

DPI Outreach to Outstanding Research Scholars (DOORS) Pre-application Webinar

Belen Hurle, Ph.D., NCATS Director, Intramural Translational Training

Evelyn Kimbrough, Ph.D., AAAS S&T Policy Fellow

Valentine Courouble, Ph.D., Postdoc IRTA

Justine Noel, Ph.D., TSIF Fellow

January 6, 2026, 1:00 p.m. EST



10,000

Diseases



and only

5%

Have Treatments or Cures



Time from early
development to the
medicine cabinet takes
10-15 years.

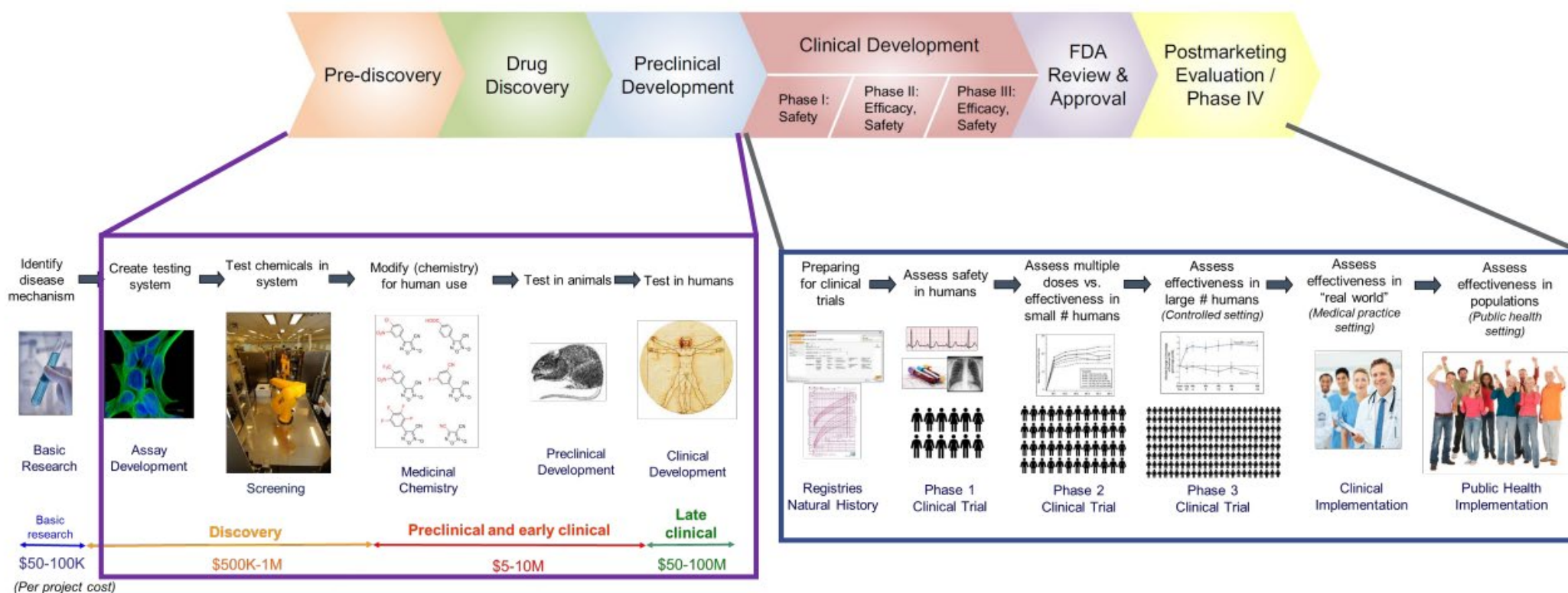
9 out of 10

Promising therapeutic candidates
that enter clinical trials fail.



National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

Translational Science is the field that generates scientific and operational innovations that overcome longstanding challenges along the translational research pipeline.



Division of Preclinical Innovation (DPI)

We are **NCATS**.

We are **intramural**.

We are **unique**.

