Pediatric Scholar Program

Salary Support for up to $100,000/year for up to 3 years

Due: First Monday in December by 9:00 am

The goal of the Pediatric Scholar Program is to support the development of highly skilled faculty members who have a primary appointment in Yale’s Department of Pediatrics and who have a strong commitment to pursuing a career in academic research.

- Applications should be submitted by MDs or M.D./PhDs who are either senior fellows or junior faculty members within three years of their initial appointment.

- Successful Candidates will have a:
  - Strong commitment to pursuing a career in academic research
  - Record of accomplishment in research
  - Strong mentorship with a clear path toward becoming an independent investigator
  - Well-defined scientific research plan

- The anticipated outcomes of the Pediatric Scholar Award are:
  - Successful transition to a National Institute of Health (NIH) K-level award (or K-level equivalent from foundations)
  - Publications in peer-reviewed journals

The deadline for submission is the first Monday in December by 9:00 am. Send a single PDF file of the assembled application to Manmeet Virdee at manmeet.virdee@yale.edu.

Questions should be sent to either Marie Egan, MD or Eugene Shapiro, MD
Application Guidelines

Format

The application must contain the following, in order (see Word file for forms):

1. **Face Page**
2. **Project Summary**, relevance, division, department or institute, and personnel
3. **Table of Contents**
4. **Budget** for Year 1 of up to $100,000 for salary & fringe and up to $20,000 for research support & fringe. The application should also include a budget for Years 2 and 3. The release of funds for Years 2 and 3 will be dependent upon the timely submission of report of progress made during the preceding year.
   a. Salary support is primarily to support the principal investigator (candidate)
   b. Funds can be requested for travel to a single domestic scientific meeting
   c. Indirect costs are not provided
   d. Budget start date is July 1
5. **Budget Justification** (**3 pages**)  
6. **Biosketch** for Principal Investigator and Mentor (must follow current NIH format)
7. **Other Support** for the Principal Investigator and Mentor (must follow current NIH format). Provide Other Support for the Principal Investigator and Mentor, especially sources of funds currently available to support research on this or closely related topics by the applicant. If any overlap exists between this application and any other currently funded or pending projects, clearly indicate why Pediatric Scholar funds are being requested. Duplication of funds is not permitted.
8. **Career Development Plan and Research Plan: 7-page limit** (below is the approximate length for each section but they may vary as long as total is no more than 7 pages)  
   **Career Development Plan: 2-3 pages**, include:
   a. **Candidate’s Background**
   b. **Career Goals and Objectives**: Brief description of how the proposal supports your career development and your ultimate goal of continuous NIH funding (**1 page**)  
      • Brief synopsis of your career and long-term goals  
      • Describe your plan for an NIH K grant application and how the Pediatric Scholar Award will help you achieve this
      • **Note**: Candidate must devote at least 75% of his/her time to independent research.
   c. **Career Development/Training Activities During Award Period**
   d. **Mentoring Plan**: Statement of Divisional Commitment and Mentoring Plan by the Division Director and by the applicant’s Research Mentor (**1-2 pages each**)  
      • Describe the overall mentoring plan and career development support of the applicant  
      • Describe Divisional support currently available to the applicant – start up package, research space and any other resources relevant to the application.  
      • Describe the Divisional commitment to the candidate’s research career development  
      • **Please include the Division Director and Mentor/Co-Mentors’ names in the statement.**
   e. **Letters of support from collaborators, consultants or mentoring committee.**  
      • Provide information on Mentor’s research qualifications and previous experience as a research supervisor.  
      • Describe a plan for the supervision and mentoring that will occur during the proposed research period.  
      • Describe a plan for career progression for the candidate to move from the mentored stage to a career as an independent researcher.  
      • Describe a plan for monitoring the candidate’s research, publications, and progression towards research independence.

   **Research Plan: 4-5-pages** (below is the approximate length for each section)
   a. **Introduction to Resubmission** describing response to previous review (**1 page, if applicable**)  
   b. **Specific Aims** (**1/2 page**): Remember this is a 2-3-year project.  
   c. **Research Strategy** (**4½ pages**) - Organize the Research Strategy into three sections: **Significance**, **Innovation, and Approach** using the instructions provided below. Include a thorough, but concise description of the work leading up to your current hypothesis.
• **Significance**: Explain how the proposal will address an important problem or a critical challenge in the field. Also indicate how this proposal will generate significant preliminary data needed for an NIH grant application.

• **Innovation**: Explain how the proposal challenges existing paradigms or clinical practice; address an innovative hypothesis or critical challenge in the field.

• **Approach**: Describe the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses used to accomplish the specific aims of the project. Include preliminary data, a rationale for experimental design and discuss any potential problems and solutions. In keeping with new NIH guidelines, describe methods to ensure robustness and reproducibility and explain how relevant biological variables (i.e. sex) are factored into the research design.

9. **Human Subjects (not included in page limits)** Include all required sections for an NIH application submission.

10. **Literature Cited (not included in page limits)** Provide full details of Literature Cited including full title and all authors.

11. **Resource Sharing Plan**
12. **Authentication of Key Biological and/or Chemical Resources**
13. Supplementary data will NOT be accepted.

**2nd and 3rd Year of Funding Process**
Renewal for Year 2 is dependent upon the timely submission of progress report after Year 1. Renewal for Year 3 is dependent upon the timely submission of progress report after Year 2. Progress reports are due May 1st.

**Review Process**
The main criteria for the review of the application are:

- Career Development and Scientific merit of the application. This will be assessed using the same criteria as used by NIH reviewers.
- Is the proposed work likely to position the applicant for a good chance to obtain a highly competitive NIH K-level award (or K-level equivalent from foundations)
- Does the candidate have the potential to transition to a junior faculty member with a career goal to become an independent and productive researcher?
- Are the mentors appropriate?

*All forms are modified from current NIH forms with the goal to facilitate future preparation of NIH grant applications.*