Opportunity Summary:
The purpose of this program is to increase and maintain a strong cohort of new and talented, NCI-supported, independent investigators. This program is designed for postdoctoral fellows with research and/or clinical doctoral degrees who do not require an extended period of mentored research training beyond their doctoral degrees. The objective of this award is to facilitate a timely transition of these fellows from their mentored, postdoctoral research positions to independent tenure-track (or equivalent) faculty positions. The program will provide independent NCI research support during this transition to help awardees to launch competitive, independent research careers. Researchers in the scientific areas of data science and cancer control science are especially encouraged to apply.

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is designed specifically for candidates proposing to serve as the lead investigator of an independent clinical trial, a clinical trial feasibility study, or a separate ancillary clinical trial, as part of their research and career development. Those not planning an independent clinical trial, or proposing to gain research experience in a clinical trial led by another investigator, must apply to companion FOA (RFA-CA-21-060).

Information about the pre-application webinar will be available under the "NCI Early K99 Award" tab of the NCI Cancer Training Branch website.

Eligibility & Requirements:
- Candidates are strongly encouraged to obtain confirmation of their eligibility from NCI before seeking institutional nomination.
- Candidates must apply under one of these scientific areas: a) data science, b) cancer control science or, c) other sciences (see RFA).
- For this RFA, K99/R00 applicants must have no more than 2 years of postdoctoral research experience as of the application due date (some exceptions apply—see Section III. Eligibility in the full RFA).
- Individuals must be in mentored, postdoctoral positions to be eligible to apply to the K99/R00 program and must identify a mentor who will supervise the proposed career development and research experience.
- Candidates must have a clinical or research doctorate (including PhD, MD, DO, DC, ND, DDS, DMD, DVM, ScD, DNS, PharmD or equivalent doctoral degrees). Clinicians (including those with MD, DDS, DVM and other licensed health professionals) in a clinical faculty position that denotes independence in clinical responsibilities but not in research may also be eligible for the K99/R00 award.
- At the time of award, the candidate must have a “full-time” appointment at the applicant institution. Candidates are required to commit a minimum of nine person months of effort (i.e., 75% of full-time professional effort) to their program of career development.

Internal Nomination Process:
Interested applicants should submit the following documents:
1. JHU Limited Submission Cover Sheet
2. State which scientific area you are applying under
3. Proposal (maximum of two pages of text only, single spaced: 12-pt font and one-inch margins)
   (Note: figures, tables, and other reference material may be included in addition to the 2 pg. text limit)
4. Curriculum Vitae of investigator, including current external research support and publications