We **are** unafraid of
taking risks

Intramural

We have **stable resources and workforce**

We can be **flexible, nimble, responsive**

We have **the obligation to do high-risk science**

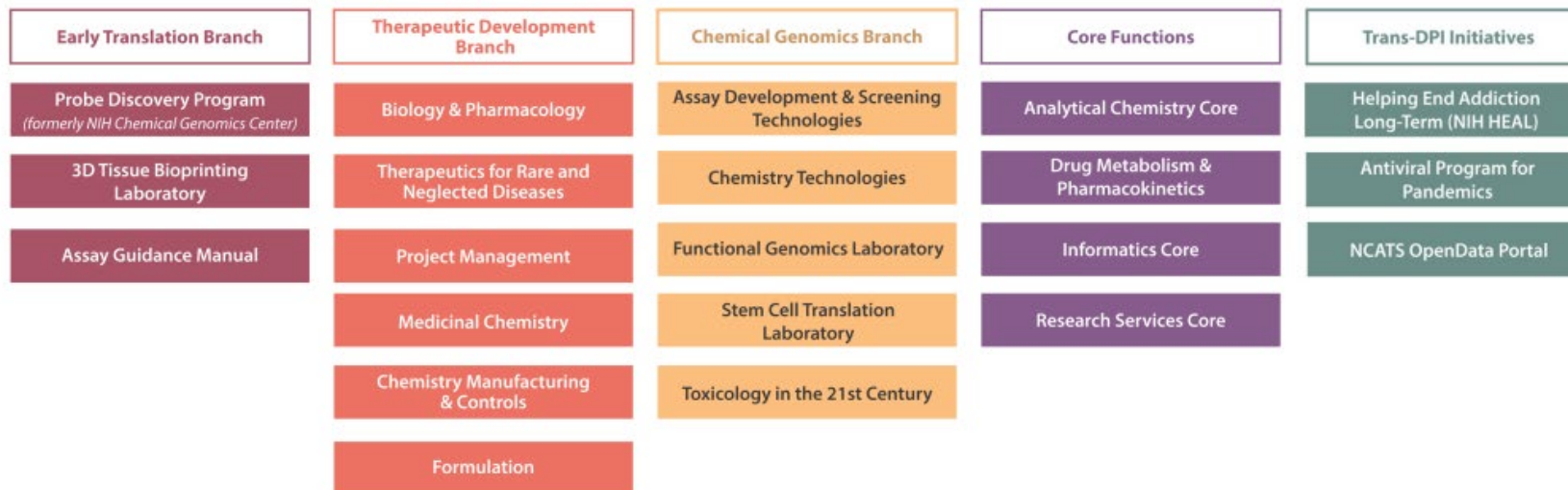
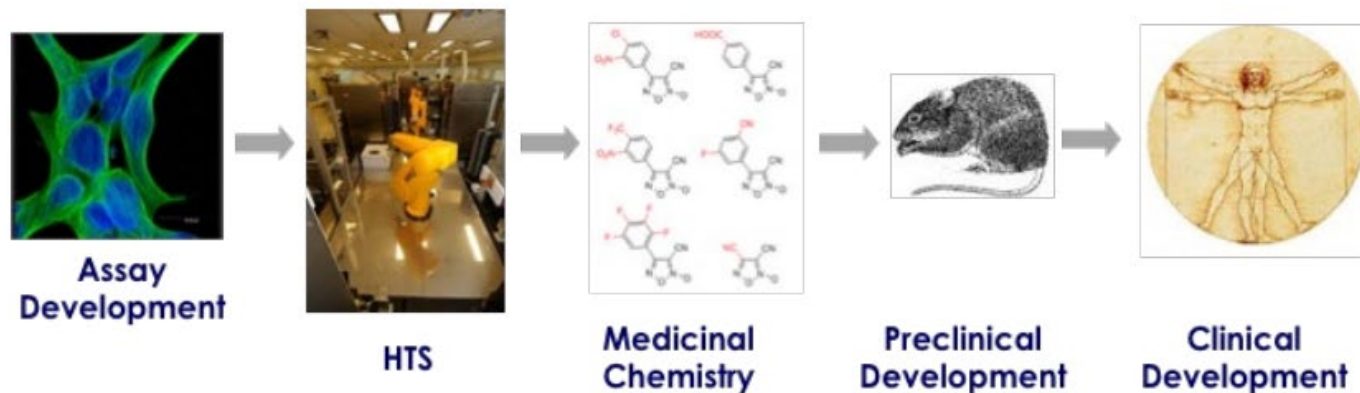
We can take on **long-term projects**

