



2021 CLINICAL SCIENTIST DEVELOPMENT AWARD PROGRAM

If interested in applying please contact Andrew Isaac (aisaac1@jhu.edu) in the University Office of Foundation Relations

Award Amount: \$495,000

Funding Term: 3 years

Due Date: 11/13/20 (*Pre-Proposals*)

Program Overview

The Clinical Scientist Development Award (CSDA) program is designed to assist physician scientists in their transition to independent research funding through funding that will allow them to:

- 1) conduct an outstanding clinical research project;
- 2) enable research time protection to ease the tension between research and clinical responsibilities;
- 3) facilitate development of strong mentorship relations.

There are no funding priorities based on disease area or research type.

The CSDA program provides successful applicants with a three year grant of \$150,000 direct cost plus \$15,000 in indirect cost annually. The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation expects to fund approximately 12-18 awards for 2021 drawn from an estimated 50 invited full-proposals.

Edibility

The CSDA program is open to candidates who:

- Hold an M.D., D.O. or foreign equivalent degree
- **Are junior, full-time faculty who were first appointed to their first post-training, full-time instructor or assistant professor position between December 1, 2016 and December 1, 2019.**
- Can be guaranteed overall research time protection of 75% of effort by the institution.
 - Applicants in specialties that require considerable effort to maintain clinical competency skills, such as those in surgery, are eligible to apply if a minimum effort commitment to research of 50% during the award term could be guaranteed by the institution
 - There is no explicit minimum percent effort that must be dedicated to the CSDA project.
- *Have not served as the principal investigator* of a single or multi-principal investigator, multiyear research grant with annual direct funding in the amount of \$225,000 or higher with a start date prior to/inclusive of July 1, 2021, except for NIH career development awards.
- *Have not served as the principal investigator* on a single or multiple-principal investigator National Institutes of Health R01 research grant or equivalent that has a start date prior to and inclusive of July 1, 2021. This includes but is not limited to: research projects that are part of a P01 program project, P50 center grant or a U01 cooperative agreement, DP1, DP2, R37, and VA Merit grants.
- Not be in a graduate degree program at the time of the award. All education and training toward advanced degrees must be completed by July 1, 2021.

- **Experiments that utilize non-human animals or primary tissues derived from them should not be included in the research plan.** Animal-based research may be presented as preliminary evidence supporting the research plan but the aims themselves may not include research with non-human animals.

Focus Areas

A clinical research project must be proposed in any disease area. The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation defines clinical research as ‘*the scientific investigation of the etiology, prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of human disease using human subjects, human populations or materials of human origin*’. Included in the definition are studies that utilize tissues or pathogens only if they can be linked to a patient.

It is expected that the research protocols of grant applicants will require an Institutional Review Board (IRB) whose approval, while not necessary at the time of application, should be in place by July 1, 2021 and no later than October 1, 2021.

Recent Award History & Trends

Since 2013, seven Johns Hopkins faculty members – including a record four awardees in 2020 – have received CSDA funding:

2020

- Justin B. Echouffo Tcheugui, M.D., Ph.D.
Department of Medicine, Division of Endocrinology
Effects of Sodium-Glucose Cotransporter (SGLT)-2 Inhibition on Energy Metabolism and Function of the Failing Human Heart
- Christa W. Habela, M.D., Ph.D.
Department of Neurology
Using Human Neurons, in Vitro, to Investigate Novel Mechanisms of Altered Brain Excitability in Patients with Epilepsy Susceptibility due to Deletion of the 15q11.2 Locus
- Michael D. Kornberg, M.D., Ph.D.
Department of Neurology
Pharmacologic and Dietary Approaches for Targeting Metabolism in Autoimmune Disease
- Mira M. Sachdeva, M.D., Ph.D.
Department of Ophthalmology
Longitudinal Profiling of Retinal Neurovascular Abnormalities and Molecular Biomarkers in Prediabetes and Early Diabetes: Establishing Novel Paradigms for Diabetic Retinopathy

2018

- Jacqueline M. Garonzik Wang, M.D., Ph.D.
Department of Surgery, Division of Transplant Surgery
Quantifying the risk and survival benefit of incompatible live donor kidney transplantation in the modern era
- Eileen P. Scully, M.D., Ph.D.
Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases
Defining mechanisms of innate immune programming and dysfunction in HIV disease

2014

- Chetan Bettegowda, M.D., Ph.D.
Department of Neurosurgery
Blood Based Biomarkers for Hereditary Cancer Syndromes Using Neurofibromatosis 1 as a Model

While the Foundation does not emphasize interest in any specific disease areas, projects focusing cancer, cardiovascular disease/stroke, neurological disorders or HIV have been the most prevalent among recent awardees.

Timeline

- *Pre-proposals Due* – November 13, 2020 by 3PM ET
- *Invitation to Submit a Full Proposal* – January 15, 2021 by 5PM ET
- *Full Proposal Due* – March 12, 2021 by 3PM ET
- *Notice of Award* – End of May, 2021
- *Award Start Date* – July 1, 2021

Pre-Proposal Process

The Pre-Proposal is to be submitted via the [Doris Duke Charitable Trust online submission portal](#) and is comprised of the following components, all of which are to be completed by the Primary Investigator unless otherwise noted –

- [Online confidential support forms](#)
 - Mentorship form (to be completed by the applicants mentor)
 - Institutional commitment form from the department chair (to be completed by the department chair)
- **Application Form** (*to be completed in the online portal*)
 - PI information and affiliations
 - Project information
 - Mentor information
 - Contact information for department chair to confirm institutional support
- **Pre-Proposal Application Document** (*to be submitted as a PDF via the online portal*)
 - Biosketch of the applicant using the Foundation's template [here](#)
 - NIH format biosketch of the mentor(s) using the NIH template
 - Research plan (*2 pages maximum*)
 - Career accomplishments and research experience
 - Significance of the proposed research
 - Overall goal of the proposed project
 - Study design overview
 - Role of the CSDA program in the transition to independence
 - Description of who the proposal meets the Foundation's definition of clinical research (*1/2 page*)
 - Cited literature
 - Letter from the Office of Research Administration to confirm eligibility, review and approval of the submission.

Please note that the confidential forms for the mentor and department chair will be sent electronically to each recipient upon the request of the applicant through the online portal.