

## Mid-Career/Mentor Award For Family Planning

### 2012 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

#### Introduction

The Society of Family Planning Research Fund has funding for two awards that will provide protected time to mid-career clinical investigators to develop their own careers and to provide mentoring to junior investigators. Eligible applicants will be at the Associate Professor level with independent peer-reviewed research support.

This award is for mentoring junior researchers conducting clinical/social science research in family planning and provides additional funding for pilot studies and additional training. The candidate must commit (10%) full-time professional effort to the research, training and mentoring proposed. Appointments will run from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.

The overall goal of the award is designed to enable

mid-career scientists to:

1. Devote more time to and to augment their research capabilities
  2. Provide mentoring to new investigators in the conduct of research
  3. Collect data or conduct preliminary analyses for pilot data in preparation for a larger research proposal.
- **Amount: Up to \$40,000**, which includes salary for 10% time to support mentoring activities. Additional resources to be devoted to career development and research activities

#### Application requirements

**Each application must have the following information attached in your application submission email.** We will not accept incomplete applications.

1. Completed application form, including signature page
2. 9-page proposal narrative and budget, with

attached biographical sketches (*see "Proposal narrative content" below for details*)

3. Documentation of IRB (if appropriate)
4. Copy of agency's federal 501(c)3 status determination letter or proof of tax-exempt status

#### Proposal narrative content

**The proposal narrative must include the following six items.** In addition, it must conform to the type requirements detailed at the end of this section:

1. **Principal investigator/mentor information** (1 page) including:
  - A description of the candidate's commitment to a career in patient-oriented research.
  - Evidence of the candidate's ability to conduct high-quality patient-oriented research.
  - A demonstrated record of mentoring or training of clinical investigators or a demonstration of the capability to provide mentoring to beginning investigators.

- A description of immediate and long-term career objectives, explaining how the award and the requested protected time will contribute to their attainment.
  - A description of how the award will contribute to a patient-oriented research program and how it will relieve the candidate from other activities or administrative duties.
2. **Research plan** (5 pages) including:
    - A commitment of no less than 10% effort to the patient-oriented research program.
    - A description of the ongoing patient-oriented

*(continued on page 2)*

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research. The research plan should briefly describe the specific aims, the background and significance of the studies, and the research design and methods. Additional research may be proposed as a basis for this award.

- Documentation that appropriate and adequate resources, both in terms of support and facilities are available to the candidate to conduct the research program. This account must include a listing of all current and pending research support.

### 3. Mentoring plan (1 page)

- A description of current mentoring activities.
- A description of plans for providing mentoring opportunities to early stage clinical investigators. This description should discuss the previous training and specialization of investigators that will be mentored, the availability of such individuals at the applicant institution, plans for recruiting and selecting supervisees, and the type of educational and research experiences that will be provided.

### 4. Environment and institutional commitment (1 page)

- The sponsoring institution must document a strong, well-established patient-oriented research and training program related to the candidate's area of interest including a high-quality research environment with staff capable

of productive collaboration with the candidate. The sponsoring institution also must provide a statement of commitment to enhancing the candidate's ability as a productive, independent investigator.

- The sponsoring institution must provide documentation that the candidate will be relieved from other duties, patient care, administrative, etc., to allow him/her to devote time to the patient-oriented research program.

### 5. Budget (1 page)

- Detailed budget. The SFP Research Fund will provide up to \$40,000 per year for the following expenses: (a) research expenses, such as supplies, equipment and technical personnel for the PD/PI and the mentees; (b) travel to research meetings or training; (c) statistical services including personnel and computer time. Salary for administrative assistance is not allowed.
  - 10% of salary
  - Up to 20% indirect
  - 10% personnel and research costs

### 6. Biographical sketch—A biographical sketch is required for all key personnel. (2-page NIH format)

**Type requirements.** Font must be at least 11 points, all margins at least 1 inch, and 1.5 spacing. Applications that do not adhere to these requirements will be disqualified.

### Review criteria

The academic and intellectual background, motivation, and commitment of the candidate to pursue clinical and/or translational research will be evaluated. The criteria for selecting awardees will include assessment

of candidate's potential, the dedication to clinical or translational research, mentoring, and the degree of support from the Department.

### Grant program schedule

- Email submission will open on February 1, 2012. Email application to [mpolonsky@societyfp.org](mailto:mpolonsky@societyfp.org).
- Application deadline: April 12, 2012 at 11:59 (EST). No changes will be allowed after this time.
- Award decisions: Mid-June, 2012.
- Grant start-up: July 1, 2012.