We can take on **projects that don't fit into the
traditional academic pipeline, nor industry**



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Key DPI Research Areas



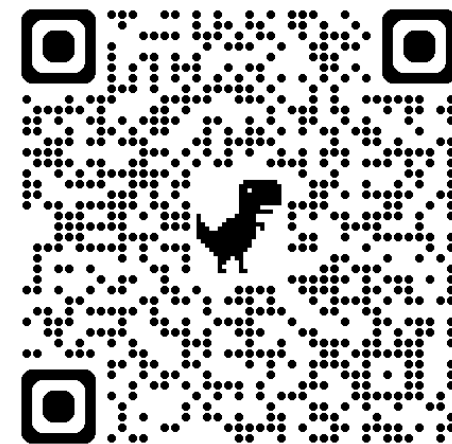
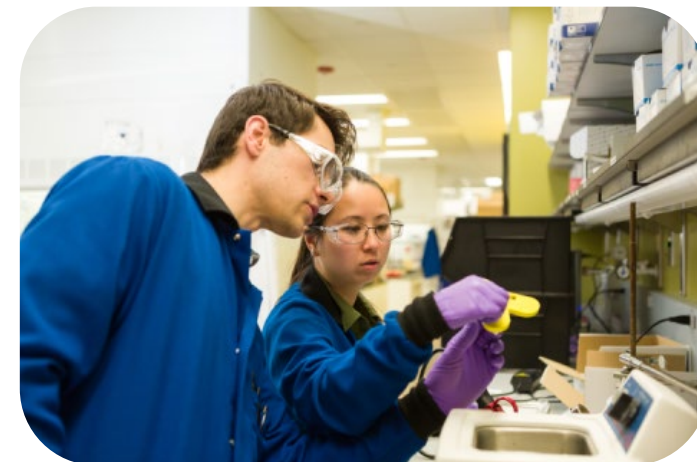
Training Opportunities at NCATS (for recent graduates)

Translational Science
Interagency Fellowship
(TSIF)

DPI Outreach to
Outstanding Research
Scholars (DOORS)

Postdoctoral Training
Program

NIH Visiting Fellow
Program



QR code to [NCATS
Training Opportunity
Webpage](#)



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Translational Sciences

What's it like to Train at NCATS?

	Academia	Pharma/Biotech	NCATS
Translational	No	Yes	Yes
Automation	Low	High	High
Team Science	No	Yes	Yes
Publicly Available Playbook	Yes	No	Yes
Focus on Rare Disease	Yes	No	Yes
Success Metrics	Publications Grants	Return to investment (\$)	De-risking Science
Endpoint	Proof of concept	Commercialization	Accelerating Translation



The Postdoc experience at NCATS

- Collaborative Environment
- Non-traditional Hierarchy
- Access to NIH resources and trainings
- Access to top-of-the-line equipment



Development of an integrated high-throughput proteomics sample preparation platform for analysis of *C. elegans*



Valentine Courouble, Ph.D.

How did I get to NCATS

- Connected with Belen at the NIH Career Fair

My experience at NCATS

- Only positive! Well rounded, passionate scientists that are ready to push you, but are also interested in who you are as an individual.

My research project

- Developing automated and miniaturized mass spectrometry workflows
- Applying these workflows to variety of models (cells, plasma, organoids, *C. elegans*) to answer a variety of biological questions

My career goal

- Had planned to go into industry but would love to continue working at NCATS *fingers crossed*

One thing I want people to know about training at NCATS

- It is a highly collaborative environment that opens you up to a variety of resources and lots of different mentoring opportunities. Communication is key to make the most of your time here!



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Evaluation of the Effect of Cell-Based Products on Placental Immunity Using 3-D Human Placental Barrier Models



Justine Noel, Ph.D.

My experience at NCATS

- As a TSIF fellow at NCATS, I gain hands-on experience at the intersection of basic science, translational research, and regulatory perspectives that most postdoctoral positions do not offer.

My research project

- My research investigates immune-driven mechanisms of placental dysfunction using human-relevant placental barrier models.
- I combine advanced human placental models with functional assays omics analysis to identify disease-relevant trophoblast states with translational significance.

