

# CIRM

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE FOR  
REGENERATIVE MEDICINE

# EDUC4 Extension Proposal

ICOC/ARS Meeting

Kelly Shepard, PhD  
*Director, Discovery & Education*

September 24, 2026

# Agenda

## 1. CIRM Mission and Background Context

2. Problem Statement and Rationale

3. EDUC4 Program Overview

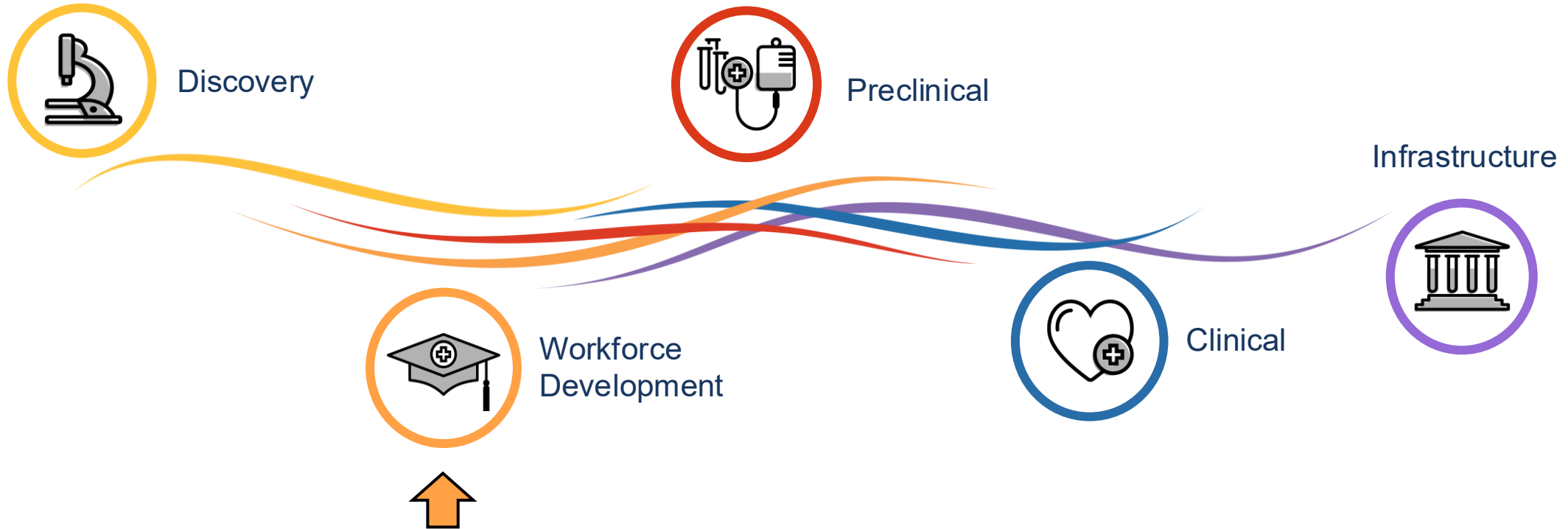
4. EDUC4 Extension Proposal

5. Timeline and Request for Approval



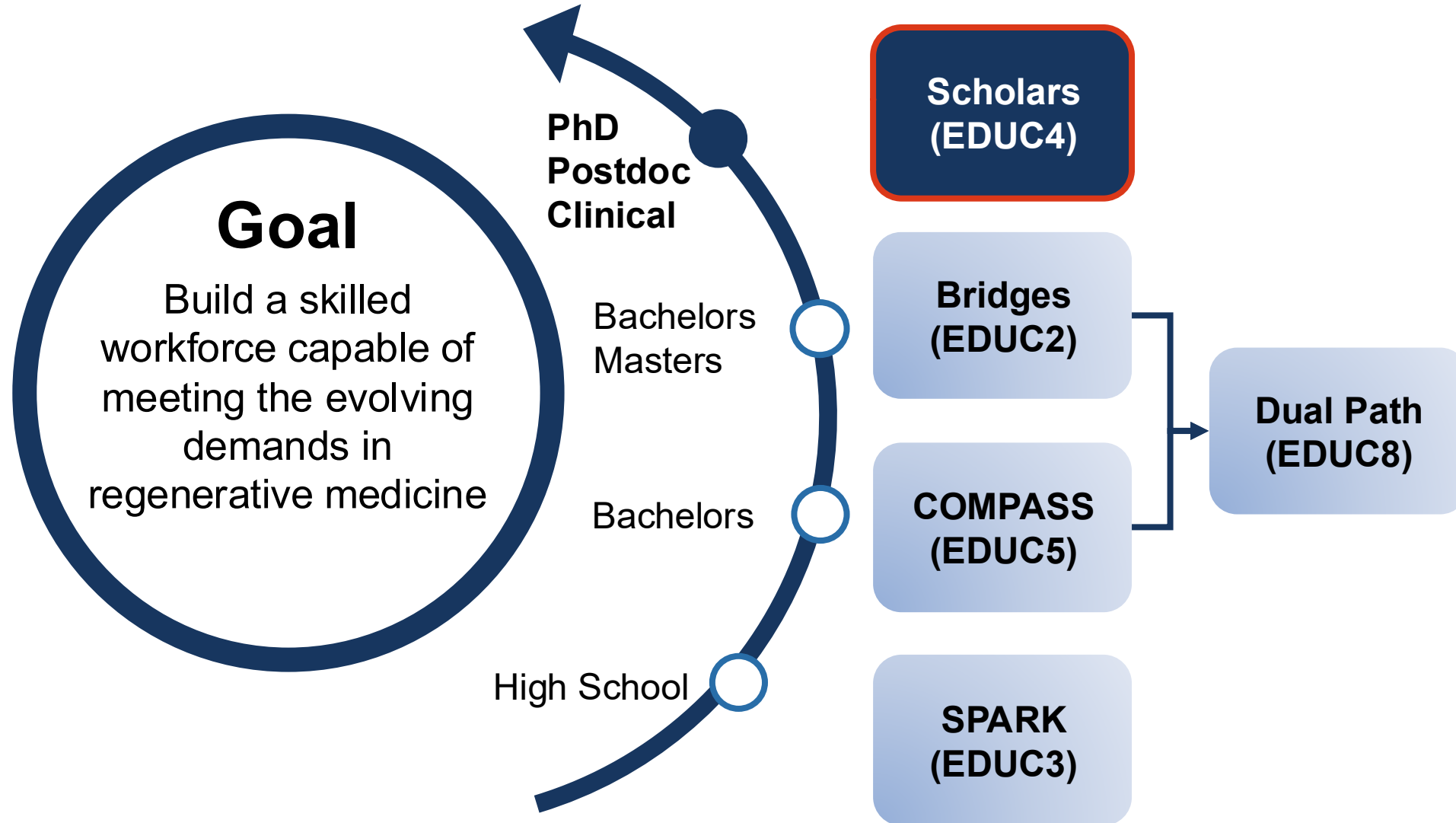
To accelerate world-class science and deliver transformative regenerative medicine treatments in an equitable manner to a diverse California and the world.

