

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

Assistant Professors with independent research programs may 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, based on a competitive process. Up to four scholars will receive funding. [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](#). We will also produce short videos of each scholar for their website. Two runners up will receive \$2,500 toward a grant-writer.

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 the research program is independent of that of their mentor (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 allowed). Funds may be used to support a technician, study coordinator, data analyst, fellow, student, grant writer, or other ways that support the PI's research. Funds cannot be used to support the investigator's salary.
- Two separate letters of support: one from a current chief or chair; one from a current or former mentor.
- Description of child-rearing or other outside caregiving responsibilities and statement on how award will help you as you navigate these challenges (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, challenges and accomplishments during the funded period.
- **Semi-annual meeting** with the Distinguished Scholar Award program director and with other Scholars.

Due Date 11/30/20 at 11:59 PM, submit as single PDF titled "Last Name_DSA21" to [Devin Madden](#)

Notice of Award 12/18/20; Funding will begin 1/1/21.

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.