My career goal

- My goal is to lead maternal–fetal health research, either by directing an independent research program or by shaping translational initiatives as a program officer.

One thing I want people to know about training at NCATS

- TSIF training at NCATS uniquely integrates regulatory science with preclinical modeling and product lifecycle development.

How I found my way to NCATS

- I came to NCATS after PhD training in cellular immunology, where I studied how prenatal stress alters maternal and fetal immune responses, motivating me to pursue advanced human tissue-level models and regulatory training to better understand and address translational gaps in maternal–fetal health.



DPI Outreach to Outstanding Research Scholars- DOORS

Selected participants will receive a sponsored trip*, including housing and transportation, to visit NCATS

**pending Fiscal Year 2026 appropriations*

***option to pay own way if there is limited funding*

Location:

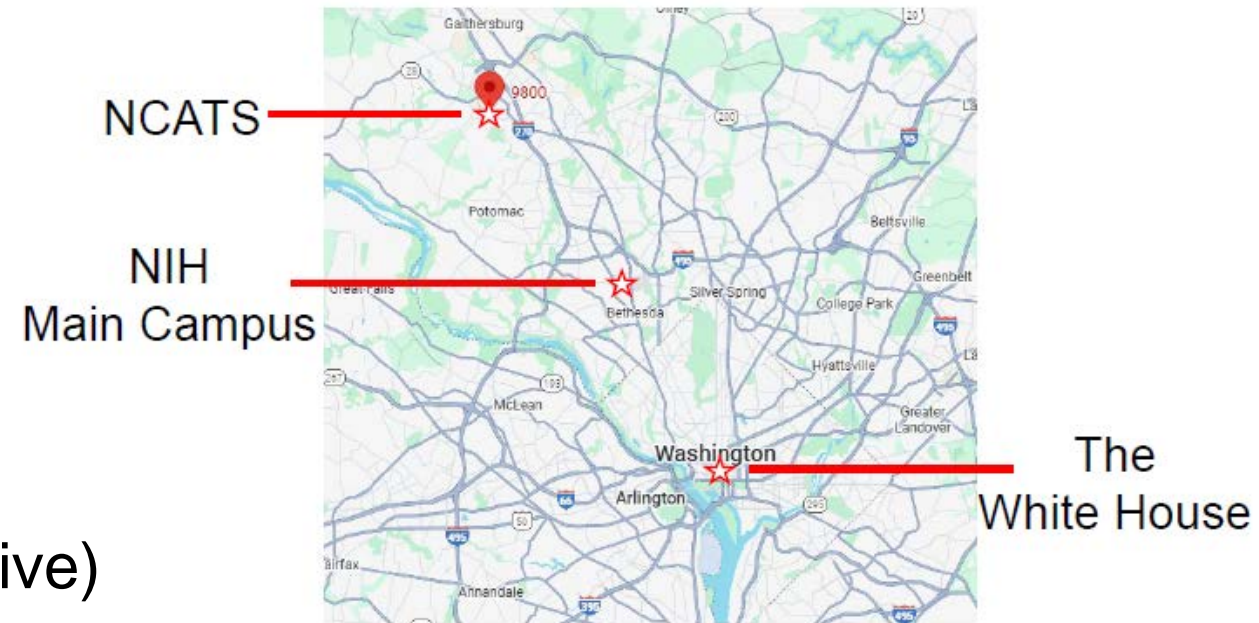
NCATS DPI

9800 Medical Center Drive

Rockville, MD 20850

Date:

Thursday-Friday, May 2026 (tentative)



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DOORS Event

Over the course of 2 days, you will learn about:

- Cutting-edge advances in translational science
- Training opportunities at NCATS
- Careers in translational science

The programming will include:

- Scientific and poster sessions
- Networking opportunities
- State-of-the-art lab tour



Eligibility

Applicants must be within the final two years of their graduate research program or have received their Ph.D. no more than two years prior to the date of the event.

International students and postdoctoral fellows who are in the United States on a visa are eligible to apply only if they will reside in the United States during the scheduled event.

- Individuals are not eligible if they are from “[Countries of Particular Concern, Special Watch List Countries, Entities of Particular Concern](#)” as set by the U.S. Department of State.



