

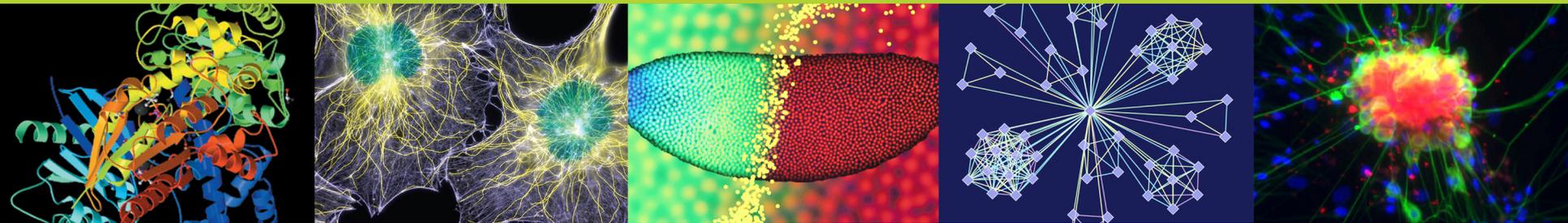


National Institute of
General Medical Sciences



NIGMS Postdoctoral Research Associate (PRAT) Program

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A Brief History

- Pharmacology Research Associate (PRAT) Program established in 1965 as NIGMS' only intramural activity
- In 2012 was renamed Postdoctoral Research Associate Program to reflect broader research areas
- Supports between 15-17 fellows annually in intramural NIH and FDA labs; currently provides 3 years of training
- Many successes: Alumni are leaders in academia, industry, and government, including 1 Nobel laureate

Increase Visibility of PRAT Program

- Potential postdoctoral fellows outside of NIH
- NIH intramural scientists
- Communications plan for NIH grantees and intramural community in progress

NIGMS PRAT Goals

- Provide outstanding training in the areas of basic biomedical research that NIGMS supports
- Provide intensive career development opportunities
- Train fellows for leadership positions in academia, government, and industry
- Select an outstanding and diverse group of fellows through a highly competitive application, review, and selection process

PRAT Program Components

Three year program providing:

- Outstanding laboratory experience
- Access to extensive NIH resources – facilities, expertise, collaborations
- Personal mentorship
- Extensive career development activities
- Networking
- Possibility of short-term placement in non-lab setting

NIGMS Postdoctoral Research Associate (PRAT) program - Eligibility

- **Scientific focus** – All research areas supported by NIGMS**
- **Career stage** – Early postdoctoral career; apply before coming to NIH or no more than 24 months at NIH at time appointed to PRAT program
- **Application** - Identify an NIH research mentor and write proposal (NIH FI2 application, similar to NIH F32)**
- **Citizenship** - US citizens and permanent residents

NIGMS Research Areas

- Cell biology
- Biophysics
- Genetics
- Developmental biology
- Pharmacology
- Neuroscience
- Physiology
- Biological chemistry
- Immunology
- Computational biology
- Technology development
- Bioinformatics

Studies employing model organisms are encouraged.

Enhance Professional Development

- Promote leadership development through defined curriculum and opportunities to take on leadership roles
- Deliver oral presentations to broad scientific audiences
- Invite and host outside speakers
- Individualized career planning
 - On case-by-case basis, facilitate job shadowing or more formal experiences

Additional Benefits of Structured Training Programs

- Additional mentoring
- Inclusion in a community of scholars
- Peer network
- Communicating with others in aligned and diverse disciplines
- Confidence
- Credibility

NIGMS Postdoctoral Research Associate (PRAT) program – 2015 Recruitment

- Applications accepted February 17-March 17, 2015 for fall 2015 start (
[http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/ PAR-15-094.html](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-15-094.html))
- NIGMS provides position, stipend, benefits, and travel allowance for three years
- ITRA appointment for duration of PRAT fellowship
- Questions – badgerje@mail.nih.gov
- <http://www.nigms.nih.gov/Training/Pages/PRAT.aspx>

NIGMS PRAT program 50th Anniversary

1965-2015

Scientific Symposium to be held
November 6, 2015 (Natcher)

