

Title: Who is eligible for an F31 diversity fellowship?

Eligible individuals are from one or more of these groups:

Individuals from racial/ethnic groups marginalized in science.

- Black or African American,
- Hispanic or Latino,
- American Indian or Alaska Native,
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.

Individuals who are disabled/persons with a disability.

Disabled is defined as those with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.

Individuals with disadvantaged backgrounds.

Must meet two or more of the following criteria:

- Were or currently are homeless, as defined by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (Definition: <https://nche.ed.gov/mckinney-vento/>);
- Were or currently are in the foster care system, as defined by the Administration for Children and Families (Definition: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/focus-areas/foster-care/>);
- Were eligible for the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program for two or more years (Definition: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/income-eligibility-guidelines/>);
- Have/had no parents or legal guardians who completed a bachelor's degree (see <https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2018/2018009.pdf>);
- Were or currently are eligible for Federal Pell grants (Definition: <https://www2.ed.gov/programs/fpg/eligibility.html>);
- Received support from the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) as a parent or child (Definition: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/wic-eligibility-requirements>).
- Grew up in one of the following areas: a) a U.S. rural area, as designated by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer (<https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/rural-health>), or b) a Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services-designated Low-Income and Health Professional Shortage Areas (qualifying zipcodes are included in the file).

Only one of the two possibilities in #7 can be used as a criterion for the disadvantaged background definition.

Note: Your F31 proposal needs a letter from your department chair or someone similar that certifies your eligibility for the diversity fellowship based on these criteria.