ORIP advances the NIH mission by supporting infrastructure for innovation. This support is focused on research resources, including animal models for human diseases, cutting-edge scientific instrumentation, construction and modernization of research facilities, and research training opportunities for veterinary scientists. Through continued engagement with NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices and the biomedical research community, ORIP empowers and expands existing programs and develops new initiatives to support NIH research at the forefront of scientific progress.
ORIP advances biomedical research by supporting the creation of animal models of human disease and related key infrastructure, enabling access to state-of-the-art instrumentation, providing educational training programs, and assisting small businesses to develop new technologies. ORIP supports training and career development programs—specifically for veterinary students and veterinarians seeking to enter the field of biomedical research. Scientists with veterinary medical expertise contribute to animal, molecular, and genomic studies and translational research that benefits human health.

For more information about these opportunities, please visit the ORIP Training and Career Development webpages at go.usa.gov/xmBbJ.

**OVERVIEW**

The Institutional Research Training Grants offered by ORIP encourage motivated veterinarians to explore careers in the biomedical research field. Veterinary schools and other research institutions that provide advanced training in comparative medicine receive these awards.

**Postdoctoral Programs for Veterinarians (T32)**

These programs provide support for the training of highly qualified veterinarians to help them excel in biomedical research careers. This training may be incorporated into a research degree program and should prepare the trainee to compete for independent grant funding.

For more information, visit go.usa.gov/xs9Tq.

**Summer Programs for Veterinary Students (T35)**

This short-term support allows select veterinary students to engage in 2- to 3-month research training experiences that encourage them to consider biomedical and biobehavioral research careers. Veterinary students should begin by determining whether their institution, or another institution of interest, participates in a Summer T35 Training Program by visiting go.usa.gov/xs9Tq3. Stipends are provided according to the National Research Service Award schedule.

**A CAREER AS A VETERINARY SCIENTIST**

Conduct biomedical research at the molecular, cellular, whole-animal, or population level into important problems of human health and disease. Veterinary scientists can use their specialized training to provide insights into novel human disease-relevant animal models. Work at academic health centers, hospitals, or federal laboratories or in the biotechnology/pharmaceutical industry.

- Collaborate with a team, e.g., P40, R24
- Independent research projects grants, e.g., R01, R03, R21

**INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH TRAINING GRANTS**

Veterinary Summer Scholars Program at the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine
ORIP’s Division of Comparative Medicine offers career development support for individuals with a D.V.M. or V.M.D. degree working with animal models and for HIV/AIDS early-stage investigators, including Ph.D. scientists, working with nonhuman primate (NHP) models.

For more information, visit go.usa.gov/xmBj6.

**Special Emphasis Research Career Award (SERCA): K01 (Limited to veterinary scientists)**

The SERCA K01 provides early-career veterinary scientists with 3 to 5 years of “protected time” dedicated to research, allowing them to gain the research expertise necessary to become independent scientists. K01 recipients have more success obtaining NIH grants and publishing scientific research papers compared to their non-SERCA colleagues. Candidates for this award must hold a D.V.M./V.M.D. degree from an institution listed by the American Veterinary Medical Association. They may not have been a principal investigator on a federally supported research project (see the link below for which grant mechanisms are excluded). Candidates must be nominated by their institutions. Lastly, candidates must design a career development plan that includes appropriate mentoring (typically by a mentoring team).

For more information regarding all relevant requirements, consult the SERCA Guidelines at go.usa.gov/xs92W. Also see the companion funding opportunity (PAR-21-090) Limited Competition: Small Grant Program for ORIP SERCA K01 Recipients (R03 Clinical Trials Not Allowed).

**Early Stage Investigators Using NHP Research Models: K01 (Limited to veterinary scientists)**

The Early Stage Investigators Using NHP Research Models (ESI-NHP) K01 provides early-stage investigators (within 10 years of completing their terminal professional degree or residency training) with support and up to 5 years of “protected time” for intensive, research-focused career development program activities under the guidance of an experienced mentorship team with expertise in both the preclinical application of NHP models and in translation of the results from such studies to clinical application. The focus of this program is to increase the number of highly skilled scientists using NHP models to address complex translational biomedical research designed to foster translation of outcomes into the clinic. The expectation is that through this sustained period of research career development and training, awardees will launch independent research careers and become competitive for new research project grant funding (e.g., R01). ORIP will contribute up to $75,000 per year toward the salary of the career award recipient. ORIP will contribute $100,000 per year toward the research development costs of the award recipient.

For information about ORIP’s participation in this ESI-NHP K01 announcement, visit go.usa.gov/xs92d. Also see the companion funding opportunity (PAR-21-109) Early Stage Investigator Research Using NHP Models (R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed).

**HIV/AIDS Scholars Using NHP Models: K01 (Not limited to veterinary scientists)**

The HIV/AIDS Scholars K01 provides early-stage investigators (within 10 years of completing their terminal professional degree or residency training) with 3 years of mentored career development to prepare for independent research careers using NHPs as preclinical models for HIV/AIDS. HIV/AIDS Scholars receive salary and research support and the guidance of an experienced mentorship team with expertise in both the preclinical application of NHP HIV/AIDS models and in translation of the results from such studies to clinical application in humans. By enhancing critical aspects of career development—such as grantsmanship, networking, and the ability to translate results from animals to the clinic—awardees prepare to launch independent research careers and become competitive for new research project grant funding (e.g., R01). The program brings participants together annually for the Conference for Early Stage HIV/AIDS Researchers Using NHP Models.

For information about ORIP’s participation in this HIV/AIDS Scholars announcement, visit go.usa.gov/xs95K. Also see the companion funding opportunity (PAR-20-212) Early Stage Investigator HIV/AIDS Research Using NHP Models (R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed).
**Individual Predoctoral Fellowships**

ORIP offers several fellowships open to veterinary students and veterinarians seeking a Ph.D. degree. F30 grants are designed to enhance the integrated research and clinical training of promising predoctoral dual-degree students. F31 grants enable promising veterinarians to obtain individualized, mentored research training from outstanding faculty sponsors while conducting dissertation research in scientific health-related fields relevant to ORIP’s mission or the missions of participating NIH Institutes and Centers. A special type of F31—the F31 Diversity award program—seeks to enhance the diversity of the health-related research workforce by supporting the research training of veterinarians from population groups that have been shown to be underrepresented in the biomedical, behavioral, or clinical research workforce, including underrepresented racial and ethnic groups and those with disabilities.

For information about ORIP’s participation in current F30 or F31 announcements, visit [go.usa.gov/xs923](http://go.usa.gov/xs923).

**MENTORING OPPORTUNITIES (DIVERSITY AND RE-ENTRY SUPPLEMENTS)**

ORIP-supported principal investigators may be able to apply for administrative grant supplements to support specific research trainees and mentees. Diversity supplements enhance research workforce diversity by supporting and recruiting students, postdoctoral trainees, and eligible investigators from groups that have been historically underrepresented among racial and ethnic groups. Re-entry supplements support individuals with high potential to re-enter an active research career after an interruption for family responsibilities or other qualifying circumstances.

For additional information about these supplements and how they might benefit your trainees, visit [go.usa.gov/xmBjF](http://go.usa.gov/xmBjF).

**NIH LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM**

Veterinarians who engage in research aimed at human diseases or conditions may apply for the NIH Extramural Loan Repayment Programs (LRPs). Extramural LRPs repay educational loan debt up to $50,000 annually for qualified health professionals performing research within the mission of the NIH and supported by domestic, nonprofit, or government entities.

For more information, visit [go.usa.gov/xmBDa](http://go.usa.gov/xmBDa).