

American Gastroenterological Association Research Scholar Awards

Grantor: American Gastroenterological Association

Closes: 9/7/2012

Maximum: \$120,000.00

American Gastroenterological Association Research Scholar Awards

Awards are made to support promising junior faculty by protecting research time.

AT A GLANCE

Eligibility: Junior Faculty

Amount/year: \$60,000

Duration: Two years

Deadline: Sep. 7

Start Date: July 1

DESCRIPTION

This award provides \$60,000 per year for two years (total \$120,000) to young investigators working toward independent careers in gastroenterology, hepatology or related areas. A third year of funding may be available contingent upon the availability of funds and after competitive review.

OBJECTIVE

The overall objective of the Research Scholar Award (RSA) is to enable young investigators to develop independent and productive research careers in digestive diseases by ensuring that a major proportion of their time is protected for research.

ELIGIBILITY

Candidates for this award must hold an MD, PhD or equivalent degree (e.g. MB, ChB, MBBS, DO) and a full-time faculty position at a North American institution by July 1, 2013.

AGA Membership is required at the time of application submission. Please visit www.gastro.org/membership or call 301-654-2055, extension 651, for membership information.

The award will support young faculty (not fellows) who have demonstrated exceptional promise and have some record of accomplishment in research. Candidates should be in the beginning years of their careers; therefore, established investigators are not appropriate candidates.

MD applicants: No more than five years shall have elapsed following the completion of clinical training (GI fellowship or its equivalent) and the start date of this award.

PhD applicants: No more than five years shall have elapsed following the awarding of your PhD and the start date of this award.

An appropriately documented parental leave of absence will not be counted toward the above noted five-year eligibility criteria. Exceptional circumstances may also be considered.

Candidates must devote at least 70 percent of their efforts to research related to the gastrointestinal tract or liver.

Women, minorities and physician/scientist investigators are strongly encouraged to apply.

Women and underrepresented minority applicants are strongly encouraged to apply; these applications in particular will receive the review committee's full consideration.

AWARD OVERLAP

At the time of application submission, candidates may not hold or have held an R01, R29, R21, K-series award, Veterans Affairs Career Development Award or any award with similar objectives from non-federal sources (such as the American Liver Foundation, Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation). If a candidate is granted the award and notified of a comparable award from another agency prior to the first payment of this award, the recipient must select one of the two awards (i.e. the recipient may not retain both awards). If the recipient is notified that a comparable award has been granted after the first payment of this award, the recipient must forfeit the remaining balance of this award.

The intent of this award is to foster the scientific independence of junior investigators. Candidates whose research activities become incorporated into a grant application from a senior mentor will need to delineate clearly the scientific and experimental distinctions between their respective programs. This requirement applies both to pending applications submitted prior to review of this award and to applications submitted during the term of the RSA. It also must be clearly stated that the work submitted by the applicant is that of the applicant and not other senior mentors. Should the contents of other applications be included in the application for this award, the applicant will be disqualified from consideration.

REQUIREMENTS

Resources allocated through this award are intended to support the career development of the applicant. Accordingly, requests for salary, fringe benefits or other support for the mentor are not allowed. Indirect costs are not allowed. Upon notification of receipt of this award, the recipient must provide institutional approval from the appropriate committee for use of human subjects or animals. If approval is not necessary, the recipient must provide an explanation. Evidence for developing independence in research initiatives should be provided.

Candidates are required to have a sponsor and preceptor for the award; however, one individual may serve in the capacity of both positions. A sponsor is an individual who takes responsibility for the quality assessment of the proposed research project, the quality of the research environment within which the project will be undertaken, and the experience and expertise of the principal investigator and other key researchers involved. A preceptor will supervise the principal

investigator's research activities and will serve as a mentor.

Annually, a one-page plain-language progress report, a scientific progress report, a financial statement, a list of publications based on the research and a letter of certification from the division chief or department chair, must be submitted by the award recipient by July 30. Second- and third-year funding are contingent upon submission of this documentation. If funding becomes available for a third year of research support, the recipient must participate in a competitive review process for the renewal. This process will require the submission of a concise progress report in addition to a 10-minute presentation to the AGA Research Scholar Award review panel during DDW. The recipient will be notified in advance if a competitive review will occur. All publications, presentations and abstracts arising from work funded by this program must acknowledge support of the AGA Research Foundation Research Scholar Award.

INSTITUTIONAL COMMITMENT

There must be a strong commitment from the candidate's institution to support the required protected time for research and adequate laboratory space and/or other supporting facilities. These commitments must be outlined in a letter from the candidate's division chief or department chair. The letter must certify that the award is being used to provide protected time, in accord with the terms of the award. In addition, it is expected that the sponsor will outline specific plans for the future development of the candidate's research career. The institution must commit to ensuring timely and accurate reporting of the awardee's current and future research activities at the institution; this is to include an annual report of the funding status, grants submitted and pending, and all publications.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The recipient will be selected based on the following criteria: significance, investigator, innovation, approach, environment, relevance to AGA's mission and evidence of institutional commitment. The candidate should state clearly how the additional training will benefit his/her research career.

REVIEW PROCESS

A selection committee comprised of members of the AGA Research Awards Panel will review the proposals and select the award recipients. Funding will commence July 2013.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application deadline is September 7. The completed application, letters of support or commitment, and other documents, as applicable, must be combined into and submitted as one PDF document. The document must be titled by the applicant's last name and first initial only. Hard copies are not accepted. Please e-mail the application document to awards@gastro.org. In the submission e-mail, include your full name and project title. Please direct all questions to the Research Awards Manager via telephone at 301-222-4012 or email at awards@gastro.org.

Link: <http://www.gastro.org/aga-foundation/grants/career-development-awards/research-scholar-awards>