Concept Clearance
FY23 BIRCWH Program Administrative Supplements

Lisa Begg, Dr.P.H., RN
Senior Research Program Officer, ORWH
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Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (BIRCWH)

Created by the Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH), the Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (BIRCWH, pronounced "birch") is a mentored career-development program designed to connect junior faculty, known as BIRCWH Scholars, to senior faculty with shared interest in women's health and sex differences research. Since the program was created in 2000, more than 700 junior faculty have been part of the BIRCWH career development training from ORWH and its partners among the NIH institutes and centers. There are 19 active BIRCWH programs. ORWH and the NIH Institutes and Centers contribute over $10 million per year to support this career development program.

About BIRCWH

The BIRCWH awards are an NIH-wide collaborative effort. The BIRCWH program's current and past co-sponsors include the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), the National Cancer Institute, the National Institute on Aging, the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, the National Institute of Mental Health, and the Office of AIDS Research. ORWH is the NIH lead for the BIRCWH program and works with NICHD and NIDA to provide grants management for the awards.
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Summary Background on the BIRCWH Program

• Careers/Career Development is one of the main mission areas for ORWH.

• The BIRCWH Program was created in FY99 with a special Congressional appropriation; two new appropriations in FY22 and FY23.

• First K12 grant awards were made in FY2000, and second RFA round in FY2002; re-issued every five years.

• There are 19 active BIRCWH awards

• IC Cofunding can vary with each RFA re-issuance but currently includes NIAID, NIAAA, NICHD, NCI, and NIDA

• Twelve of 19 grantees have MPIs, and 14 of 19 have Physician PIs (solo or MPIs)

• More than 750 Scholars have completed the program, 88% have stayed in research, and 42% are Physician-Scientists

• Eighty percent of the Scholars are women and 20% are men
Additional Details for this FY23 BIRCWH NOSI

- **Award type:** Administrative supplements to parent K12 BIRCWH grants.

- **Budget limits:** Direct costs of $90,000/year for each BIRCWH grantee, which includes a maximum in NIH funds for stipend/salary of $65K and $25K in research support. Per NIH policy, 8% in indirect costs are permitted.

- **Institutional Eligibility:** Applications are only open to the 19 active BIRCWH grantees.

- **Trainee Eligibility:** Must be a citizen or non-citizen national of the United States or have been lawfully admitted for permanent residence by the time of the award. Scientists who come from diverse and underrepresented groups in the US biomedical, clinical, behavioral, and social sciences as described in NOT-OD-20-031 are always encouraged to apply.
Plan going forward after Approval of Concept Clearance

• All funds must be awarded in FY23.

• Number of new trainees: we have sufficient FY23 funding to support nineteen (19) new trainees for one year so that each program may have one trainee each.

• The ORWH plan is to publish an NIH Guide Notice to solicit administrative supplement applications to support these trainees.

• These will be non-competitive administrative supplements that will be reviewed by ORWH and its IC partners for compliance with NIH policies and career development requirements.
Questions and Comments

Committee Action:
Vote to Approve Concept Clearance