Application Components

Biosketch

Statement of Interest

- Describe how your past or current research experience aligns with the translational science field OR what makes you want to pursue a career in the translational science field.
- Outside of your scientific work, what other contributions are you providing to the scientific community (e.g., service, leadership, teaching)?
- What are your professional and scientific goals?
- What are you most excited to learn about or experience at the DOORS Event? How will it help you advance your professional goals?

Letter of support



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Selection Criteria

Selection is determined off the following criteria;

- Letter of support
- Technical skills and scientific productivity
- Translational science experience or interest
 - Explicit translational science experience is not necessary
- Leadership, teaching, and community service
- Career impact

* There is an option to make your application materials available to anyone at NCATS who is looking for a postdoc.




DOORS Application

Training Opportunities at NCATS

ncats.nih.gov/research/training-education/training-at-ncats/training-opportunities#doors

Ask Google

All Bookmarks



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Translational Sciences

Research ▾Funding ▾Resources For You ▾News & Events ▾About NCATS ▾

NCATS Division of Preclinical Innovation Outreach to Outstanding Research Scholars (DOORS) Event

NCATS invites applications from highly talented late-stage doctoral students and early-stage postdoctoral fellows to participate in our DOORS Event in spring 2026. During this two-day visit to NCATS, attendees will learn about cutting-edge advances in translational science, training opportunities and careers in translational science. Selected participants will receive a sponsored trip* to NCATS, where they will present their research, tour our state-of-the-art facilities and engage with the center's translational science researchers and trainees.

For more information, download the [NCATS DOORS Event flyer](#) (PDF - 108KB).

Eligible applicants must be within the final two years of their graduate research program or have received their Ph.D. no more than two years prior to the date of the event.

[Submit your application](#) to attend.

**pending Fiscal Year 2026 appropriations for this activity*

[DOORS Event Required Application Materials and Questions](#) (PDF - 68KB)

[Blank DOORS Event Biosketch Template](#) (DOCX - 32KB)

Federal Background Check

Selected candidates for any fellowship opportunity described above are subject to a federal background check, using Standard Form-85 (read SF-85). Section 14 of the form asks, "In the last year, have you used, possessed, supplied, or manufactured illegal drugs?" The question pertains to the illegal use of drugs or controlled substances in accordance with federal laws, even though permissible under state laws. Acceptance into all fellowship programs is conditional upon a successful background check.

Featured Intramural Fellows

- [Charting a New Path: NCATS Internship Helps Promising Student Soar](#) — Bryan Queme, a 2018 summer fellow, describes his experience at NCATS.
- [Unexpectedly Following a Translational Science Path](#) — Rosita Asawa, a former NCATS postbaccalaureate fellow, details how her training at NCATS helped shape her future career goals.

Last updated on November 20, 2025



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Application Information

Training Opportunities at NCATS | ncats.nih.gov/research/training-education/training-at-ncats/training-opportunities#doors

NIH National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

Research Funding Resources For You

NCATS Division of Preclinical Innovation Outreach to Outstanding

NCATS invites applications from highly talented late-stage doctoral students and early-career scientists. During this two-day visit to NCATS, attendees will learn about cutting-edge advances in translational science. Participants will receive a sponsored trip* to NCATS, where they will present their research to NCATS research scientists and trainees.

For more information, download the [NCATS DOORS Event flyer](#) (PDF - 108KB).

Eligible applicants must be within the final two years of their graduate research program.

[Submit your application](#) to attend.

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[DOORS Event Required Application Materials and Questions](#) (PDF - 68KB)

[Blank DOORS Event Biosketch Template](#) (DOCX - 32KB)

Federal Background Check

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Featured Intramural Fellows

- [Charting a New Path: NCATS Internship Helps Promising Student Soar](#) — By [Name]
- [Unexpectedly Following a Translational Science Path](#) — Rosita Asawa, a former NIH postdoctoral fellow, shares her future career goals.

DOORS Event Required Application Materials and Questions document

The application portal will be open until December 15, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. EDT. Applicants will be notified in early 2026 as to whether they have been selected to participate.

