

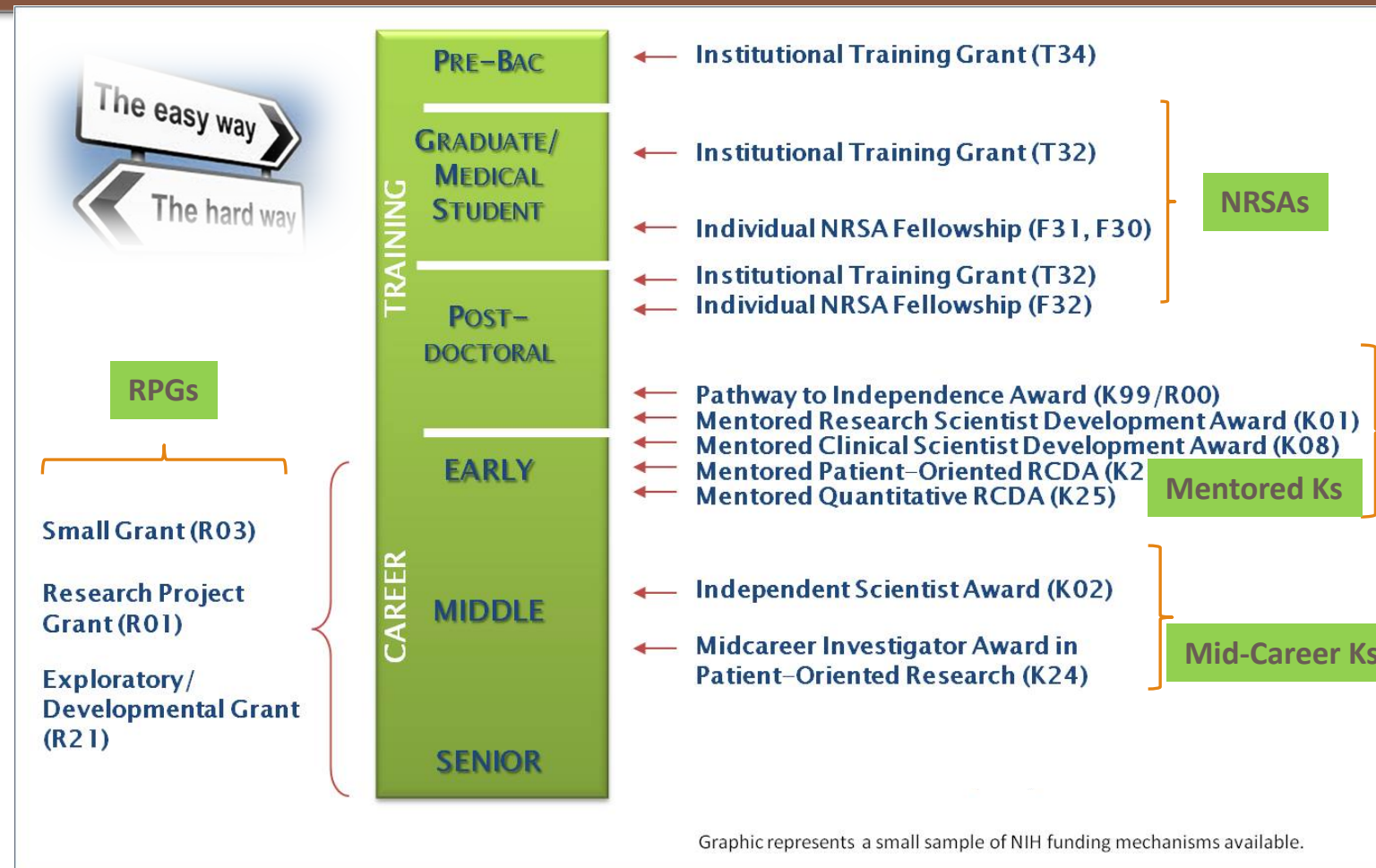


# Strategies for Funding a Career

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# Award Programs by Career Stage



# Prepare Early for a Postdoctoral Position

Start your active search about a year before graduating

## **Stay aware of deadlines**

Plan manuscript submission dates with your search in mind

## **Work towards earning a strong recommendation from your mentor**

Collect papers you like and profile the authors

## **Cultivate relationships and find outside collaborators**

Identify new skills you would like to acquire

## **Meet prospective PIs via campus speakers, conferences**

Check out prospective mentors via NIH RePORTER, PubMed, institutional websites

## **Get in the habit early of looking for openings**

Call an NIH Program Official (PO)

If you are planning to apply for a postdoctoral training grant or career award,  
**ASK IF YOU MAY COLLECT PRELIMINARY DATA** and take it with you.

