

Avenir Award Program for Research on Substance Use Disorders and HIV/AIDS

Information for Prospective Applicants

NIDA AIDS Research Program (ARP)



National Institute
on Drug Abuse

NIDA HIV Avenir Award

- Exclusive to new and/or early stage investigators (ESI)
- Grant mechanism: NIH Director's New Investigator Award (DP2)
- Established in 2015
- Designed to help launch research careers of promising ESI and ensure a pipeline of investigators with exceptional creativity in solving emerging problems at the nexus of HIV and substance use
- Research scope must align with global NIH HIV research priorities

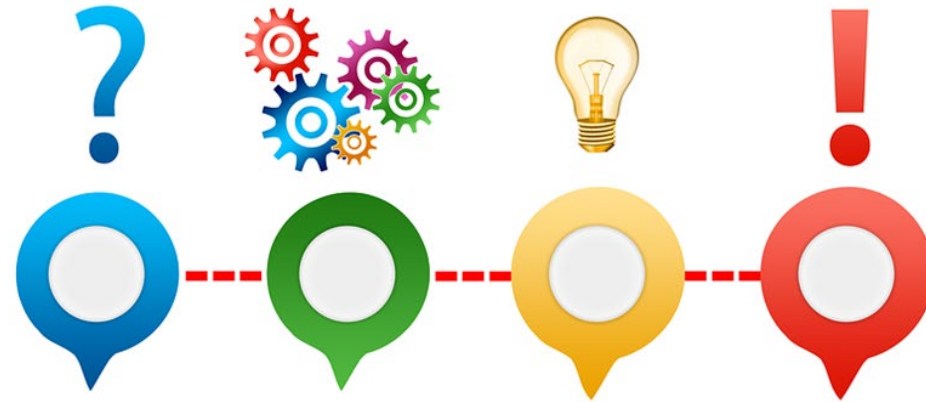


'Avenir' is a French word meaning 'future'

Eligibility

- Must have **Early Stage Investigator (ESI) status**
 - Completed doctoral degree or postgraduate clinical training within last 10 years and never received substantial NIH independent research award
- Single PI application
 - Multiple PD/PIs (MPI) are not allowed
- Effort: At least 25% or three person months

Avenir-DP2 Application



- The HIV Avenir Award is an *idea grant!*
- Preliminary data allowed but *not required*
- Requires letters of reference from **three referees**
- Requires a **ten-page essay**
 - *The essay should provide a compelling narrative that connects research problem + creative thinking (PI) + novel idea + potential impact*

Research Areas of Interest (including but not limited to)

- Innovative basic, clinical or translational research that may lead to improved therapies for HIV in people who use drugs (PWUD)
- Novel strategies to prevent HIV transmission among PWUD
- Research to reduce the burden of comorbidities in PWUD
- Innovative approaches to eradicating HIV in people with HIV
- Studies using in vitro systems and/or animal models that test the effects of addictive substances on HIV pathogenesis, disease progression, or treatment success
- Studies to develop interventions or treatments that are tailored to people who use drugs.

Review Criteria

- ✓ Importance of scientific problem and potential impact of research
- ✓ Innovation in the approach – project should be distinct from PI's ongoing research
- ✓ Applicant's potential to make innovative contributions toward an important problem relevant to HIV and SUD research



- Application will be reviewed by a NIDA Special Emphasis Panel (SEP)
- Review includes an interview with the SEP

Helpful Resources

- [HIV Avenir Award on ARP Website](#)
- [FOA for PAR-20-224: Avenir Award Program for Research on Substance Use Disorders and HIV/AIDS \(DP2 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#)
- [NIH Director's New Innovator Award – FAQ](#)
- [NIH Early Stage Investigators Policies](#)
- [Global NIH HIV Research Priorities and Guidelines for Funding](#)
- [FY2022 Pioneer Award Informational Video](#)
 - This video from the NIH Division of Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives (DPCPSI) provides a helpful overview of the Director's Pioneer Award. For specific dates, award information, and objectives of the Avenir Program, please refer to the [FOA for PAR-20-224](#).

Contact Us

For more information about the NIDA HIV Avenir Award, visit:

[AIDS Research Program \(ARP\) | NIDA](#)

Questions?

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