RESEARCH

DIVERSITY FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

med.umn.edu/dom/diversity-equity-inclusion

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The purpose of the Diversity Award for Research Equity (DARE) is to provide funding to early to mid-career faculty to increase their academic productivity, expand their research portfolio, and promote career advancement. Specifically, the Department of Medicine is interested in supporting faculty within the first 15 years of their career, who will conduct research that addresses inequities in health or healthcare access. Prioritization will be given to support faculty who are under-represented in medicine and sciences.

DARE will be awarded to one Department of Medicine Faculty member in the amount of $25,000 per year, for two years (totaling $50,000 in direct expenses). The awardee will be announced at the Department of Medicine's Research Hebbel Day and funding may begin at the start of the new academic year. Awardees will receive ongoing support and mentorship, including quarterly check-in meetings to ensure success.

**PURPOSE**

**AWARD DESCRIPTION**

**TIMELINE**

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ELIGIBILITY

- MD, PhD, or equivalent advanced degree
- Full time (75% FTE or greater) academic appointment at the level of Assistant Professor or Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Minnesota.
- Primary appointment at University of Minnesota
- All promotion tracks accepted
- Basic, clinical, and educational research accepted

Note: An individual may apply for both DARE and ERA awards, but can only be the recipient of one award

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Eligible faculty should complete the "Intent to Submit" form during the timeline established above. The "Intent to Submit" should be submitted at the using the link provided. The "Intent to Submit" process offers the applicant an opportunity highlight their research plans, give insight into their career path, and any additional information that may help the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion team determine the applicant meets eligibility requirements.

- Applicants will be notified by the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion team if they are invited to submit a full application. A link for submitting the full application will be included in the invitation to submit. Applications are due on the date established in the timeline above. Below is a list and description of all supporting materials that should be included in the application. All documents should be drafted in Microsoft Word with 1/2 inch margins, Arial 11 font, single space, and right bottom page numbering.
PROCESS CONTINUED

Cover Page - (One Page Maximum)
- Name and degree(s), division, and project title
- Abstract (up to 30 lines of text): Concise summary of proposed research and its anticipated impact on your research career development

Research Project Description - (Three Page Maximum, Excluding References)
- Specific aims (~½ page)
- Scientific significance (1-2 paragraphs)
- Innovation (1 paragraph)
- Research plan (study design, methods, analysis plan, timeline, ~1½ pages)
- Future plans, next steps for this research (~½ page, be as specific as possible)

Applicant's Career Path - (One Page Maximum)
- Brief summary of your career path up to this point (~½ page)
- Explanation of how this funding will help you accomplish your short- and long-term career goals (~½ page)

Letters of Support - (Division Director/Chief Letter Required, ONE Additional Preferred)
- May be provided by research colleagues, collaborators, or mentors
- Should focus on feasibility, your capacity to do the proposed work, and the project’s value in supporting your career progression.
- A template for the Division Director/Chief may be found here.

Budget & Justification
- Provide a detailed budget for each year of the funding requested. Funding for Year two is dependent on a progress report that must be submitted near the end of Year One.
- Funds can be used to support up to 15% of applicant's effort per year (based on NIH PI Cap), salary support for research (statistical support, research assistant, technician, postdoctoral fellow, graduate student), and other project-specific costs (participant reimbursement, lab/other services, supplies, etc.) and up to $2500/year for travel.
- Collaborators within and outside of DOM are encouraged but salaries are limited to DOM co-investigators (up to a maximum of 1%).
- Provide a clear and detailed justification for each budget item.
- Examples of budget and justifications may be found here.
PROCESS CONTINUED

Supporting Documents - (All Required)

- NIH biosketch (encouraged) or curriculum vitae (CV) in Medical School format (can be downloaded from CV Works)
- NIH Other Support page. If DARE application includes aims from a pending grant proposal, please indicate how the overlap will be handled in the event both are funded

AWARD REQUIREMENTS

All awardees are expected to participate in mentorship and development opportunities provided by the award program. This may include quarterly progress check in meetings and sharing experiences as a principle investigator in the program with other colleagues. Additionally, there will be a progress review at the end of the first year to confirm eligibility for the second year of funding.

SELECTION & SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications will be reviewed by a committee of Department of Medicine and Medical School peers. A successful applicant will demonstrate:

- The merit of the research proposal (scientific aims and methods)
- Likelihood of research leading to salient results, peer-reviewed publications and/or presentations
- Likelihood that funds will be used to advance the applicants career
- Alignment with purpose of DARE.
- Demonstrated plans for engagement with mentors and other support resources
PURPOSE
The purpose of the Dr. Anne Joseph Early-Career Research Award (ERA) is to provide supplemental funding to sustain research productivity and retention of early-career faculty that took time away from research work for caregiving responsibilities, as outlined in the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). Applicants must have current financial research support with a clear path to a successful independent research career. Specifically, ERA funding will be strategically applied to help recipients advance their research towards the goal of submitting a competitive R01 application (or equivalent), as an independent Principal Investigator, within one to three years.