# CIRM Funding Approach and Strategy

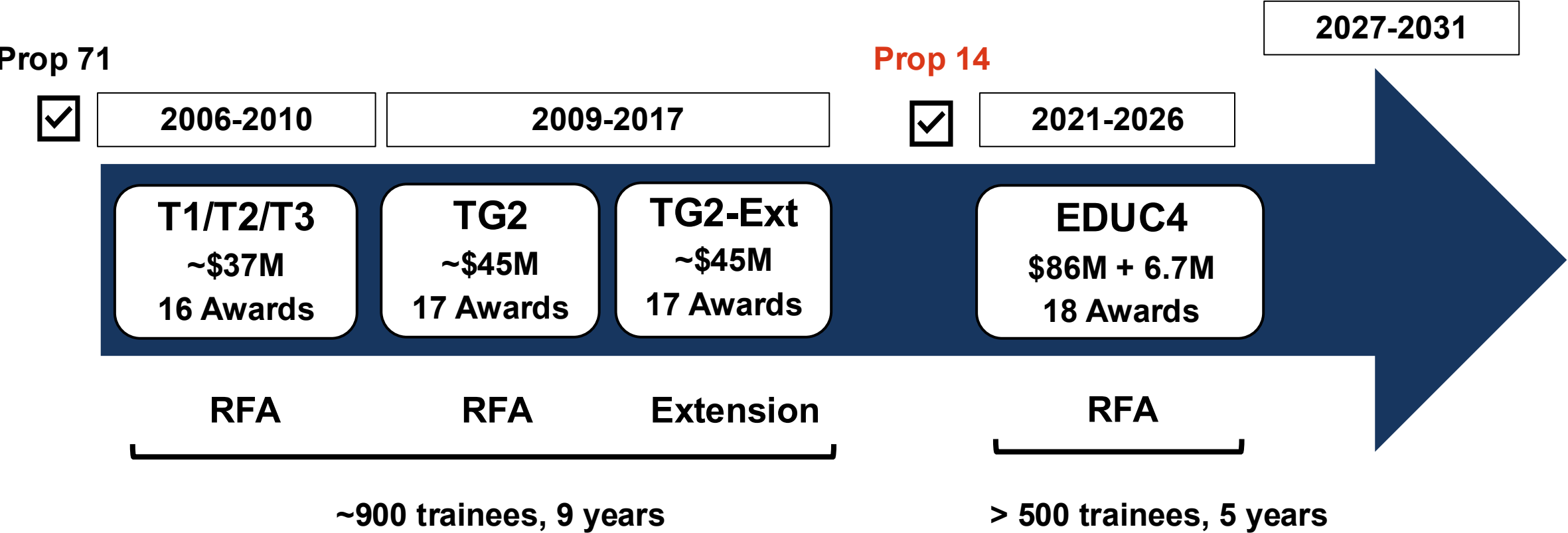


**SAF Goal 6** - Bolster CIRM's workforce development programs to address gaps and meet evolving demands in regenerative medicine

