

**Research Center for Transforming Health  
Emerging Physician Scientist Faculty Fellowship**

**Request for Applications**

The USC School of Medicine Research Center for Transforming Health is pleased to announce the 2020-2021 call for applications for its Emerging Physician Scientist Faculty Fellowship. This program provides early career or transitioning physician scientists an opportunity to gain experience and mentorship in translational research. Key components will include education and training, along with provision of pilot project funding, intended to inform a successful extramural grant application by the end of program. This program aims to facilitate new and innovative, interdisciplinary, translational research with emphasis on diseases and conditions of importance to South Carolina's future.

**Program Priority**

The program will support applications across the translational spectrum. Priority will be given to applications that include interdisciplinary projects and/or those that address health disparities. Collaboration with PhD colleagues, while not required, is highly recommended. Further details about the award, eligibility and program requirements can be found below and on the RCTH USC SOM [webpage](#).

**Program Overview**

**Program Duration:** August 2020-November 2021 (15 months)

**Award Amount:** \$20,000/12 months (direct costs for 12 months from award date-1 year budget)

**Number of Awards:** up to 3 may be awarded

**Eligibility:**

- The project PI must be a physician in good standing with Faculty appointment/affiliation at UofSC School of Medicine-Columbia
- Propose a research project that is clinical/ translational in nature, that will lead to results suitable to serve as the foundation or support for a successful research grant application
- Have the ability to commit to full participation in all requirements of the program

**Benefits for Emerging Physician Scientist:**

- Didactic education and training in translational research and grant development
- Support and mentorship in project development and implementation
- Funding for pilot project that can be scaled up and/or used to establish a larger project
- Support and mentorship for successfully extramural support submission

**Program requirements for PI:**

- Complete 3 days of didactic training/education (distributed over 3 months)

- Attend monthly Emerging Physician Scientist meeting/groups (remote access will be available)
- Complete proposed project
- Complete final project report
- Present an extramural grant proposal in the fall of 2021 utilizing findings from fellowship project

An informational session will be held on **March 13th at 2:00 p.m.**, USC SOM VA Campus, 6311 Garners Ferry Road Room 221 Columbia, SC 29209; or for online/remote access please email the RCTH at [rcth@uscmed.sc.edu](mailto:rcth@uscmed.sc.edu)

### **Application Requirements**

- **Letter of Intent: Due March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020**

All applicants are **required** to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) that includes the following information. Letters of intent will not be used in the evaluation of applications.

**Letters of Intent requirements:**

- Name, email, telephone number and UofSC SOM clinical department/department affiliation of the prospective physician scientist
- Descriptive title of the project
- Brief overview of proposed project (max 250 words)

Submit Letter of Intent to The Research Center for Transforming Health at [rcth@uscmed.sc.edu](mailto:rcth@uscmed.sc.edu)

- **Online Application: Due June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

The following information will be required to complete the online application: [Online Application](#)

- Name, email, telephone number and department of the prospective Physician Scientist/Principal Investigator (PI)
- Name, email, telephone number, institution and department of any key personnel
- Mentor's Name, email, telephone number, institution and department (if one has been identified)
- Name, email, telephone number for Physician Scientist/Principal Investigator's Department Business Manager
- Letter of Support from Department Chair
  - LOS should indicate Chair's knowledge and support of the time needed to complete fellowship requirements and proposed project
  - A LOS template and instructions can be found on the RCTH [webpage](#).
- Descriptive title of the project
- Abstract of proposed project (max 500 words)
- 4-Page Project Proposal
  - 1-Page specific aims

- 2-Page overview of research strategy
  - Significance/Problem, Innovation, Approach, Hypothesis, Planned Analysis, Project Timeline (projects must be scaled to fit 12 month timeline and funding limit)
- Bibliography/References Cited (not included in page limits)
- 1-page Additional Criteria
  - Applicant must state how s/he plans to utilize the Emerging Physician Scientist program to advance their career goals.
  - Applicant must address the impact this fellowship and proposed project will have on his/her current position and how the required time needed will be accommodated to complete fellowship requirements and their proposed project.
  - State how s/he plans to use project data in future research and plans for securing future extramural funding.
  - Identify a target organization and/or specific RFA/RFP for future extramural funding
  
- Project Budget and Budget Justification (see allowable costs below)
  - Potential funding to other departments and/or institutions must be clearly stated on the budget.
  - A project budget template can be found on the RCTH [webpage](#).
  
- NIH Style [Biosketch](#) for applicant and any key personnel on research proposal
- List of past, current and pending research funding
- For projects utilizing secondary data, a current Data Use Agreement from the data provider must be submitted; or for existing datasets, documentation for permission to use data for secondary analysis from the data provider.

### **Budget and Allowable Costs**

All applications must include a budget and budget justification. Budgets are presented in general categories and require detailed explanation on the budget justification. Budget items should align with the information below and NIH standard [guidelines](#).

The PI's Department/Division Business Administrators shall be responsible for all human resource, procurement and accounting activities for the funded project account(s).

- Faculty salary support and fringe benefits are allowed up to 5% effort for each member subject to the NIH salary cap. Salary and fringe benefits for other personnel are allowed for technical support (i.e. research coordinators, research nurse, biostatistics).

- Funds can be used to support research expenses such as, necessary materials and supplies, patient costs, participant incentives, and animal acquisition cost and care.
- Funds cannot be used for salary support for ancillary or administrative personnel (i.e. mentors, administrative assistants). Facilities and Administration costs/indirect costs, memberships and subscriptions are not permitted. General office supplies, equipment, computers, laptops will not be permitted (unless specifically justified and approved).

**Document Formatting**

- Documents must be created in MS word and converted to PDF format for upload. Do not attach fillable forms. If combining PDFs, do not use bundling or portfolio features.
- Font Type and Size- 11 pts or larger; Arial or Calibri
- Page Margins- No less than 0.5" (one-half inch) on all sides