

2022 Underrepresented in Medicine Faculty Clinical Research Grant Call for Proposals

Program Description

The Institutional Centers for Clinical and Translational Research (ICCTR), in collaboration with the Office of Health Equity and Inclusion and the Office of Faculty Development, announces the 2022 Underrepresented in Medicine (UIM) Faculty Clinical Research Grant. At Boston Children's Hospital (BCH), and in alignment with our hospital's Declaration on Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity, we are committed to expanding underrepresentation of researchers from diverse population groups in the clinical research setting. This is fundamental for creating a more inclusive environment and capitalizing on innovative ideas.

Encouraging the research careers of early career faculty from diverse backgrounds and life experiences is important as they bring different perspectives to solve complex clinical research problems. A diverse scientific workforce at BCH will enable us to continue fostering scientific innovation, improving the quality of the research, and contributing to robust learning environments. Hence, this call for proposals is focused on Instructors or Assistant Professors from underrepresented in medicine groups. Clinical research projects with a focus on promoting health equity and reducing disparities are encouraged; however, this is not a requirement for funding.

Purpose of Award

The ultimate purpose of this two-year grant is to enhance Boston Children's Hospital commitment to achieving a culture honoring equity, diversity, respect, inclusion and excellence.

Award

The total award is \$50,000 per year for two years (\$100,000 total). The funding period will be from September 1, 2022 to August 30, 2024 and can be used toward the following:

- \$25,000/year (\$50,000 total) for any budget category
- \$25,000/year (\$50,000 total) for a clinical research project manager or a study coordinator
- The applicant's division/department must commit to support an additional 20% of the investigator's time to conduct the proposed research.

Eligibility

The applicant must have either an MD and/or PhD (or equivalent) as well as a current primary academic appointment at Boston Children's Hospital (i.e., receiving salary/benefits from BCH or a foundation) with a Harvard Medical School Instructor or Assistant Professor appointment as of July 1, 2022, and from the following racial and ethnic groups that have been defined by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as underrepresented in biomedical research: Blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, American Indians or Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders. The applicant should also have demonstrated excellence in research training, productivity, and a well-defined focus in clinical or translational but without substantial independent support. Applicants on training grants are encouraged to apply.

Not eligible to apply are faculty,

- who have received a BTREC/CTREC recruitment package within the past 4 years
- with a fundable score on their R01 application

- who are current recipients of any Boston Children's Hospital faculty development award

Application Format Requirements

Applications must include:

- *Face page*: principal investigator's name and project title; BCH ID number; Division/Department/Program, Children's Hospital professional and Harvard Medical School academic professional appointments; email; Type of research: Clinical and/or Translational
- *Clinical research proposal summary* (3-page limit, excluding references): background and significance; aims and hypotheses; preliminary data; methods; analysis plan; timeframe; and references. Clinical research protocol if applicable and approved by IRB.
- *Career Development Plan* (½ page limit)
- *NIH Biosketch and Other support* (NIH format) if applicable. Include all current and pending funding with committed effort.
- *Budget and Budget Justification*: Budget should not exceed \$50,000 direct costs/year for two years. Please identify what award money will be used for (e.g., your salary, salary of a Clinical Research project manager or study coordinator, supplies) using the provided budget form. Salaries should be expressed as a percent effort and can include fringe benefits. If you have funding from other sources, please outline how these additional funding sources will be utilized.
- *Department/Division/Program Chair Letter and Attestation*: The chair letter should describe support of the applicant's career and potential for academic advancement at BCH. This letter must include a commitment to providing 20% of the total direct and indirect costs of the salary plus fringe of the applicant should the proposal be awarded. The division chief should also sign the attestation that the applicant will be given dedicated time to complete this research effort.
- *Clinical Research Mentor*: Include a letter of support from the applicant's research mentor (if different from Department/Division/Program Chair) in support of applicant's career and "path to independence."

Proposal Submission and Review

- Application materials should be submitted using this link <http://s.alchemer.com/s3/UIM-RFA>
- All proposals will be evaluated and ranked by an *ad hoc* review panel, consisting of BCH investigators. The review committee may choose to interview potential recipients. Criteria for funding priority for all applications will be: excellence of clinical research design, need, and promise for future funding and academic advancement. The awards will be announced by email following the review process and final approval by ICCTR, Office of Health Equity and Inclusion and the Office of Faculty Development.

Submission Deadline and Grant Deliverables

Call for proposals: anticipated late Spring 2022

Grant submission deadline: July 15, 2022

Grant award decisions announced: August 1, 2022

Grant funding period begins: September 1, 2022

Grant progress reports due: March 2023, September 2023, March 2024

Boston Children's Hospital Research presentation: May 2024

Grant final report due: June 30, 2024

*All funded project deliverables must contain the following acknowledgement, "Funding for the project was in part obtained from the Institutional Centers for Clinical and Translational Research (ICCTR) and Harvard Catalyst, and in a collaboration with the Boston Children's Office of Health Equity and Inclusion and Office of Faculty Development."

Questions: Please contact either Dr. Lise Nigrovic at lise.nigrovic@childrens.harvard.edu or Dr. Valerie L. Ward at valerie.ward@childrens.harvard.edu

Detailed Budget

<i>Faculty support, project management, and study coordinator support</i>	UIM Faculty Clinical Research Grant	Other Funds
Total Support/Assistance:		
<i>Equipment (itemize)</i>		
Total Equipment:		
<i>Supplies (itemize by category)</i>		
Total Supplies:		
<i>Additional Expenses (itemize by category)</i>		
Total Additional Expenses:		
Total Grant Support:		

The "Other Funds" column should be used to list funds that are not provided by the UIM Faculty Clinical Research Grant but are required to complete the proposed project. The source(s) of these funds must be detailed in the budget justification.

Budget Justification

1. Justification of costs and identification of other departmental/funding sources or contributions to the project. Grant funds should be used to cover direct project costs. No more than \$500 can be spent on equipment.
2. Describe administrative support/research assistance, supplies, transcription services, statistical support and additional expenses that are required for the completion of this project. Please indicate sources of other funds that may be available to support the proposed research.