# NIH Postdoctoral Training

## What Mechanism is Right for You?

### **NRSA Postdoctoral Fellowship (F32)**

- You need more training
- You need more publications

### **Transition to Independence Award (K99/R00)**

- You are within 4 years since your doctorate
- You only need 2 years of mentored training
- Your institution will guarantee you at least 75% protected time for research
- You will be ready to start your research career
- You are a US citizen or not, with sufficient visa time

### **Mentored Career Award**

- You want 3-5 years of mentored training
- Your institution will guarantee you at least 75% protected time for research
- You will be ready to apply for a research grant by the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> year of the award
- Your university will allow you to apply for an R01 grant during the award period

# NIH – Loan Repayment Programs – LRPs

- U.S. citizen, U.S. national or permanent resident
- Up to \$50k/year in educational loan repayment for mission-relevant research
- 1 year, then competitive renewal for 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> yr
- ~ 1,600 researchers funded yearly
- ~50% application success rate (budget varies yearly)
- **Clinical Research\***
- Clinical Research for Individuals from Disadvantaged Backgrounds
- **Pediatric Research\***
- **Health Disparities Research\***
- Contraception and Infertility Research

**\*NIDA LRP Programs**

National Institutes of Health, Division of Loan Repayment  
<http://www.lrp.nih.gov/eligibility-programs>

# What is NIDA LRP Qualifying Research?

## Clinical Research

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### Patient-Oriented Research

Using human subjects (**direct contact**).

Investigating causes and consequences of diseases involving material of human origin.

- investigator or colleague **directly interacts with human subjects** to collect information/data.

Epidemiologic or behavioral studies, outcomes research or health services research, or developing new technologies, therapeutic interventions, or clinical trials.

Generally, basic research does not qualify for the Clinical LRP.

### Pediatric Research

Research that is directly related to diseases, disorders, and other conditions in children, including pediatric pharmacology.

For Pediatric Research, using animal models is allowed.

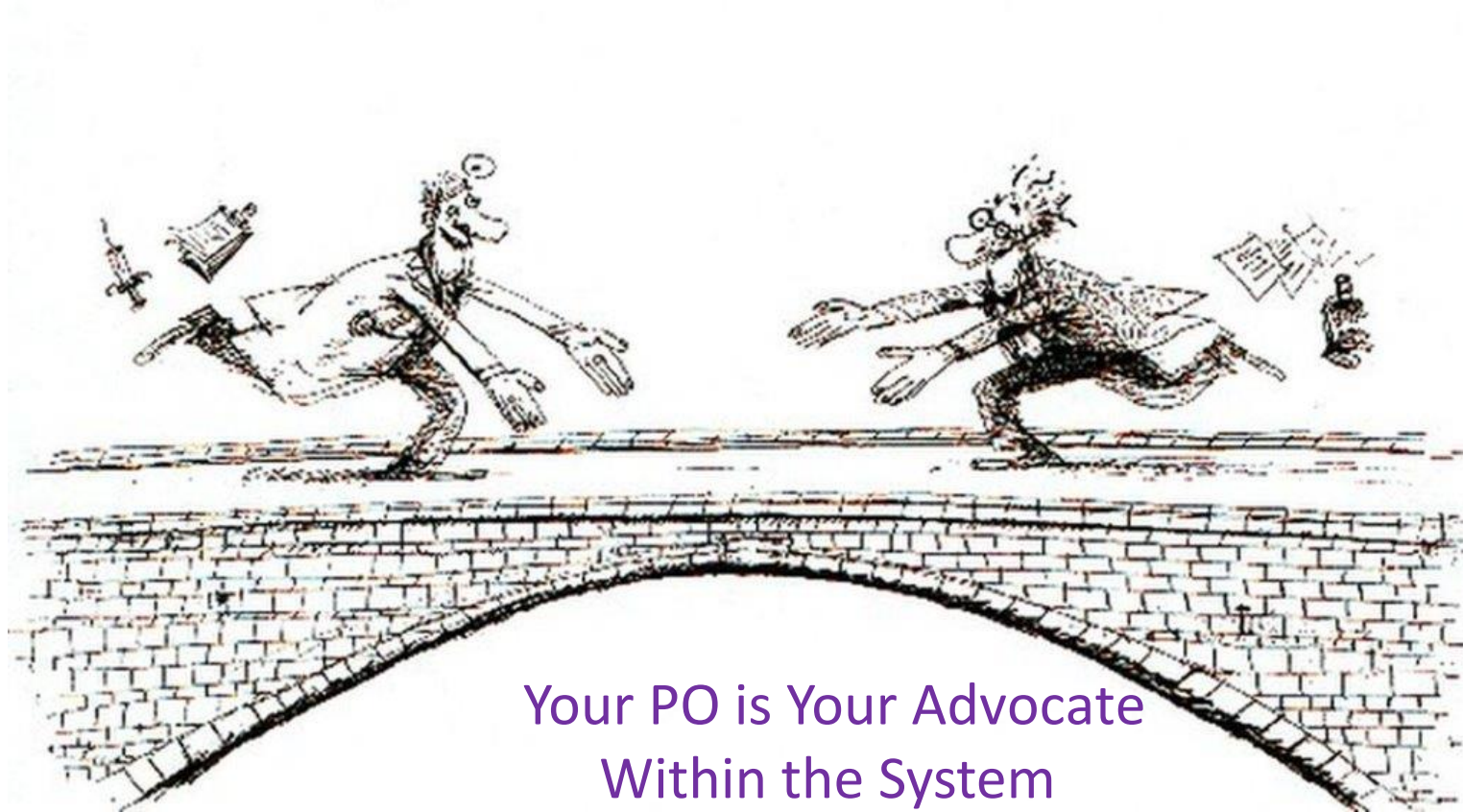
# Who Can I talk to at NIH?



