April 18, 2017

Information for Applicants for the Child Neurologist Career Development Program (CNCDP-K12) beginning July 1, 2018

Letter of Intent Due: June 1, 2017; A two-page letter of intent from the applicant stating his/her intent to apply, date of completion of clinical training, the name of the institution and mentor, title of the proposal, brief career development plan and Specific Aims (see detailed instructions below).

Final Applications from Invited Candidates Due: August 15, 2017

Apply on-line on the www.CNCDP-K12 website

CMCDP-K12 Office Information: Gonzalezj@kennedykrieger.org

Goal of the Program: The overarching goal of the program is to train talented young child neurologists with a strong interest in research how to become productive in their chosen field and publish outstanding scientific papers that will make a national and international impact on the field. The scholars will learn how to become independent scientifically and will also become careful researchers who will follow the basic principles needed to produce science that is valid, ethical, transparent, and reproducible. They will also learn how to compete successfully to achieve funding by NIH and other agencies so that they can support a long term, independent research career during which they can become outstanding mentors themselves.

Eligibility for the CNCDP-K12 Award: This career development award is intended for pediatric neurologists who seek a three year period of intensive, clinically relevant basic and/or patient-oriented research after completion of clinical training. Candidates must be less than 5 years out from the completion of clinical training at the time of application but very highly qualified candidates who are further out will be considered on a case by case basis. Candidates must have an appointment as an Instructor or Assistant Professor in an academically oriented department of Neurology and/or Pediatric Neurology in the United States which is capable of providing mentorship by outstanding research mentors in medical educational and research institutions with well-established research infrastructure. Unlike the NSADA (Neurological Sciences Academic Development Award) which this CNCDP-K12 replaces, training in the CNCDP program can take place at any qualified institution, rather than at a small number of pre-approved institutions.

The CNCDP-K12 program will recruit applications from eligible candidates and institutions, and selected scholars will proceed with their career development and research plan at their home institution, with a local mentor or mentoring team. Candidates will also have the option of moving to another institution for the period of research training, and this relationship must be explained both in the candidate’s research plan and the mentor’s section. An active program for recruitment of minority applicants has been developed.

Scholars who are accepted into the program will have the opportunity to participate in an active mentoring program aimed at fostering their scientific progress. They will have the benefit of periodic on-site and web-based mentoring sessions from members of the SAC and program
staff. All new scholars will have a live site visit by a member of the SAC and/or program staff to the scholar's institution within the first three months after award. The visitor will meet with the scholars and local mentors, visit laboratories and other research facilities and meet with the department chair to confirm in writing that 75% time will be available for research throughout the 3 years of the program.

Scholars will also attend mandatory annual CNCDP-K12 retreats to present their research before an audience of fellow scholars, mentors, members of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and program and NIH staff. These sessions will also include keynote talks by successful clinician-scientists, as well as didactic talks on research ethics, diversity in the child neurology research community and rigor, transparency and biostatistics and experimental design. Scholars in the remaining positions in the NSADA program will join the CNCDP-K12 scholars in the yearly retreats and other joint activities.

Budget: The award will provide salary up to up to $85,000/year for 75% effort per year plus fringe benefits and $38,000 per year for research related expenses including travel for a total of 3 years. The indirect rate is 8%. Funds are provided through a subcontract with the CNCDP-K12 program office.

Child Neurologists wishing to apply for the award beginning July 1st 2018, must submit a Letter of Intent Due by June 1, 2017, a two page letter of intent from the applicant should include a 1 page statement of intent to apply (including the title of the proposal, date of completion of clinical training, name of the institution and mentor for the CNCDP project, and brief career development plan), and a 1 page preliminary Specific Aims for the proposed project. If the candidate has previously submitted an application to the CNCDP for a similar project, please identify the ways in which the application has been changed/strengthened since the prior submission. NIH format Bio sketches from the candidate and mentor are also required. All documents (2 page letter of intent and biosketches) should be merged into a single PDF and submitted as one document on the CNCDP-K12 website at www.CNCDP-K12. Following review of the LOIs by the National Advisory Executive Committee, successful candidates will be invited to submit a complete Final Application. All candidates must be United States citizens or permanent resident with a green card at the time of submission of the application on August 15, 2017. Candidates who submit letters of Intent can view Instructions online for submitting a full application, and can find the application.

