



Career Development Grant in Translational Cancer Research

Grant Amount: \$100,000

Tower Cancer Research Foundation supports forward thinking scientists from Southern California's premier academic medical centers. In general, the scientific advisory board evaluates grant applications based on the following criteria:

- Novelty of hypothesis
- Scientific quality
- Potential for revealing something meaningful about cancer
- Feasibility of the proposal
- Evidence of institutional support for the project

Eligibility Requirements

- Applicants must not be beyond the first five years of a junior faculty appointment. (A junior faculty position is not required.)
- Applicants must be Southern California based (Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Ventura, Santa Barbara, Imperial, San Luis Obispo)
- The project must entail research directed towards potential oncological clinical application in the area of translational cancer research. The project may be laboratory-based or "translational", meaning it may involve clinical subjects but must have a direct laboratory component.
- The Principle Investigator must hold either an MD or a PhD (or both) and have an existing active lab or participate in a lab.
- 50% of the Principle Investigator's time must be protected time for research in general (not necessarily for the proposed project only)
- Principle Investigators are not required to have funds already secured in order to apply for the Career Development Grant. Likewise, investigators with other private or government funding are still eligible to apply.

Funding Terms

- Career Development Grantees will be awarded a **one-time payment of \$100,000**.
- Multiple Career Development Awards will be granted.
- The grant award must be used to cover research related expenses between **October 1, 2020 and September 30, 2021**. All grant awards are for 1 year only. There are no opportunities of grant renewal.
- Grant funds are to be applied towards salary, processing fees, equipment and/or supplies. There is no salary cap for Principal Investigators. Grant funds are not permitted to be used for overhead

Submission Procedures

- Completed applications must be submitted electronically to Kelli Sargent at kelli@towercancer.org. **Submissions are due Monday, May 4, 2020 by 5pm.** Applicants will receive an email confirming receipt of the submission.
- For questions regarding the application or application process contact Kelli Sargent at (310) 299-8470 or kelli@towercancer.org
- Applications will be reviewed by a panel of renowned clinician-scientists determined by Tower Cancer Research Foundation. Applicants will be notified by **Monday August 31, 2020** of the panel's decision.
- Application feedback will be provided by applicant request only.

Formatting Guidelines

- Email the application as 1 PDF document, no other document formats accepted
 - **NOTE:** This may require printing the completed budget form, basic information documents, and letters of reference, manually placing each in the correct order within the application, and then scanning the entire application back in as a PDF.
- Title the PDF completed application document as listed below:
 - Last Name.Career Development Grant.Institution.Date of Submission
- Include a header with the applicant's last name, first name in the upper right hand corner and a footer with the page number on the bottom right hand corner of each page of the application. (This excludes the first page of the Basic Information form downloaded from the Tower Cancer Research Foundation website).
- Use Times New Roman or Arial in font size 11. Minimum of 0.8 inch paper margins on all sides.
- Follow the section order of the outline listed below and adhere to the page maximums indicated for each section. Only complete and correctly ordered applications will be considered.
- Write the section heading in bold at the beginning of each portion of the application (use the exact titles indicated in the following outline).

Application Outline

1. Table of Contents

Create a table of contents with the corresponding page numbers for each section of the application:

- Section 1: Basic Information
- Section 2: Non-Technical Abstract
- Section 3: Technical Abstract
- Section 4: Applicant's Biographical Sketch
- Section 5: Mentor's NIH Biographical Sketch and biographical sketch of other collaborators
- Section 6: Description of Proposed Project
- Section 8: Letters of Recommendation (to include a Mentor if applicable)
- Section 9: Mentor Letter (Optional)
- Section 10: Budget
- Section 11: Certifications or Statements of Exemption

1. Basic Information (total of 5 pages)

Download and complete the Investigator Basic Information forms found on our webpage: https://www.towercancer.org/pdfs/2020_Career_Development_Application_Basic_Information_Form.pdf

2. Non-Technical Abstract (maximum of 100 words)

Briefly describe the project in 100 words or less using NON-TECHNICAL language. The description should explain the significance of the proposed work to the field. It should be understandable to the average reader of a daily newspaper.

3. Technical Abstract (maximum of 100 words)

Briefly describe the project in 100 words or less using TECHNICAL language. The description should explain the significance of the proposed work to the field.

4. Applicant's Biographical Sketch

Submit your official NIH Biographical Sketch (NIH Format if applicable)

****Note: Failure to provide evidence of sufficient supporting funds for the proposed research can invalidate the application.**

5. Key Collaborator's Biographical Sketch

Submit the mentor's official NIH Biographical Sketch and other support (NIH Format if applicable)

6. Description of Proposed Project (max of 10 pages including tables, figures etc.)

Provide a clear statement of the work to be undertaken and may include (but is not limited to):

- Background and Relevant Knowledge
- Specific Aims
- Research Plan
- Study Population
- Methods
- Data Analysis
- Analytic Strategy
- Discussion and Expected Outcomes
- Relevance
- Significance
- Statement on Innovation

8. Letters of Recommendation (Not included in 10 page limit)

Include three signed letters of recommendation from individuals familiar with your work/and or training. Letters should be on official institutional letterhead and should include recommenders contact information. To include a mentor if applicable

10. Budget

Download and complete the Budget Template found on our webpage. Applicants are to provide a proposed cumulative budget for the grant period.

NOTE: The application must be submitted as 1 PDF document, no other document formats accepted. This may require printing the completed budget, manually placing it in the correct order within the application, and then scanning the entire application back in as a PDF.

11. Certifications or Statements of Exemption (if applicable)

- a. Vertebrate Animals Certification (either the IRB-approved protocol covering the project or the NIH Human Subjects Research Certificate)
- b. Human Subjects Certification (either the respective agency numbers or the actual CITI certifications for the Principal Investigator)
- c. Biohazard Certification