

**The University of Chicago Division
of the Biological Sciences Pritzker
School of Medicine
Office of Academic Affairs**

TO: Academic Affairs Administrators

FROM: Paul V. Anderson, Assistant Dean and Executive Director

RE: NIH updates NRSA stipend levels

DATE: 1 February 2016

On 20 January 2016 the National Institutes of Health (NIH) issued the FY 2016 stipend levels for trainees and fellows receiving Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (NRSA): <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-16-047.html>

The table below compares stipend levels for FYs 2012—2016.

Years of Experience	FY 2016	% increase	FY 2015	FY 2014	FY 2013	FY 2012
0	\$43,692	2%	\$42,840	\$42,000	\$39,264	\$39,264
1	\$45,444	2%	\$44,556	\$43,680	\$41,364	\$41,364
2	\$47,268	2%	\$46,344	\$45,432	\$44,340	\$44,340
3	\$49,152	2%	\$48,192	\$47,244	\$46,092	\$46,092
4	\$51,120	2%	\$50,112	\$49,128	\$47,820	\$47,820
5	\$53,160	2%	\$52,116	\$51,096	\$49,884	\$49,884
6	\$55,296	2%	\$54,216	\$53,148	\$51,582	\$51,582
7	\$57,504	2%	\$56,376	\$55,272	\$54,180	\$54,180

Note that the Training Related Expenses and the Institutional Allowance for postdoctoral trainees and fellows are increased by \$1,000 with the implementation of the FY 2016 budget.

The “Salary and Stipend” section of “The University of Chicago Postdoctoral Researcher Manual” (http://facultyhandbook.uchicago.edu/sites/facultyhandbook.uchicago.edu/files/uploads/postdoctoral_researcher_policy_manual.pdf) sets forth the University-wide policy regarding compensation for postdoctoral researchers.

The BSD’s supplemental policy regarding postdoctoral researcher compensation for non-NIH/NRSA postdoctoral fellows and postdoctoral scholars is that all newly hired postdoctoral researchers shall be paid no less than the minimum salary for 0 years of experience established by the NIH/NRSA schedule in effect at the time the appointment begins (<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-16-047.html>). It bears noting that this policy establishes minimum compensation only; it is expected that all BSD postdoctoral researchers will be equitably compensated throughout the period of training and, in addition, be eligible for merit increases based on performance assessments. It is highly recommended in setting compensation at the time of re-appointment that departments adhere to the appropriate step on the NIH/NRSA schedule for non-NIH/NRSA postdoctoral fellows and postdoctoral scholars. At minimum, however, compensation for the initial re-appointment year and subsequent re-appointment years shall be no less than the minimum salary for 0 years of experience on the NIH/NRSA schedule in effect at the time the re-appointment begins.