Live Interviews on Tuesday October 3 at the Child Neurology Society Meeting in Kansas City, MO: Applications submitted by August 15, 2017 will be screened to determine if the applicant is eligible for the program, and all applicants will be notified of this decision. Candidates who pass the screening will be invited to travel to Kansas City, MO to the Child Neurology Society meeting to attend required live interviews with members of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) of the CNCDP-K12 on Tuesday October 3, 2017. The members of the CNCDP Steering Committee, SAC and Counselors are listed below. Care will be taken to have interviews conducted so that there is no conflict of interest present, for example the candidate’s previous chair’s, training directors or research mentors will be excluded. The CNCDP-K12 program office will provide partial support for travel and hotel expenses for candidates to attend the interviews in Kansas City, but the exact amount has not been determined. The candidate’s sponsoring institution will be expected to provide travel support not provided by this program.
**Members of the CNCDP Steering Committee:** Michael V. Johnston, MD, PI and Director; Amy Brooks-Kayal, MD, Co-Director; Barry Kosofsky, MD, PhD, Co-Director; Erika Augustine, MD, Diversity Officer. (Members of the steering committee will not vote on the selection of the candidates to be funded, but may interview candidates)

**Members of the CNCDP Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and Counselors:** Heather J. Fullerton, MD, MAS; Jonathan W. Mink, MD, PhD; Brenda Porter, MD, PhD; Bradley L. Schlaggar, MD, PhD; Nicole Calakos, MD, PhD; William T. Dauer, MD; J. Michael Dean, MD, MBA; William D. Gaillard, MD; Karen C. Johnston, MD, MSC; Scott L. Pomeroy, MD, PhD; Michael B. Robinson, PhD; Carl E. Stafstrom, MD, PhD; Kevin J. Staley, MD; David G. Standaert, MD, PhD; Huda Zoghbi, MD; William B. Dobyns, MD; Solomon L. Moshe, MD; Jack Parent, MD, PhD; Gihan Tennekoon, MD. (Members of the SAC and Counselors may interview candidates and vote on funding of candidates at meetings of the SAC. Counselors are alternate members of the SAC.)

**Key Features of the CNCDP-K12:** [www.CNCDP-K12](http://www.CNCDP-K12)

- Scholars will be appointed to the faculty of their institution.
- A minimum of 75% of the scholar’s time must be protected for research;
- Budget includes salary up to $85,000 per year plus fringe benefits and $38,000 per year for research related expenses including travel for a total of 3 years. Indirect rate is 8%. Funds are provided through a subcontract with the CNCDP-K12 program office
- The goal of the program is for the scholar to undertake a significant research project that can be coordinated with the scholar’s clinical activity and prepares the scholar for an individual career development award such as a K08 or similar award; The research project must fit in with the NINDS mission: to seek fundamental knowledge about the brain and nervous system and to use that knowledge to reduce the burden of neurological disease.
- Continued funding is dependent on the scholar’s progress and support can be withdrawn if progress is not satisfactory;
- Candidates must gain a comprehensive appreciation of the principles of experimental design, statistics, and scientific rigor as presented in [http://www.ninds.nih.gov/funding/transparency_in-reporting_guidance.pdf](http://www.ninds.nih.gov/funding/transparency_in-reporting_guidance.pdf);
- Scholars must receive all required education and certification for use of animals in research and/or human subjects as appropriate to their research project, to be provided by the home institution.
- Scholars will be expected to write a K award to be submitted for funding before or within 6 months of the end of their third year of CNCDP-K12 research support.
- Assuming scholars have been productive and competed for federal research support, institutions will be required to support a minimum of 50% protected research time for up to 18 months after the end of CNCDP-K12 funding to enable scholars to resubmit a K08 or K23 award application if necessary.