# EDUC4 Supports Predocs, Postdocs, and Clinical Fellows

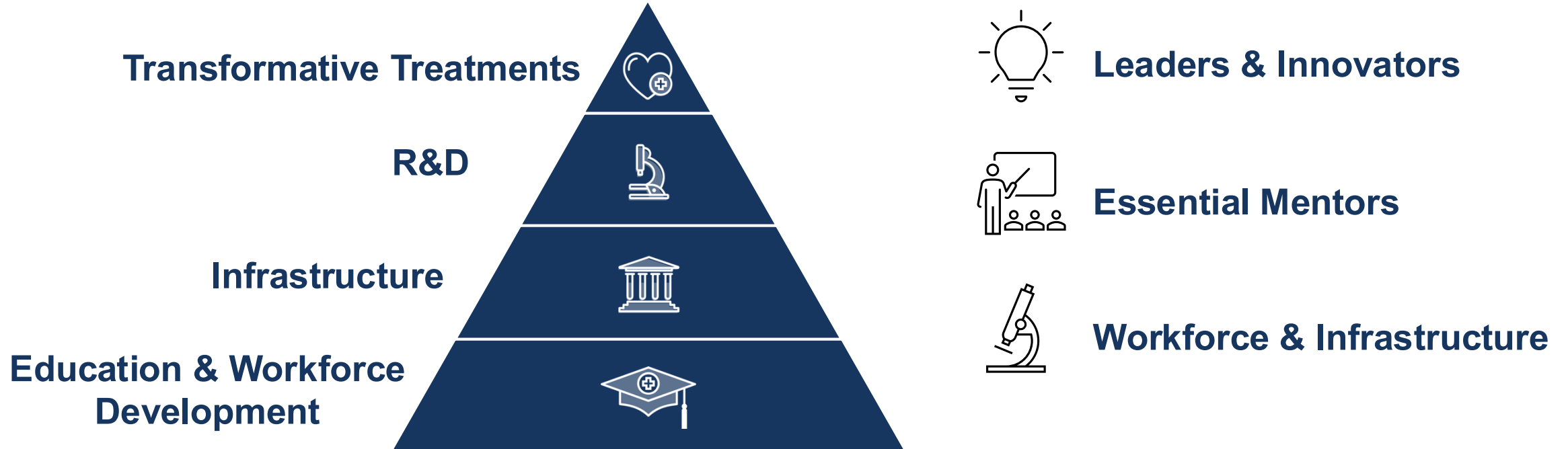


# Historic Funding for “CIRM Scholars” Program



Original Award Amounts shown.