This document includes:

- Required Application Materials and Questions
- Eligibility Requirements
- Program Contact Information
- Descriptions of NCATS Research Areas

Required Application Materials and Questions:

- Biosketch
 - In no more than four pages, highlight your research experience, as well as your accomplishments outside the research laboratory (e.g., mentoring, teaching, volunteer work).
 - Use the [biosketch template](#) and save your completed biosketch as a PDF before uploading it via the [application to attend](#) portal.
- Statement of interest (no more than 500 words) that addresses the following:
 - Describe how your past or current research experience aligns with the translational science field OR what makes you want to pursue a career in the translational science field. See [NCATS' definition of translational science](#).
 - Outside of your scientific work, what other contributions are you providing to the scientific community (e.g., service, leadership, teaching)?
 - What are your professional and scientific goals?
 - What are you most excited to learn about or experience at the DOORS Event? How will it help you advance your professional goals?
- One letter of support from a faculty mentor or program administrator detailing how taking part in the DOORS Event will influence your training or career trajectory. The letter writer should also address your research achievements relating to the translational science field, your leadership characteristics and what makes you a good fit for the event.
- Additional questions:
 - What is your name?
 - What is your email?
 - In which scientific discipline have you received your Ph.D. or in which discipline will you receive your Ph.D.?
 - What is the name of your current institution or organization?
 - What is the name of your department and subprogram, if applicable? (e.g., Biology Department/Genetics Subprogram)



Biosketch Template

Training Opportunities at NCATS | x

ncats.nih.gov/research/training-education/training-at-ncats/training-opportunities#doors

NIH National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

Research Funding Resources For You

NCATS Division of Preclinical Innovation Outreach to Outstanding

NCATS invites applications from highly talented late-stage doctoral students and early-career scientists. This two-day visit to NCATS, attendees will learn about cutting-edge advances in translational research. Participants will receive a sponsored trip* to NCATS, where they will present their research to NCATS researchers and trainees.

For more information, download the [NCATS DOORS Event flyer](#) (PDF - 108KB).

Eligible applicants must be within the final two years of their graduate research program.

[Submit your application](#) to attend.

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[DOORS Event Required Application Materials and Questions](#) (PDF - 68KB)

[Blank DOORS Event Biosketch Template](#) (DOCX - 32KB)

Federal Background Check

Selected candidates for any fellowship opportunity described above are subject to a federal background check. The form asks, "In the last year, have you used, possessed, supplied, or manufactured illegal drugs or controlled substances in violation of federal laws, even though permissible under state laws. Acceptance in the program is contingent upon a favorable background check result."

Featured Intramural Fellows

- [Charting a New Path: NCATS Internship Helps Promising Student Soar](#) — Brynn L. Smith, a former NCATS intramural fellow, is now a postdoctoral fellow at the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences.
- [Unexpectedly Following a Translational Science Path](#) — Rosita Asawa, a former NCATS intramural fellow, is now a postdoctoral fellow at the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences.

Last updated on November 20, 2025

Biosketch-Template... • Saved

File Home Insert Draw Design Layout References Mailings Review View Help Acrobat

Paste Font Paragraph Styles Editing Adobe Acrobat Dictate Sensitivity Editor Add-ins

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide the following information. DO NOT EXCEED FOUR PAGES.

NAME: _____

POSITION TITLE: _____

EDUCATION/TRAINING (Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing; include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary. If you are still in graduate school, please list your projected graduation date.)

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Start Date MM/YYYY	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY

A. **Personal Statement** (No more than 100 words. What are you passionate about? What are your long-term career aspirations? Etc.)

B. **Positions and Research Experience** (Summer research programs, postbaccalaureate positions, internships, clinical experience, etc.)

C. **Contributions to Science** (publications, presentations, patents, etc.)

D. **Teaching and Mentoring** (teaching and teaching assistant positions, mentoring programs, mentoring in the lab, etc.)

E. **Leadership and Outreach** (committees, organizations, volunteer work, etc.)

F. **Honors and Awards** (funding, scholarships, service recognition awards, etc.)

G. **Scholastic Performance** (Please list your cumulative GPA and GPA scale, i.e. 3.8/4.0)

Page 1 of 1 156 words Display Settings Focus 80%

Application Portal

Training Opportunities at NCATS

ncats.nih.gov/research/training-education/training-at-ncats/training-opportunities#doors

NIH National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

Research Funding Resources For

NCATS Division of Preclinical Innovation Outreach to Outstanding

NCATS invites applications from highly talented late-stage doctoral students and early postdoctoral fellows. During this two-day visit to NCATS, attendees will learn about cutting-edge advances in translational science. Participants will receive a sponsored trip* to NCATS, where they will present their research to senior science researchers and trainees.