AWARD DESCRIPTION
The ERA award will be given to one Department of Medicine Faculty member in the amount of $50,000 per year, for two years (totaling $100,000 in direct expenses). The awardee will be announced at the Department of Medicine’s Research Hebbel Day and funding may begin at the start of the new academic year. Awardees will receive ongoing support and mentorship, including quarterly check-in meetings to ensure success.

TIMELINE

- **Intent to Submit Form Accepted**
  - January 8 - February 23

- **Invitation to Apply**
  - March 11

- **Application Due**
  - April 19

- **Award Announced**
  - May
ELIGIBILITY

- MD, PhD, or equivalent advanced degree
- Full time (75% FTE or greater) academic appointment at the level of Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Minnesota
- Within seven years of first full-time faculty appointment at the time the award is initiated, cumulative of all institutions, inside or outside the United States
- Primary appointment at University of Minnesota

- Tenure or Academic Track
- Basic, clinical, and educational research accepted.
- Minimum of 50% funded time for research
- Current support as Principal Investigator for an investigator-initiated grant (e.g. career development award, research grant, pilot funding). Grant Sponsor must have conducted peer review (i.e. can be internal if peer-reviewed but does not include business and industry funding).
- Applicants must have taken or will take a minimum of 6 weeks of leave for caregiving responsibilities within the past 5 years starting July 1, 2019, as per FMLA regulations, before the award is initiated.

Note: An individual may apply for both DARE and ERA awards, but can only be the recipient of one award

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Eligible faculty should complete the "Intent to Submit" form during the timeline established above. The "Intent to Submit" should be submitted using the link provided. The "Intent to Submit" process offers the applicant an opportunity highlight their research plans, give insight into their career path, and any additional information that may help the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion team determine the applicant meets eligibility requirements.

- Applicants will be notified by the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion team if they are invited to submit a full application. A link for submitting the full application will be included in the invitation to submit. Applications are due on the date established in the timeline above. Below is a list and description of all supporting materials that should be included in the application. All documents should be drafted in Microsoft Word with 1/2 inch margins, Arial 11 font, single space, and right bottom page numbering.
PROCESS CONTINUED

Cover Page - (One Page Maximum)
- Name and degrees, division, and project title
- Abstract (up to 30 lines of text): Concise summary of proposed research and its anticipated impact on your research career development

Research Project Description - (Three Page Maximum, Excluding References)
- Specific aims (~½ page)
- Scientific significance (1-2 paragraphs)
- Innovation (1 paragraph)
- Research plan (study design, methods, analysis plan, timeline, ~1½ pages)
- Future plans, next steps for this research including anticipated R-level grant submission (~½ page, be as specific as possible)

Applicant’s Career Path - (One Page Maximum)
- Brief summary of your career path up to this point (~½ page)
- Explanation of how this funding will help you accomplish your short- and long-term career goals (~½ page)

Letters of Support - (Division Director/Chief Letter Required, ONE Additional Preferred)
- May be provided by research colleagues, collaborators, or mentors
- Should focus on feasibility, your capacity to do the proposed work, and the project’s value in supporting your progression to research independence.
- A template for the Division Director/Chief may be found here.

Budget & Justification
- Provide a detailed budget for each year of the funding requested. Funding for Year two is dependent on a progress report that must be submitted near the end of Year One.
- Funds can be used to support up to 15% of applicant’s effort per year (based on NIH PI Cap), salary support for research (statistical support, research assistant, technician, postdoctoral fellow, graduate student), and other project-specific costs (participant reimbursement, lab/other services, supplies, etc.) and up to $2500/year for travel.
- Collaborators within and outside of DOM are encouraged but salaries are limited to DOM co-investigators (up to a maximum of 1%).
- Provide a clear and detailed justification for each budget item.
- Examples of budget and justifications may be found here
PROCESS CONTINUED

Supporting Documents - (All Required)
- NIH biosketch (encouraged) or curriculum vitae (CV) in Medical School format (can be downloaded from CV Works)
- NIH Other Support page. If WERC application includes aims from a pending grant proposal, please indicate how overlap will be handled in the event both are funded.
- Personal certification of caregiving responsibilities within past 5 years.

AWARD REQUIREMENTS

All awardees are expected to participate in mentorship and development opportunities provided by the award program. This may include quarterly progress check in meetings and sharing experiences as a principle investigator in the program with other colleagues. Additionally, there will be a progress review at the end of the first year to confirm eligibility for the second year of funding.

SELECTION & SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications will be reviewed by a committee of Department of Medicine and Medical School peers. A successful applicant will demonstrate:
- The merit of the research proposal (scientific aims and methods)
- Likelihood of research leading to salient results, peer-reviewed publications and/or presentations
- Relationship of processed research to upcoming RO1 (or RO1 equivalent) application(s)
- Timeliness of this funding opportunity
- Value added to current research support
- Alignment with purpose of the ERA award
- Demonstrated plans for engagement with mentors and other support resources
- Time off for caregiving responsibilities within past five years
Our Most Important Resource is You

Questions
If you have any questions, please contact the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion team at the email below.

Resources
Job aids, example documents, and templates can be accessed here.

med.umn.edu/dom/diversity-equity-inclusion
dom-dei@umn.edu