# EDUC4 Trainees Are Essential for Workforce and Infrastructure

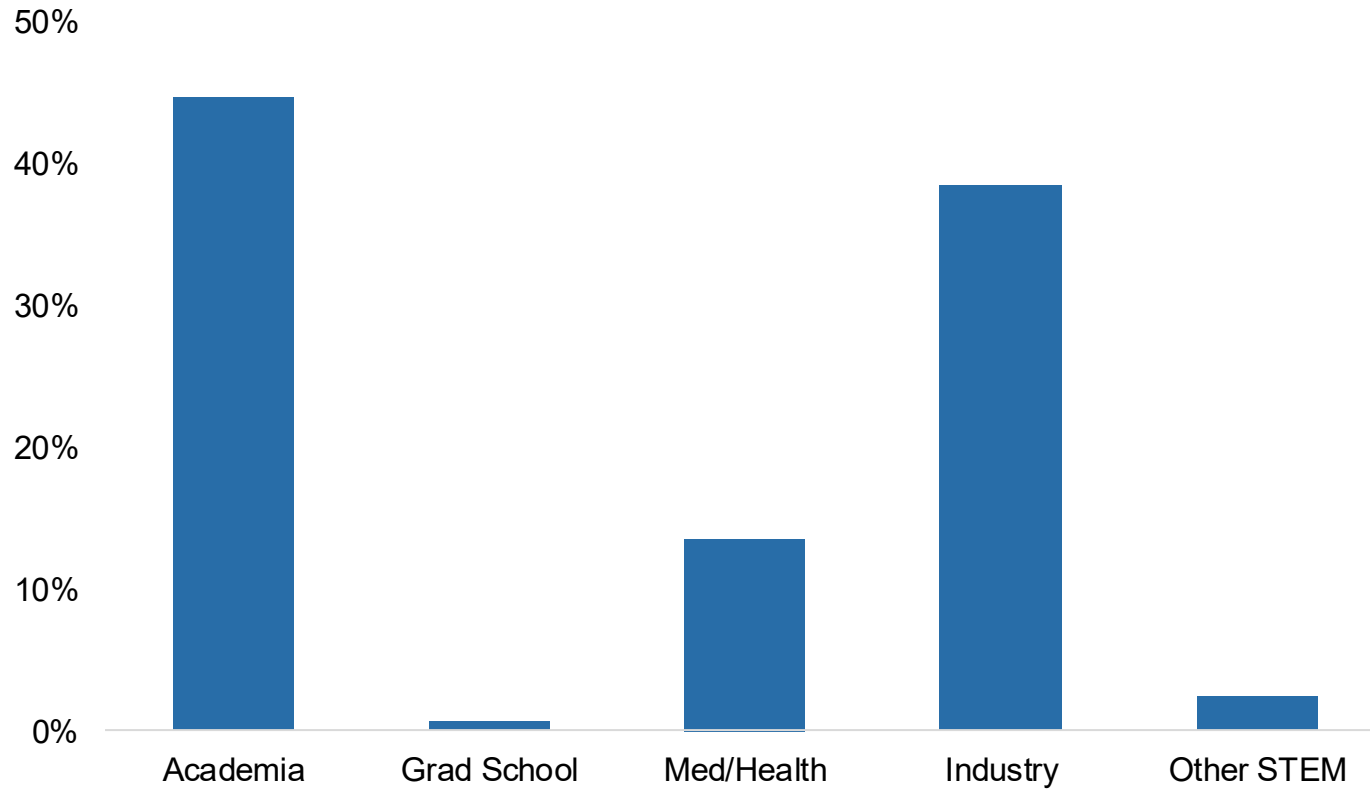


**Proposition 14, Section 25290.73:** The institute shall establish training and fellowship programs (that)

4) *Support graduate students, postdoctoral students, and medical students, including, but not limited to, interns, residents, and graduate fellows who work in the fields of stem cell and other vital research opportunities and in the development and delivery of treatments and cures*

# CIRM Research Training Outcomes

## Historic Alumni Outcomes



**1400+**  
Trainees



**1100+**  
Publications



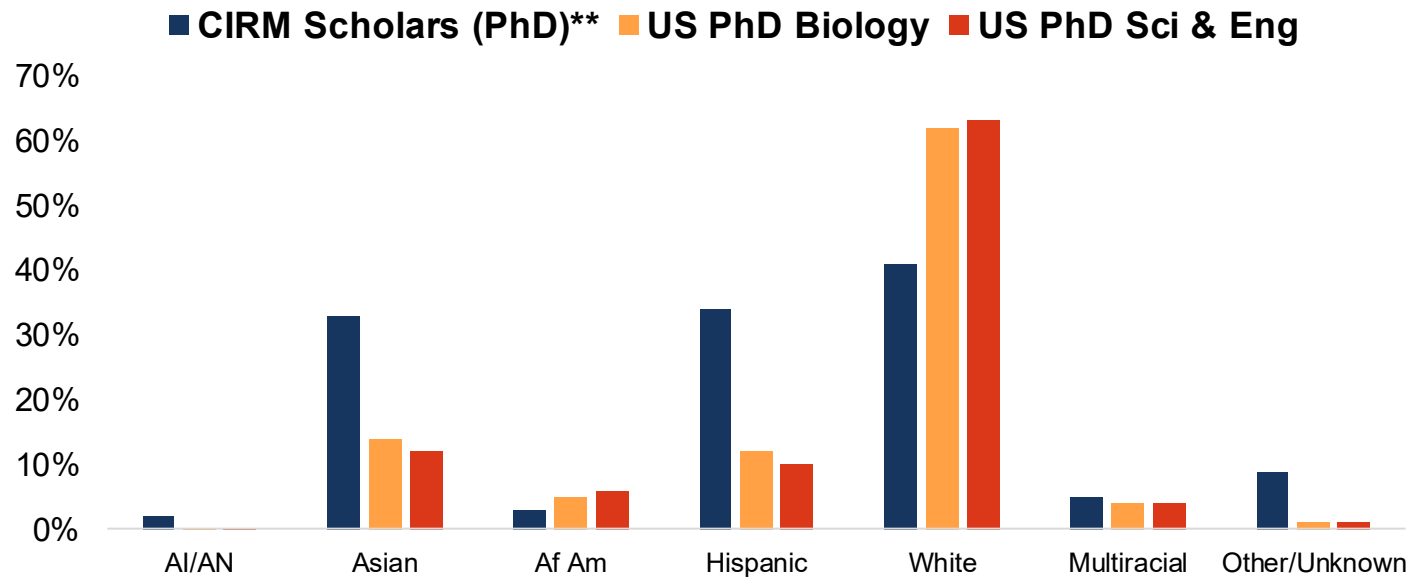
**700+**  
Mentors



**86%**  
\*Stay in STEM

# Demographics of CIRM Scholars

## Predoc Alumni vs. US Doctorates Awarded\* (2024)



Representation of **Hispanic, Asian** and **Multiracial/non-white PhD students** in CIRM Scholars program **exceeds** that in federal STEM graduate programs

