

N-SISS Application Components:

1. Contact Information and Demographics

2. Short Answer Question

a. Please share any additional aspects of your lived experience that you consider relevant in regard to your contribution as a participant of the N-SISS program.

3. Full CV/Resume

4. Two (2) Letters of Recommendation

- a. Applicants are required to submit two (2) letters of recommendation:
 - i. One (1) letter from a department chair, dean, or supervisor at your home institution/university confirming their support and time commitment release for your participation in the N-SISS program
 - ii. One (1) letter from a **research mentor** who can attest to your research capacity and experience

5. Brief, One-Page Description of Research

- a. Applicants are required to upload a one page, single-spaced, brief description of their SDOH research program, how the N-SISS program would benefit their specific research training and career development needs, and how their plan aligns with program aims and objectives. Must include the grant mechanism (e.g., R, K, etc.) and agency (NINR or other NIH institute/federal entity) they intend to develop an application for.
- b. This portion of the application is the most important decision-making factor for the N-SISS program, so please prioritize this one paged description accordingly.

6. Signed Agreement of Commitment

a. N-SISS Innovators must attend and participate in all program activities for the entire 10-month duration. By signing and submitting this application, applicants are committing to all phases and related activities of the 2026 cohort for the N-SISS if selected. A complete timeline of required events can be found below and in the N-SISS application.

Event	Date
Application Opens	Week of June 2, 2025
Application Deadline	Friday, August 29, 2025
Notification of Admission Status	Week of October 6, 2025
Deadline for Accepted Applicants to Confirm Participation	October 20th, 2025
Program Starts: Intensive in-person N-SISS kick- off at the Institute for Policy Solutions in D.C. (2 weeks)	January 2026
Phase 2: Distance-based Methodological Workshops, Research Strategy, and Asynchronous Assignments (Monthly lecture for 10 months)	March 2026 – October 2026
Phase 3: Intensive in-person summer institute Grant Review/Submission Preparation (1 week)	November 2026

Event	Date
Official Conclusion of N-SISS 2026 Cohort and Grant Submission	December 2026

Benefit & Support for N-SISS Innovators:

- Grant proposal submission and potential funding of research grant proposals or publications
- Support investigators across career stages initiating innovative SDOH research at the intersection
 of biomedical, social/behavioral, and clinical science, with an emphasis on underrepresented
 groups
- Develop conceptual and methodological SDOH expertise to scale evidence-based SDOH mitigation programs
- Support in the development of long-term interdisciplinary programs of SDOH research plans in alignment with and support of the NINR strategic plan goals and research lenses