- Ask your mentor for a referral to an NIH Program Official – PO.
- Call the contact for a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA).
- Study the NIH organizational charts.
- E-mail an NIH Training Contact.

# PI and PO

## Best Friends Forever



Your PO is Your Advocate  
Within the System

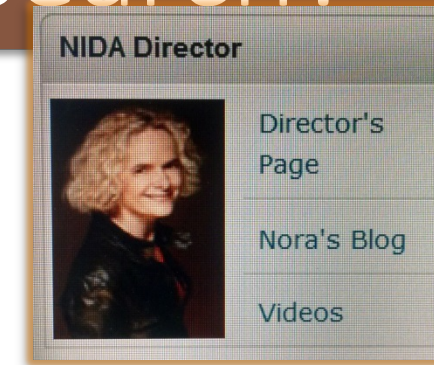
Call Your PO Early and Often

# Is NIDA Interested in My Research?

Read the Director's Page:

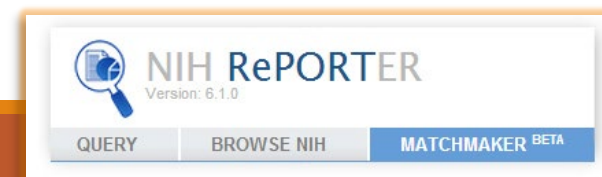
Review the Mission:

NIDA's mission is to lead the Nation in bringing the power of science to bear on drug abuse and addiction.



Study the Strategic Plans: Current plans can be found at <http://www.report.nih.gov/strategicplans/index.aspx>  
**Look for the 2016 – 2020 plan for NIDA.**

See Who Funds Your Research Area: which Institute, which Program Announcements, which Division?  
**Search PubMed and the NIH RePorter.**



# How Can I Learn About New Funding Opportunities?

Never miss another RFA!

## NIH Guide Listserv

- Send e-mail to [listserv@list.nih.gov](mailto:listserv@list.nih.gov) with the following text in the message body (not the "Subject" line):
- subscribe NIHTOC-L *your name* (Example: *subscribe NIHTOC-L Quinn Jones*)

## NIDA Listserv

- Send e-mail to [listserv@list.nih.gov](mailto:listserv@list.nih.gov) with the following text in the message body (**AND** the "Subject" line):
- SUBSCRIBE NIDA\_NEURO\_SCIENCE-L

# NIH Tools to Help Find a Mentor/Program

**NIH Reporter:** <https://projectreporter.nih.gov/reporter.cfm>

- Who is doing what where?
- Are they funded?
- Are they working in my research topic area?
- Where are there institutional training grants?
- Who has research centers?
- Which institutions have Medical Scientist Training Programs (NIGMS-T32)?

**PubMed:**

- What have they published lately?
- Which authors might be among their current or past trainees?
- How are their trainees publishing?