## Historic Data for Ethnicity and Gender

|          | Hispanic | Non/Hisp | % Hispanic |
|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| Clinical | 6        | 25       | <b>20%</b> |
| Post-doc | 36       | 108      | <b>26%</b> |
| Pre-doc  | 35       | 67       | <b>34%</b> |

CIRM Scholars Alumni 2005-present; n=277 (25% reporting)

|          | Male | Female/Other | Ratio        |
|----------|------|--------------|--------------|
| Clinical | 108  | 78           | <b>58:42</b> |
| Post-doc | 278  | 271          | <b>51:49</b> |
| Pre-doc  | 170  | 210          | <b>45:55</b> |

CIRM Scholars Alumni 2005-present; n=1114 (99% reporting)

\*Source: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Earned Doctorates, 2024.

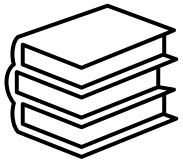
\*\*Source: CIRM EDUC Data. 102 reporting ethnicity, 515 reporting race; ethnicity can overlap with racial identity.

# Current EDUC4 Program Overview (2021-present)

## Objective

Foster and enhance the research experience of basic and clinical scientists during the doctoral and immediate postdoctoral stages of their career.

## Structure



### Coursework

Stem cell/regenerative medicine-relevant and specialized coursework; ethics



### Mentored Lab Research

Two to three-year fellowships in stem cell, gene therapy, and/or regenerative medicine-related research or key supportive disciplines



