

Careers at NINDS

Interested in joining a team of collaborative innovators and experts in neuroscience?

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) seeks motivated scientists, engineers, and physicians with expertise in neuroscience and related fields. At NINDS, you will conduct research, develop large-scale funding initiatives, organize workshops, and interact with leading neuroscientists throughout the world, among other exciting opportunities that contribute to advancing neuroscience research.

Why NINDS?

The unique mission of NINDS is to seek fundamental knowledge about the brain and nervous system and to use that knowledge to reduce the burden of neurological disease for all people. Hundreds of employees support this mission in a wide range of roles:



Supporting and performing basic, translational, and clinical neuroscience research through grants-in-aid, contracts, scientific meetings, and research in NINDS laboratories and clinics.



Funding and conducting research training and career development programs to increase basic, translational, and clinical neuroscience expertise and ensuring a vibrant, talented, and diverse workforce.



Promoting the timely dissemination of scientific discoveries and their implications for neurological health to the public, health professionals, researchers, and policymakers.

Current Job Opportunities

Explore NINDS careers and be a part of ground-breaking discoveries in neuroscience.

View current job opportunities and learn more about the function of each role at NINDS by scanning the QR code on this page.



Our Principles

NINDS strives to create and maintain a supportive work culture so that our workforce can become a model for neuroscience and biomedical research communities. **CORE IDEALS** is an acronym that captures the principles through which a healthy workplace operates — **Culture of Respect and Engagement through Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility and Leadership Support**. The NINDS CORE IDEALS provide a coordinated approach to creating and sustaining a positive workforce culture.

NINDS offers a collaborative, inclusive, and stimulating work environment; it also provides both telework and remote opportunities; competitive benefits; and opportunities for professional growth. Join us in advancing neuroscience research to make a difference!



Extramural: Administer NIH-funded Research

Program Officers

Program Officers (sometimes called Program Directors) are the main point of contact for NINDS grant applicants and recipients. Program Officers administer NINDS scientific programs, manage grant portfolios, contribute in setting research priorities, and assist grant applicants interested in applying for research opportunities. An M.D. or Ph.D. in neuroscience or a related field, along with experience overseeing an independent research program or grant portfolio, is highly recommended. Search "Program Officers" on the NINDS website to learn more.

Program Managers

Program Managers plan, organize, and oversee highly complex and cross-cutting projects in specialized topics. Program managers may also administer NINDS scientific programs and manage grant portfolios. Scientific Program Managers in the Division of Translational Research typically manage large NINDS contracts across multiple translational science areas including small molecule, biologics, pain, and epilepsy research.

Health Program Specialists

Health Program Specialists work closely with Program Officers to support administration, evaluate scientific programs, conduct analyses, and assist with guidance to grant applicants and recipients. A Ph.D. in neuroscience or a related field is recommended.

Health Science Policy Analysts

Health Science Policy Analysts assist in planning, analyzing, evaluating, and communicating Institute projects.

Scientific Review Officers

Scientific Review Officers organize and conduct peer review meetings comprised of relevant experts from the scientific research community to ensure that the most meritorious science is identified for funding by the institutes and centers. A Ph.D. in neuroscience or a related field is highly recommended. Some administrative experience in the health sciences is also beneficial. Search "Science Review Officers" on the NINDS website to learn more.

Equal Opportunity Employment

HHS and NIH are Equal Opportunity Employers. Individuals with diverse backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply.



Intramural: Conduct Research at NINDS

Staff Clinician

The position requires a candidate with an M.D. or M.D./Ph.D. degree, holding a permanent, full, and unrestricted medical license in a U.S. state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, or a U.S. territory. Specialization in neurology with fellowship training or equivalent experience in the neurological disorder of focus is essential. Additionally, a strong background in clinical research, along with the ability to meet credentialing requirements at the NIH Clinical Center is highly desirable.

Staff Scientist

The position requires a Ph.D. in neuroscience or a related field. Preferred qualifications include expertise in implementing specific techniques to the related field. The ideal candidate should possess significant postdoctoral experience in several key areas.

Trainees and Fellows

The NIH Intramural Research Program runs various programs for postdoctoral fellows, doctoral students, college students or recent college graduates, and high school students. Visit training.nih.gov/research-training/ for more information.

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For questions, email NINDS Recruitment at nindsrecruitment@mail.nih.gov

Please note:

If you're currently a Federal employee, detail opportunities are available to temporarily fill open positions at NINDS.