

The NINDS R25 for residents and
fellows in Neurology, Neurosurgery,
Neuropathology, Neuroradiology and
Emergency Medicine

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Stephen Korn, Ph.D.

Director, NINDS Office of Training, Career
Development and Workforce Diversity

Designed to accomplish the following

To keep and/or get clinicians involved in research during residency, and continue into fellowship, to reduce the energy barrier for (re)-entry into research and facilitate getting to a K award

Should also reduce the time from end of residency to K award

Goal of this R25

1. Provide funding for research during residency and fellowship years.
2. The R25 mandate on the grant PIs and departments is to educate/train the R25 participants adequately to enable them to successfully compete for K awards by shortly after the end of the R25 period.

Who can get a parent R25?

- One R25 per residency program
- Must be housed in Neurology, Neurosurgery or Pathology (for neuro only)
- Multiple Residencies in an institution can apply together or separately

Who can be supported?

1. Residents who will spend 6 - 12 months doing research at 80% effort
2. All those who spend a minimum of 6 months during residency will be funded for up to an additional 18 months during residency or fellowship
3. Maximum of 2 years of support

Logistics of Award

1. Parent R25, obtained through the peer review system, is “a license” to request funding for specific residents
2. Funding for specific residents is obtained by administrative supplement requests
3. 3 page supplement application written by resident, letter of support from mentor

Logistics of Award cont.

4. Supplement applications are reviewed administratively
5. Review is rigorous, multiple reviewers evaluate independently, only the best applications funded
6. Reviewers looking at candidate, project, mentor, training plan, evidence for likely success

Logistics of Award cont.

7. Funds provided for salary, fringe, travel to meeting
8. Attendance at NINDS-sponsored workshop required
9. Those supported can transfer from one R25 program to another

Some Data

25 programs currently funded

3 RFAs initiated funding of 3 batches of programs over a 4 year period

A PAR is now available for renewals and new applications

In 6 years (July 2009-2014)

Total residents supported:	134
Neurologists	72
Neurosurgeons:	46
Pediatric Neurol.:	11
Neuropathologists:	5

Supported two years:	59
Neurologists:	49
Neurosurgeons:	7
Neuropathologists:	3

moved from one R25 to another: 3

Supplement application success rate

1st year

Neurologist: 66%

Neurosurgeon: 57%

2nd year of support: 100% minus 1 individual

Too soon to evaluate outcome

21 Neurology residents/fellows have “finished” the R25 period

10 have applied for K awards so far
5 have gotten K awards so far

It's too soon to evaluate this R25 program based on success in obtaining K award funding (the primary metric we care about)

We expect to be able to evaluate this after the first two grant cycles (9 years)

Anecdotal information

Many PIs (who are mostly Chairs) have expressed great satisfaction with the program

Several PIs have indicated that a by-product of the R25 is to increase “friendly” competition among residents – has increased the quality of their performance, even outside of research

The quality of the supplement applications has increased dramatically over time

An added tool to promote research success of clinician-scientists

Funding for serious research during residency
and fellowship

Active oversight of mentoring and facilitation
of research success at a departmental level

A requirement that residents (and their
mentors) formulate a clear long-term research
plan in advance of starting research

Ultimate goal is to have more successful
clinician-researchers

Constantly soliciting PI input regarding
what will make this program more
successful