### Engagement and Outreach

Patient engagement and community outreach activities; networking conference

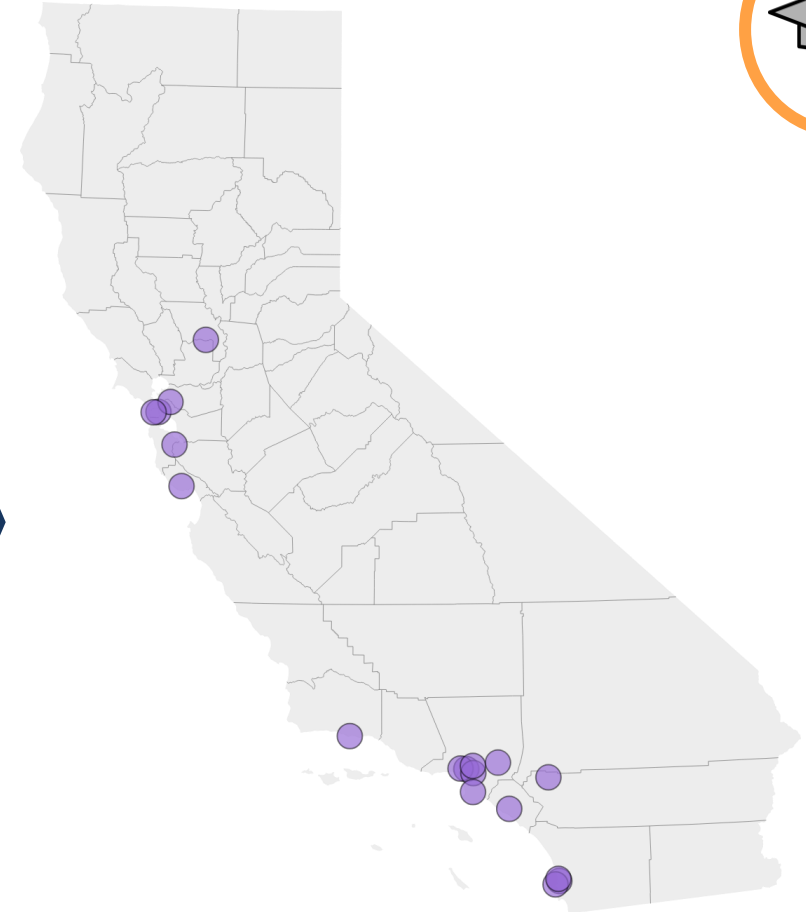
# 18 Active EDUC4 Programs

## Northern California

- UC Davis
- UC Berkeley
- UCSF
- Gladstone Institute
- UC Santa Cruz
- Stanford

## Southern California

- Cedars-Sinai
- CHLA
- City of Hope
- Lundquist Institute
- Sanford Burnham
- Scripps
- UC Irvine
- UCLA
- UC Riverside
- UC Santa Barbara
- USC
- UC San Diego



Created with Datawrapper

EDUC4 trains PhDs and beyond, and can only be at institutions that support this level of research

## Proposal: Supplemental Funding to Extend EDUC4 Programs

- **Provide \$5M supplemental funding to each of the 18 current EDUC4 awardees** that requests it, enabling them extend operations through Years 6-10
- **No changes to concept**, but adjustments to budget to calibrate for inflation and stipend increases
- EDUC4 Awardees will be **required to request the extension supplement** and provide a justified budget; they may propose improvements or minor updates if aligned with current concept
- CIRM D&E SOs/GMOs will **process and approve extension requests** following established due diligence workflows

**Nov/Dec 2026**

|        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |         |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 | Year 7 | Year 8 | Year 9 | Year 10 |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|



# EDUC4 Budget Adjustment

*In Collaboration with Grants Management Team*

| Category                                                                                                                                | Program Costs (Per Year) |                   |                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
|                                                                                                                                         | Predoc                   | Postdoc           | Clinical           |
| Stipend Range                                                                                                                           | \$40,387-\$58,658        | \$73,763-\$88,460 | \$95,957-\$109,371 |
| Trainee Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- tuition/fees</li><li>- health insurance</li><li>- research and travel</li></ul> | \$22,700                 | \$17,540          | \$24,760           |
| Program Admin                                                                                                                           | \$71,190                 |                   |                    |
| Indirect Costs (10%)                                                                                                                    | Varies                   |                   |                    |
| # Trainees slots                                                                                                                        | Up to 13                 |                   |                    |

**3.18%** for current and anticipated UCOP increases in October 2025 / 2026

# EDUC4 Budget Summary

*In Collaboration with Grants Management Team*

|                                          | EDUC4 Supplement            |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| CIRM Investment (18 Supplements)         | \$90M                       |
| Total Award Amount (Max)                 | \$5M                        |
| Award Duration                           | 5 years                     |
| Trainee Appointment Duration             | 2-3 years                   |
| Program Administration (Max)             | \$355,950                   |
| <b>Total Direct Costs Per Trainee/Yr</b> | <b>\$63,087- \$134,131*</b> |
| Total Individuals Trained                | 215-325**                   |



Conservatively, a program with a blend of all 3 trainee levels could support (per year)  
**4 Predocs, 4 Postdocs, 1 Clinical fellow for ~\$4.9M over 5 years**

\*Low stipend range pre-doc – high stipend range clin fellow

\*\* CIRM Funds only. Cost sharing at institutions enables this number to be expanded significantly

## Timeline and Request for Approval

**CIRM requests the ICOC recommend approval** of the proposed EDUC4 extension with an allocation of \$90M to support 18 EDUC4 programs with secure funding for an additional 5 years, with appropriate adjustments for inflation and stipend increases.

| Action                        | Time Frame                         |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ICOC Approval                 | September 24, 2026                 |
| Extension Requests Submission | October 1 - December 1, 2026       |
| Internal Processing           | October 1, 2026 - January 31, 2027 |
| Supplements Start             | November 1 - December 1, 2026      |