

# Research Development Plan for Scholars

*Adapted from My IDP Worksheet from NCSU OPA*

**Research Development Plans (RDPs)** for scholars provide a planning process that outlines a research plan aligned with career and professional development goals. This can be used by scholars to: develop and implement a research plan, prepare for interviews and job/funding applications, to align research goals with career plans through the coordinated use of the My IDP planning tool.

## **Goals of the RDP:**

Help the scholar identify:

- A research trajectory that is supportive of the career options she or he wishes to pursue and the necessary steps to develop projects and seek funding; and
- Short-term needs for immediate research funding concerns.

## **Benefits of the RDP:**

The RDP provides scholars with a process that assists in developing both short and long-term research goals. Identifying short-term goals will give scholars a clearer sense of expectations and help identify milestones along the way to achieving specific objectives. The RDP also serves as a tool for communication between the scholar and his or her faculty mentor/supervisor/PI.

## **Outline of RDP Process:**

The development, implementation and revision of the RDP require a series of steps to be conducted by the scholar and her or his mentor. These steps are an interactive effort, so both the scholar and the mentor must participate fully in the process.

## **BASIC STEPS**

	<i>...for Graduate Students, Postdoctoral Fellows, &amp; Scholars</i>	<i>...for PIs/Faculty Advisor/Mentors</i>
Step 1:	Conduct a self-assessment; look at your skills, interests and identify areas where you want to improve, gain more knowledge or strengthen skills.	Become familiar with available opportunities,  Discuss opportunities with scholar.
Step 2:	Discuss goals and opportunities with mentor.	Review scholar's RDP and offer input.
Step 3:	Write an RDP, share with mentor and revise, if needed.	Establish regular review of progress and help revised the IDP as needed.
Step 4:	Implement the RDP.	

# Scholar Research Development Plan

Name of Scholar: \_\_\_\_\_ Implementation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

## GOALS for RESEARCH

**Research Projects** (include projects scholar is expected to undertake as well as any independent research projects the scholar hopes to pursue):

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**Research Significance** identify what contributions your research makes to your field of study and what contributions your research makes more broadly in society (why does your research matter?):

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**Traditional Funders** for scholar's area of study (Who typically funds research in your area? Do your typical funders have a required career path outlined in funding? E.g. NIH):

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**Desired Funders** for scholar's research (Traditional or non-traditional for scholar's area of study – Foundations, Industry / Small Business, Non-profit partnerships):

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**Grantwriting skills** scholar has already acquired or experiences working on grants that support scholar's own research development (what grantwriting knowledge do you already have?):

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**Grantwriting skills** scholar wants to develop to better support their research funding prospects:

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**Research Work Style(s)** scholar would like to explore (Collaborative, Multi, Inter, or Transdisciplinary, Convergence Science, Industry Partnerships, Engaged Scholarship, etc.):

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**Prestigious Research Grant/Awards** available in scholar's area of study for researcher / junior faculty career development (fellowships, junior scholar awards, limited submissions):

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Available sources of support / learning for grantwriting, funding searching, and research development (such as attending campus or online seminars/workshops; departmental training; external training):

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## CAREER-RELATED RESEARCH GOALS

What are the generally accepted research expectations / needs to pursue your chosen career path? (Publishing a monograph or series of articles, PI a research grant such as a K99/R00 or NSF CAREER grant):

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What do you need to do to develop your capacities to competitively pursue your chosen research funding / career path? (Are you developing a data set or using secondary data? Will you need plates, indexing, color photos or charts in your publications? Do you need to travel for your research project or to attend meetings and conferences? Are you required to have high impact publications, an exceptional teaching record, or an established service record as part of this process?)

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What are the research trends and related current work in your field of study? How does your research relate to these trends and the current leading research in your field?

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If you are including positions in your job search outside of or complementary to your field of study, how can you discuss your research and your potential grantmaking / funding goals within that field's terms?

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## ADDITIONALGOALS/CONCERNS

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**This Research Development Plan (IDP) was reviewed and discussed and will be used as a working document to assist both the scholar and the PI/faculty advisor or mentor with the overall goals, endeavors and expectations associated with the scholar's appointment.**

**Date Reviewed:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name of Scholar**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name of PI/FacultyAdvisor/Mentor**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Scholar**

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**Signature of PI/FacultyAdvisor/Mentor**