



2024-2025 NIH ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Applications due: October 11, 2024, at 11:59 p.m EDT

Overview: The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Environmental Justice (EJ) Scholars Program invites EJ expertise, knowledge, and skills from research scholars, academics, public health and health care professionals, and EJ leaders from community-based organizations to work with staff members at various NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices (ICOs). EJ Scholars will share their knowledge, skills, and lived experience to help inform, build, and strengthen NIH capacity in the field of environmental justice.

Program Details:

The EJ Scholars Program brings in leaders in environmental justice from academia, health care, public health, and community-based organizations to work with NIH staff from various ICOs on EJ projects and initiatives. EJ Scholars will be hosted by one or more [ICO](#).

During the program period, EJ Scholars will be invited to collaborate with NIH staff on one or more research, education, or training activities, contributing to the wider NIH community. Opportunities will be provided for the EJ Scholar to work with NIH intramural and/or extramural scientists on projects of shared interests.

Scholars are expected to dedicate up to 25% of their time (up to 10 months) to support and collaborate with their host ICO(s). Scholars are expected to work virtually unless otherwise agreed upon with their host ICO(s). **The scholar will work with the host ICO on the structure and terms of their work plan prior to position commencement.**

Depending on ICO needs, scholars may support projects related to EJ topics such as:

- Climate change and climate justice
- Diet/nutrition and food justice
- Land use and transportation
- Energy extraction and energy justice
- Maternal and child health, pregnancy outcomes
- Community-engaged research approaches
- Mental health consequences of environmental exposures
- Air quality, water pollution, and other environmental exposures
- Environmental impacts across the life course
- Interplay of environmental exposure, social determinants of health, and health disparities
- Translating, communicating, and disseminating research findings to different audiences in culturally appropriate modalities

Possible NIH Hosts: Each EJ Scholar will have a host ICO; however, scholars should plan to engage in NIH-wide activities and cross-ICO collaborations, as multiple intramural and extramural research groups within NIH have expressed interest in hosting/co-hosting an EJ Scholar. Accordingly, opportunities may emerge to work on NIH-wide activities and priorities that span engagement with Offices of the Director or policy



offices. A list of possible host ICOs and activities are available on the NIH Environmental Justice Scholars Program [webpage](#). This list does not necessarily capture the full spectrum of possibilities, and if you are interested in an area not listed, please email EJScholars@nih.gov for more information.

Eligibility:

U.S. and international mid-career to senior scientist candidates and environmental justice community leaders from academic, nonprofit, or private sectors are eligible to apply. Candidates should have a strong publication record in **environmental justice and related health sciences** (may include gray literature, such as infographics, podcasts, curriculum, policy statements, or training materials). This is not a postdoctoral training program. Candidates do not need to have an NIH funding record. U.S. citizenship is not required. Former EJ Scholar Program participants are ineligible for a second period of support.

The program is open to recognized leaders in environmental justice from the following groups:

- Academic and research institutions, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs)
- Community, advocacy, charitable, and faith-based organizations
- Health care and public health organizations
- Tribal, state, and local government offices

Scholars should have demonstrated expertise in EJ areas that may include, but are not limited to:

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| • Behavioral and social sciences research | • Environmental exposure and risk assessment | • Translational research |
| • Climate and environmental epidemiology | • Intervention strategies | • Implementation science |
| • Community engagement and partnerships | • Traditional ecological knowledge/Indigenous knowledge | • Health disparities research |
| • Community organizing | • Community health work and training | • Workforce training and development |
| • Community-based research | • Policy and regulation development and engagement | • Women's health research |
| • Community-led and Tribal-led research/community science | • Health equity research | • Inclusive health education and research |
| • Data mapping/visualization | | • Migrant/immigrant health and research |
| • Disaster response and research | | • Communication research |
| | | • Youth EJ leadership training |

Application Information:

Interested applicants must submit their completed application packet to ejscholars@nih.gov by October 11, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. EDT. The application packet should include the following materials:

Cover letter: Please address the following four items:

- 1) Discuss your interest in being an EJ Scholar and indicate which NIH host ICO, laboratory, and/or collaborator(s) you hope to work with, if known. You may indicate more than one ICO.



- 2) Outline a vision statement describing what you would like to accomplish during your time as an EJ Scholar and how your skills, experience, and expertise would help build EJ capacity and understanding, as it relates to the ICO mission.
- 3) Propose a work schedule (timeline/hours).
- 4) Discuss details of any financial or nonfinancial (e.g., data, software, or facility access) resources you would need to have a successful experience.

Resume/CV: Standard resume (no page limit).

Biosketch: The biosketch should complement your CV and describe details of your EJ-related work. Please provide the following information:

- 1) Full name, position title, and affiliation.
- 2) Summary of your education, training, or on-the-job experience and how it relates to environmental justice.
- 3) Publication list relevant to environmental justice (may include gray literature, such as infographics, podcasts, curriculum, policy statements, or training materials).
- 4) List of invited talks or presentations relevant to environmental justice, if any.
- 5) List of environmental justice educational outreach work, such as EJ classes you have taught, education of policy- or decision-makers, or similar activities, if any.
- 6) List any grant support (ongoing or past) with title, project period, and overall project purpose. Please indicate if it was support from local, state, federal government, a foundation, or other charitable organization.
- 7) Describe your contributions to the advancement of environmental justice, as well as other areas of your environmental justice-related efforts and/or accomplishments you wish to highlight.

Two reference letters: Ensure the following information is addressed by your referrers:

- Your ability to share knowledge and build capacity.
- Your ability to collaborate across scientific disciplines and expertise areas, as well as engage in new and unfamiliar environmental justice topics.
- A brief description of your work with the referrer on EJ related topics.

Potential applicants are encouraged to email ejscholars@nih.gov to discuss areas of interest with program staff in advance of submitting a formal application. The EJ Scholars Program anticipates hosting an informational webinar prior to the submission date. Interested applicants are encouraged to attend.

Compensation and Benefits: A stipend may be available. If you require a stipend (up to \$25,000), please describe your need in your application package. Travel and living expenses for on-site EJ Scholars events may be available.

Potential Engagement: The EJ Scholars Program will pair each participant with one or more ICOs based on scholar interest and ICO needs. It is anticipated that scholars will work from their home institution or organization and not at NIH. Depending on the scholar's agreement with their assigned ICO(s), scholars will support ICO's EJ efforts on a range of activities that may fall within the following areas:



Education and Training	Public Engagement	Data Collection, Analysis, and Utilization
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal and external seminars • Workshops and training courses/modules • Environmental health and environmental justice working groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infographics and other gray literature material • Conferences • Journal publications • Research articles, opinion pieces, and blog posts • NIH-wide/IC-specific webinars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dataset workbooks • Portfolio analyses • White papers and reports • Manuscripts • Consultations

Timeline: Prospective candidates will be contacted for interviews by interested ICOs in late fall 2024, and finalist notifications and work agreements will be sent and signed in early winter 2025.

Questions? Please contact ej scholars@nih.gov for more information.