TIN Overview & Getting Started
A guide for investigators

What is the Trial Innovation Network?

The Trial Innovation Network (TIN) is a collaborative partnership with Investigators at the 60+ hubs in the national CTSA network. The vision of the TIN is to innovatively address critical roadblocks in multi-site clinical research and accelerate the translation of novel interventions into life-saving therapies.

The TIN focuses on operational innovation, operational excellence and collaboration, and will leverage the expertise and resources of the CTSA Program. There are two ways to get involved in the TIN:

• The local TIN Liaison Team will connect investigators with multi-site clinical trials initiated by other network sites.
• Investigators can submit their own proposals for multi-site trials to the TIN; the next page outlines how to submit.

Three reasons why you should partner with the TIN

1. **Operational Innovation**
   The TIN provides expert methodological and logistical guidance and draws on evidence-based strategies for success, which allows you to focus on the science.

2. **Excellence**
   The TIN helps to improve the multi-center study process by leveraging the national CTSA network and taking advantage of established infrastructure.

3. **Collaboration**
   The TIN connects you and your team with relevant experts, works in partnership with other NIH Institutes and Centers, and provides access to the entire CTSA network.

The Trial Innovation Network is comprised of three Trial Innovation Centers, one Recruitment Innovation Center, and 60+ CTSA Hubs

**Trial Innovation Centers**
The three Trial Innovation Centers (TICs) are managed by Duke/Vanderbilt, Johns Hopkins/Tufts, and the University of Utah. They provide support in the following areas:

• Protocol development
• Study operations enhancement
• Trial budgeting guidance
• Regulatory agreements
• Data coordination & management
• Clinical coordination & management
• Data safety & monitoring

**Recruitment Innovation Center**
The Recruitment Innovation Center (RIC) is managed at Vanderbilt and is an evidence-based center in innovative trial recruitment and retention methods, tools, and strategies. The RIC provides support with:

• Community engagement studios
• Recruitment planning and feasibility assessment
• Recruitment materials
• EHR-based tools & resources
• Site identification

Learn more about the TIN @ www.trialinnovationnetwork.org
What makes a good TIN submission?

- **A multi-site** clinical trial design (3+ institutions)
- Potential to demonstrate an **innovative operational approach**
- Opportunity to **foster broad collaboration** across the CTSA and NIH Institutes and Centers
- Includes **all populations** affected by the health condition being studied
- **Time** needed to collaborate prior to grant submission
  - 60 days to 180+ days, dependent on the level of support needed

---

How do I submit a proposal to the TIN?

1. **Connect with your CTSA TIN Liaison Team Point of Contact**
   Your liaison will connect you with local CTSA resources and resources from the TICs and RIC.

2. **Discuss your Project with Local CTSA Leadership**
   Your liaison will help arrange a meeting with the local CTSA leadership to review your project.

3. **Work with the Point of Contact to Submit the TIN Online Application**
   Within 5 business days from submission, you will be assigned to a TIC and/or RIC to arrange an initial consultation at no cost.

[www.nucats.northwestern.edu/research-resources/clinical-research-infrastructure/multicenter-clinical-trials.html](http://www.nucats.northwestern.edu/research-resources/clinical-research-infrastructure/multicenter-clinical-trials.html)

---

TIN Liaison Team Points of Contact

Keith Herzog & Toddie Hays
keith.herzog@northwestern.edu
patricia.hays@northwestern.edu

TIN Liaison Team Medical Director

Dr. Rich D’Aquila
richard.daquila@northwestern.edu

---

What happens after my TIN submission?

All applicants will receive an initial consultation. If applications require additional resources, an implementation plan will be developed for the approved resources. If a comprehensive consultation is needed, collaborative guidance for proposal development will be provided before submitting to funders.

Illustrated timeline is approximate and may be subject to change based on the responsiveness and needs of the research team and current number of active proposals.

Learn more about the TIN @ www.trialinnovationnetwork.org