

Request for Proposals: The Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Distinguished Scholar Award

Assistant Professors with independent research programs may now apply for internal funding to help maintain momentum as they integrate family caretaking responsibilities into their careers at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.*

Opportunity: \$30,000 - \$50,000 for one year, which may be renewed for a second year, based on a competitive process. Up to five scholars will be funded. Funds may be used to support a technician, study coordinator, data analyst, fellow, student, equipment, and/or supplies. Funds cannot be used to support the investigator's salary. [The Office of Gender Equity in Science and Medicine](#) will connect awardees to key institutional career development resources, including [Mount Sinai LEAD](#) and programs through the [Office for Women's Careers](#) and the Office of Gender Equity.

Eligibility: Clinical/translational or basic scientists at the assistant professor level who:

- Have active extramural support, including salary support, for their research program from a career development award or other research grant.
- Are on a clear trajectory to a successful independent research career.
- Show evidence of strong research training and productivity.
- Demonstrate a compelling case for why the funds will help them to maintain productivity while they are facing significant demands of being a caregiver (most typically childcare).
- Members of groups underrepresented in science and medicine are strongly encouraged to apply.

Application Components:

- Statement of career goals and explanation of how research program is independent of mentor's program (1-page).
- Research plan readily understood by reviewers outside the applicants' research field (title, specific aims, background/significance, preliminary data, experimental design and methods, workplan and timeline, and references- Maximum 3 pages excluding references).
- NIH biosketch and other support.
- Budget and budget justification (maximum \$50,000 for one year), no indirect costs or investigator salary support allowed.
- Two separate letters of support: one from a current chief or chair; one from a former mentor.
- Description of child-rearing or other outside caregiving responsibilities (1/2 page).

Review Process: A committee appointed by the Office of Gender Equity in Science and Medicine will review and score all applications using NIH criteria: Significance; Investigator (including potential for independence); Innovation; Approach; Environment. A special review criterion is demonstrated need.

Expectations of Funded Scholars (in addition to research activities):

- **Progress reports at 6 and 12-months** including, accomplishments during the funded period, e.g., honors/awards, funding, publications; challenges and how addressed.
- **Semi-annual meeting** with the Distinguished Scholar Award program director.

Due Date 11/15/19 at 11:59 PM, submit as single PDF to [Devin Madden](#)

Notice of Award 12/13/19; Funding will begin 1/1/20

For more information, contact [Devin Madden](#), Program Manager for the Office of Gender Equity

*Similar programs at other academic medical centers show a 20-25:1 return of investment in terms of grant funding success, and improve retention and advancement of gender diverse faculty.