. Identify [as a person from a disadvantaged background](https://extramural-diversity.nih.gov/diversity-matters/disadvantaged-backgrounds) as defined by NIH criteria <https://extramural-diversity.nih.gov/diversity-matters/disadvantaged-backgrounds>
 - c. Identify as a person having a disability as defined by NIH criteria: <https://extramural-diversity.nih.gov/diversity-matters/individuals-with-disabilities>
4. Applicants must be a currently appointed faculty member in any academic series (or appointed at the start of SUSTAIN funding).
5. The period of support will begin in late Winter 2024 and cannot exceed 1-2 years of funding.

APPLICATION DEADLINE AND TIMELINE:

September 1st, 2023

Note: Eligible applicants who submit to the KL2 call for applications (see [Eligibility Information \(ucsd.edu\)](#)) do not need to submit a separate application for this SUSTAIN opportunity. Eligible KL2 applicant candidates will be invited to opt-in to the SUSTAIN program and will then be considered without having to submit specifically for this opportunity.

Our goal is to notify applicants by late November. Criteria for selection focuses on research promise and likelihood of successful resubmission. Start dates for the award are flexible and would be as early as late winter. Each application will be reviewed by ACTRI education leadership and ad-hoc reviewers selected based on scientific content expertise.

For detailed information about the program, eligibility and the application process, please visit [https://actri.ucsd.edu/centers-services/portfolio/education/index.html#SUSTAIN-\(Supporting-Under-repre](https://actri.ucsd.edu/centers-services/portfolio/education/index.html#SUSTAIN-(Supporting-Under-repre).

For any questions about the program, please contact ACTRI-Education@health.ucsd.edu, including also Adriana Tremoulet (atremoulet@health.ucsd.edu) and Colin Depp (cdepp@health.ucsd.edu).