

**National Advisory Council for Human Genome Research
September 13, 2021
Concept Clearance for PAR**

Renewal of Initiative to Maximize Research Education in Genomics: Courses

Purpose: The purpose of this R25 program is to support creative educational activities that complement and enhance existing genomics training opportunities. Specifically, this program aims to train a genomics workforce to meet the nation's biomedical, behavioral and clinical research needs by supporting short (two weeks or less in duration)- and long-term (more than two weeks, but less than a year) advanced level courses. These courses should disseminate new techniques, methods, analyses and knowledge related to the mission of the NHGRI. Plans to enhance diversity and provide safe, inclusive and supportive environments must be included in the application.

New or renewal/modified initiative: Renewal

We request approval to renew the NHGRI R25 Courses program originally established in 2009. Only minor updates and changes are being proposed from the last re-issue of this program:

- 1) The course topic examples will be updated to align with the new NHGRI Strategic Vision (<https://www.genome.gov/2020SV>).
- 2) The career level of the courses will be updated to allow for courses targeted at the masters' level and beyond. Currently, course offerings are targeted for participants at doctoral level and beyond.
- 3) In order to emphasize the importance of enhancing diversity, the Recruitment Plan to Enhance Diversity will be considered in the overall impact score. Currently, plans are rated as *acceptable* or *unacceptable*.
- 4) Instructions will be updated to encourage more standardized demographic reporting per the [Notice of NIH's Interest in Diversity](#). A guidelines document will be posted on NHGRI's website, with a suggested reporting format. This will help with program evaluation of individual funded courses and the overall R25 program with respect to NHGRI's new [Diversity Action Agenda](#) Goal 4, which is "to evaluate progress towards achieving greater diversity in the genomics workforce."
- 5) Applicants must include strategies to maintain safe, respectful and inclusive environments in order to mitigate the effects of discrimination and harassment (similar to [current NIH guidance for R13 Conferences](#)).

Current PAR: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-19-185.html> (R25)

2016-2018: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-16-090.html> (R25)

2013-2015: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-13-012.html> (R25)

2009-2013: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-09-245.html> (R25)

Mechanism of Support: R25 (Research Education Project)