

## **For Early Career Reviewer (ECR):**

### **General Qualifications**

Eligible candidates have:

- Obtained their doctoral level degree.
- Been in a faculty position long enough to initiate an independent program of research (2-year minimum).
- Recently published their research and are in a position to begin writing NIH grant applications.
- Not already served as an ad hoc reviewer on a face-to-face CSR study section
- Current funding is not required. Conversely, anyone who has received an R01 award is not considered as an ECR.

### **Specific Qualifications**

1. **Doctoral Degree** a. PhD, MD, MD/PhD, EdD, DVM, DDS

b. Equivalent Doctoral Degrees

#### **2. Faculty and/or Equivalent position**

a. Assistant Professor (**for at least two years** unless qualifications are very strong), Associate Professor, Full Professor, including Research and Clinical positions. They do not have to be in a tenure-track position.

Note: for some institutions Instructor positions are equivalent to the Assistant Professor rank.

b. Post-Doctoral Fellows do not qualify.

c. Some K award recipients may not be appropriate if they are in the early stages of the program and have not yet met the criteria below for Publications and Active Program of Research.

d. **Equivalent Position:** Medical schools, veterinary schools, pharmaceutical companies, and other research institutions may use other titles (e.g. Senior Research Scientist, Senior Scientist).

#### **3. Active Independent Program of Research**

The candidates should be involved in independent research as demonstrated by publications, presentations, published abstracts, research collaborations, submission of grant applications, and/or receipt of research funding. They may be involved in publication of their work and/or research with their prior mentors or with their own students, but have clearly established their own area of research specialty.

### **Time Commitment/ Review Responsibility**

- Assigned 2-4 applications as 3<sup>rd</sup> reviewer
- SROs provide training on review, scoring, and critique preparation
- Must attend the reviewer orientation/training teleconference
- Write full critiques for assigned applications
- Submit critiques ahead of deadline to get feedback from the SRO
- Must be able to attend the face-to-face meeting
- Participate only one time as ECR in the study section meeting

### **For Ad-hoc Reviewer and Chartered Membership**

- Recognized/Active scientist with required scientific expertise
- Doctoral degree or equivalent
- Runs an independent research program evident from research funding and recent publications in peer reviewed research journals
- Has an active R01 or equivalent from NIH or active research funding from other sources
- Dedicated to high quality fair and objective review
- Provide mature judgment
- Work effectively in a group, facilitate focused discussion.
- Articulate views succinctly, engage in productive exchanges, actively participate in the discussion of applications other than those specifically assigned, and demonstrate an ability to work collegially in a group setting.
- Able to facilitate or help focus the discussion
- Actively engaged in ensuring the fairness and consistency of the scoring practices within the group throughout the meeting
- Representation of women and minority scientists, and geographic distribution is considered for inviting reviewers for ad-hoc and regular membership

### **Ad-hoc/Chartered Members Time Commitment/ Review Responsibility**

- Assigned 7-9 (R01/R21) applications for review (3-4 as a primary reviewer and rest as Reviewer 2 or 3)
- SROs provide feedback on review, scoring, and critique preparation to ad-hoc reviewers
- Attend the reviewer orientation/training teleconference
- Must be committed to travel and attend the study section meeting which usually runs for one and a half day (location varies)

- Submit critiques and scores following deadlines
- Ad-hoc reviewers are usually asked by the SRO to submit a sample critique ahead of the deadline to provide feedback
- Ad-hoc reviewers who meet certain criteria are nominated for chartered membership.
- Chartered members are committed to attend the study section meeting Two (6-year membership) or Three times (4-year membership) per year. The study section meetings are scheduled in February, June and October every year.