The NIH Director's Early Independence Award supports exceptional junior investigators who wish to pursue independent research soon after completion of their terminal doctoral degree or post-graduate clinical training, thereby forgoing the traditional post-doctoral training period and accelerating their entry into an independent research career. For the program to support the best possible researchers and research, applications are sought which reflect the full diversity of the research workforce. Individuals from diverse backgrounds, including those from underrepresented groups and from the full spectrum of eligible institutions in all geographic locations, are strongly encouraged to apply to this Funding Opportunity Announcement. In addition, applications in all topics relevant to the broad mission of NIH are welcome, including, but not limited to, topics in the behavioral, social, biomedical, applied, and formal sciences and topics that may involve basic, translational, or clinical research. The NIH Director's Early Independence Award is a component of the High-Risk, High-Reward Research program of the NIH Common Fund. Review the Solicitation.

**Required Documents**
- Title of project
- Name of PI and key personnel, with departmental affiliations
- Brief statement of research topic and overall approach (1 page max).
- Current NIH Biosketch

**Funding**
- Up to $250,000 direct costs, plus applicable F&A costs per year for up to 5 years

**Deadlines**
- Internal Competition – 6/30/2021
- LOI (optional) – 8/3/2021
- Full Proposal Due – 9/3/2021

**Number of Applications**
- Two applications per institution

**Respond**
To submit a proposal in response to this limited competition, please return the required document(s) noted above as one PDF to ovpr.limitedsubmission@research.buffalo.edu by 5:00 pm per the internal deadline.

**For More Information:** Please contact ovpr.limitedsubmission@research.buffalo.edu.