# Rehabilitation Research and Development Service
## Comparison of CDA-1 and CDA-2 awards

| | *CDA-1* | *CDA-2* |
|---|---|---|
| ***Primary Purpose*** | Intramural funding mechanism designed to attract, develop, and retain talented clinically and non-clinically trained post-doctoral VA researchers.<br><br>By the end of the CDA-1 award, awardees may compete for advancement to CDA-2. | Intramural funding mechanism designed to attract, develop, and retain talented clinically and non-clinically trained post-doctoral VA researchers.<br><br>By the end of the CDA-2, it is anticipated that the awardees will have competed for independent research funding. |
| ***Award Description*** | Salary support **up to two years** | Provides salary and/or project funds to support a **three to five year** program. |
| ***Eligibility*** | Open to clinician and non-clinician VA researchers<br><br>Physician applicants must be licensed to practice in the US and have a VA-paid clinical appointment.<br><br>At time award is funded, must have at least 5/8ths VA appointment | Open to clinician and non-clinician VA researchers<br><br>Physician applicants must be licensed to practice in the US and have a VA-paid clinical appointment.<br><br>At time award is funded, must have at least 5/8ths VA appointment |
| ***Timing*** | At time of submission, applicant should be no more than **2 years** beyond completion of training:<br><br>Clinicians: residency, internship, clinical fellowship, etc.<br><br>Non-clinicians: doctoral (PhD or equivalent) or fellowship. | At time of submission, applicant should be no more than **5 years** beyond completion of training:<br><br>Clinicians: residency, internship, clinical fellowship, etc.<br><br>Non-clinicians: doctoral (PhD or equivalent) or fellowship. |
| ***Academic Rank Guideline*** | Not to be above Instructor | Not to be above Assistant Professor (exception required for consideration of higher level academic rank) |
| ***Research Experience*** | Must not have been PI on a peer-reviewed independent research project supported by national level, public or private organization<br><br>Should demonstrate commitment to research in proposed research area | Should have some research accomplishments, but not have been a PI on a peer-reviewed independent research project supported by national level, public or private organization in excess of $50,000/year<br><br>Should have at least one first authored research publication pertinent to general proposed research area |

|  | CDA-1 | CDA-2 |
|---|---|---|
| **Support** | Salary only | Salary plus $65,000/year project funding |
|  | At time award is funded, must have at least 5/8ths VA appointment | At time award is funded, must have at least 5/8ths VA appointment |
|  | 100% of the CDA effort must be devoted to research and CDA activities | 100% of the CDA effort must be devoted to research and CDA activities |
|  | Clinicians: | Clinicians: |
|  | • Supports 6/8ths research effort | • Supports 4/8-6/8ths research effort |
|  | • Remaining 1/8th paid by VA medical center | • Remaining 1/8th paid by VA medical center |
|  | • VAMC commits to providing clinical appointment at conclusion of award | • VAMC commits to providing clinical appointment at conclusion of award |
|  | Non-clinicians: | Non-clinicians: |
|  | • Supports 5/8-8/8ths research effort | • Supports 5/8-8/8ths research effort |
| **Research Plan** | Research Plan proposes work integrated with the mentor's ongoing funded research or performs a portion of the mentor's funded research. | Research plan proposes independent work to generate scientific knowledge or advance clinical practice while simultaneously meeting the candidate's training and career goals. |

Table highlights differences among CDA types. Consult RFAs for details.