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Eligible applicants must be within the final two years of their graduate research program.

Submit your application to attend.

**pending Fiscal Year 2026 appropriations for this activity*

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[Blank DOORS Event Biosketch Template](#) (DOCX - 32KB)

Federal Background Check

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Featured Intramural Fellows

- [Charting a New Path: NCATS Internship Helps Promising Student Soar](#) — Rosita Asawa, a senior research associate, shares her future career goals.
- [Unexpectedly Following a Translational Science Path](#) — Rosita Asawa, a senior research associate, shares her future career goals.

Last updated on November 20, 2025

Application for DPI Outreach to Outstanding Research Scholars (DOORS) Event

Please complete the below questions and upload the required documents prior to submitting your application.

Thank you! If you have any questions, please contact Evy at evlyn.kimbrough@NIH.gov.

OMB# 0924-0761
Expiration Date: 09/30/2028

Collection of this information is authorized by The Public Health Service Act, Section 411 (42 USC 285a). Rights of participants are protected by The Privacy Act of 1974. Participation is voluntary, and there are no penalties for not participating or withdrawing at any time. Refusal to participate will not affect your benefits in any way. The information collected will be kept private to the extent provided by law. Names and other identifiers will not appear in any report.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 60 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to NIH, Project Clearance Branch, 6705 Rockledge Drive, MSC 7974, Bethesda, MD 20892-7974, ATTN: PRA (0925-0761). Do not return the completed form to this address.

What is your name?
* must provide value

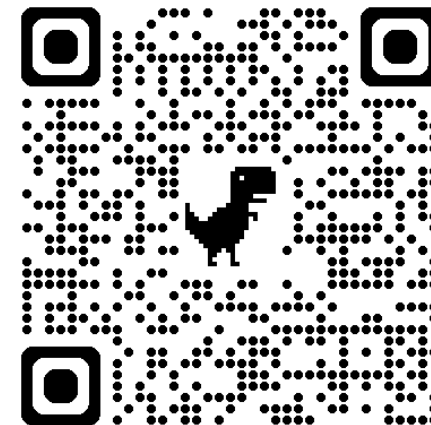
What is your email?
* must provide value

In which scientific discipline have you received your PhD or in which discipline will you receive your PhD?
* must provide value

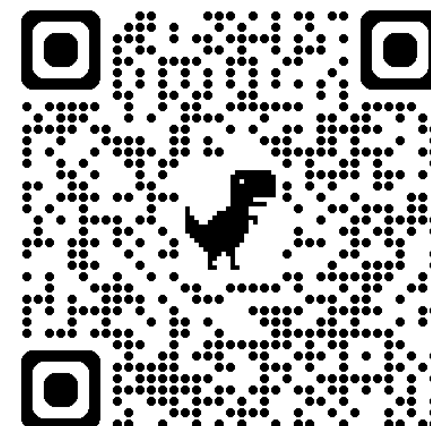
☐ Biochemistry
☐ Chemistry
☐ Pharmacology/Toxicology
☐ Computer Sciences

Want to stay up to date on NCATS activities?

To subscribe to the NCATS newsletter, please use the adjacent QR code or click the following link: [National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences Newsletter Request Form](#)



To follow the official NCATS LinkedIn account, please use the adjacent QR code or click the following link: [NCATS LinkedIn Webpage](#)



QUESTIONS?

Contact Information:

For questions about Training Opportunities at NCATS:
Belen Hurle, Ph.D., NCATS Director, Intramural Translational Training at belen.hurle@NIH.gov

For questions about the DOORS event:
Evelyn Kimbrough, Ph.D., DOORS Event Lead at evelyn.kimbrough@NIH.gov

For questions about what it's like to train at NCATS
Valentine Courouble, Ph.D., Postdoc IRTA at valentine.courouble@nih.gov
Justine Noel, Ph.D., TSIF Fellow at justine.noel@nih.gov

NCATS

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 [NIH-NCATS](https://linkedin.com/company/NIH-NCATS)



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