

Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovation Award

Grantor: Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation

Closes: 6/1/2010

Maximum: \$450,000.00

Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovation Award

The Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovation Award is designed to provide support for the next generation of exceptionally creative thinkers with “high risk/high reward” ideas that have the potential to significantly impact our understanding of and/or approaches to the prevention, diagnosis or treatment of cancer.

The Innovation award is specifically designed to provide funding for extraordinary early career researchers who have an innovative new idea but lack sufficient preliminary data to obtain traditional funding. It is not designed to fund incremental advances. The research supported by the award must be novel, exceptionally creative and, if successful, have the strong potential for high impact in the cancer field.

Awards are made to institutions for support of the Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovation Investigators. All awards are approved by the Board of Directors of the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation acting upon the recommendation of the Innovation Award Committee.

Applications will be evaluated based on the following:

- * The applicant’s capacity to conduct bold, exceptionally creative research.
- * The novelty and creativity of the proposed research. Incremental research will not be funded.
- * The potential of the proposed research to lead to advances that will significantly impact the prevention, diagnosis, treatment or basic understanding of cancer.
- * The applicant’s lack of resources to pursue the proposed research.

Program Sponsors

The Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovation Award is being funded by the generous support of Andrew and Debra Rachleff.

Eligibility

- * Institutional nominations are not required and there is no limit to the number of applications that can be received from a particular institution.
- * Applicants (including non-U.S. citizens) must be conducting independent research at a U.S. research institution.
- * Basic and translational/clinical projects will be considered. Applications will be accepted from all scientific disciplines provided that the proposed research meets the selection criteria.
- * Applicants with a background in multiple disciplines are especially encouraged to apply.
- * Joint submission from collaborators working in different disciplines will be considered. (The collaborators will share the

\$450,000 award.)

* Applicants must belong to one of the following categories:

- o Tenure-track Assistant Professors within the first three years of obtaining their initial Assistant Professor position. (Cut-off date: June 1, 2007.)
- o Clinical Instructors and Senior Clinical Fellows (in their final year of their sub-specialty training) holding an MD who are pursuing a period of independent research before taking a tenure-track faculty position. Such individuals must have an exceptional record of research accomplishment, dedicated laboratory space and the support of their institution.
- o Distinguished Fellows with an exceptional record of research accomplishment identified by their institution to pursue an independent research program and who have institutional support to maintain their own laboratories. These candidates are markedly distinct from traditional postdoctoral fellows. Examples: Whitehead Fellows, UCSF Fellows, Cold Spring Harbor Fellows.

[Research Assistant Professors, Research Associate Professors, Research Scientists and Postdoctoral Fellows are not eligible.]

* Applicants must commit a minimum of 80% of their time to conducting research.

* Applicants may apply no more than two times.

* Applicants must demonstrate that they have access to the resources and infrastructure necessary to conduct the proposed research.

* The department must guarantee the Investigator is conducting the proposed research independently.

Funding

* The award will be for a period of three years. Each award will provide a total of \$450,000 in direct costs. The Award cannot be used for indirect costs or institutional overhead.

* Awards will be paid in increments of \$150,000 per year for three years. However, the Innovation Award Committee will consider an accelerated payment schedule if an award recipient can demonstrate compelling need.

* The Innovation Award funds are intended to be flexible and can be used for a variety of scientific needs including the Investigator's salary, salaries for professional and technical personnel, special equipment, supplies and other miscellaneous items required to conduct the proposed research.

* The submitted budgets should be realistic estimates of the funds required for the proposed research and be itemized by category according to the instructions on the budget form.

* No part of this award may be used for indirect costs or institutional overhead.

Concurrent Funding

Since the goal of the Innovation Award is to fund high risk/high reward research that lacks sufficient preliminary data to secure traditional funding, the applicant should not have funding for this proposed project.

During the course of the award, award recipients are encouraged to seek additional funding to expand and further develop their projects.

2010 Important Dates

June 1, 2010 Pre-Proposals Due

July 23, 2010 Notification of Semi-Finalists

September 3, 2010 Full Proposals Due

Fall 2010 Finalist Interviews

December 2010 Notification of Awardees

January 1, 2011 Funding Begins

Award Programs

Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation

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55 Broadway, Suite 302

New York, NY 10006

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Link: http://www.damonrunyon.org/for_scientists/categories/category/awards/

Categories: Basic Science, Cancer, Cancer Control, Cancer Prevention, Chronic Diseases, Clinical Research, Disease-Specific Research, Novel Therapies, Oncology, Translational Research

Audience: Established Investigator, Junior Faculty, Physician Researcher