AADOCR Mind the Future

Application FAQs

Application Deadline: September 1, 2026 [7:00 p.m. Eastern Time]

Do the page limits listed on the application page include references?
The page limits listed are the maximum page numbers and should include all information you wish to submit.

The application includes a letter of support from institutional dean or department chair, including the institution's financial commitment to mentee to help defray costs of participation as well as confirming dedicated time for mentee to participate in the mentoring network program. I'd like to be able to give my mentor and institution an idea of what their support for me in this program might look like.
The institution should support dedicated time for the mentee to participate in the program. An estimated 15% dedicated time is expected of the mentee during the course of the year, devoted to mentoring and skills development activities, which may be commensurate with the candidate's ongoing professional development activities. Financial costs are none to minimal provided the institution can guarantee the mentee has access to all AADOCR Mind the Future virtual educational programming through internet/computer and other necessary software and equipment, or to cover travel expenses that may exceed the amount provided by the grant to attend the AADOCR Annual Meeting.

Virtual educational sessions are usually held on **Monday afternoons** weekly or bi-weekly throughout the year.

I am not a current U.S. citizen or permanent resident. May I still apply?
The program is open to non-U.S. citizen K99/R00 awardees and NIDCR R90 participants. Other non-U.S. citizens or permanent residents may participate with strong justification. Please include justification in your personal statement.

Does the participating mentee also have to submit an abstract and present at the AADOCR Annual Meeting as part of the requirements?
It is not required of the mentee to submit an abstract to the AADOCR Annual Meeting; however, mentees are strongly encouraged to do so. Attending the meeting is a requirement of the program and is included in the educational schedule.

How will mentees be paired with their mentors?
Once the mentees are selected, the PIs will review a database of mentors submitted by AADOCR and the participating institutions to match the mentee to mentors primarily based on area of science to support the grant-writing experience. The advisory committee will propose mentor-mentee assignments for final confirmation and commitment by the program faculty. Once the mentor's commitment is confirmed, the

mentee will be given the opportunity to review the mentor. Mutual affirmation is essential for the process to begin.

Is the award tied to the mentee institution? What if I move to another institution?
The award is not tied to the mentee institution and will not be affected if the mentee moves to another institution.

Should the applicant include meetings and activities with the current mentor, similar to a K award application?
Yes, you may include this information, though it is not required.

When will applicants be notified if they received the award or not?
The educational program begins in October 2026, and all applicants will be notified about their application by early October 2026.

Will award funds be distributed to the mentee directly?
AADOCR will manage and pay for all travel, hotel, and meeting registration and, therefore, no funds will be sent to the mentees directly.