

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS: CAREER ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Eligibility: Weill Cornell Medicine new or early-stage investigators at a level of Instructor or Assistant Professor, or Senior Faculty new to prostate cancer research. Clinical, population, or lab-based researchers, are all eligible. Awardees from the prior year are eligible to apply for a continuing second year of funding.

Purpose: To develop the careers of young investigators committed to prostate cancer.

Focus: Translational research in prostate cancer. Projects related to Prostate Cancer risk, prevention, pathogenesis, prognosis, and treatment are encouraged.

Awards: Up to two 12-month long awards of \$50,000 (direct costs only) will be awarded depending on the quality of the applications.

Submission Deadline: Friday – August 18, 2023

Award Date: October 1, 2023

Selection Criteria: a review committee will make the award based on these criteria:

- Potential of the applicant to succeed in an independent career in prostate cancer research
- Training experiences and academic record of the applicant
- Quality and commitment of the mentor and mentorship committee
- Translational scientific merit of research proposal, including innovation and impact
- Enthusiasm of the applicant to participate in the WCM Prostate SPORE
- Interest on the part of the applicant to use SPORE resources
- Programmatic needs of the SPORE

Application Materials: e-mail the following materials in a single PDF file to sag4013@med.cornell.edu

- Nominating letter from a senior faculty member who will serve as the applicant's primary mentor
 - The letter should outline the research and career plan for the candidate
- NIH Biosketch including other support section
- Research proposal that is consistent with the candidate's level of research development and objectives of his/her career development plan must be provided
 - Must describe the applicant's interest in a career in prostate cancer research, the benefits of becoming involved in the SPORE, and how the proposed project fits in the context of the candidate's career development
 - Should demonstrate the quality of the candidate's research thus far, and also the novelty, significance, creativity and approach, as well as the ability of the candidate to successfully perform the research
- Proposals should follow a standard format that includes specific aims, background, preliminary studies, and approach (note: preliminary data is not required but a record of earlier accomplishments is preferred)
 - Submission should be a maximum of three pages not including an abstract and references
- Applicants may meet with a SPORE biostatistician for a consultation if desired
- Include budget estimates up to \$50,000 and budget justification

Terms of the Award:

Funds may be used only to cover project supplies and partial effort for personnel other than the PIs. There are no indirect costs. Funding will be contingent on obtaining the appropriate protocols (IRB, etc.) for the project.

If a grant is awarded, the PI **must agree** to abide by the attached grant guidelines. A semi-annual and annual progress report is required. Attendance at Prostate Cancer SPORE monthly meetings, as well as presentation at the meeting after 6 months is also required. Applicants can apply for a second year of funding or a no cost extension for up to one year.

Expenditure Guidelines

Allowable expenditures

- Salary support for research personnel working on this project (no more than 25% effort)
- Salary support for biostatistical analysis (no more than 10% effort)
- Laboratory supplies and expenses, including animal costs
- User fees for Core Facilities

Non-allowable expenditures

- PI salary support
- Newly-hired research personnel
- Secretarial/administrative personnel
- Capital costs/equipment, including maintenance/service contracts
- Office furniture and supplies
- Construction, renovation, or maintenance of buildings/laboratories
- Rental of laboratory or office space
- Computer and software purchases
- ITS services
- Non-medical services to patients
- Publication costs, including reprints
- Purchasing or binding of periodicals and books
- Dues and membership fees in scientific societies
- Travel and conference/meeting expenses

Grant Guidelines

To responsibly manage funds, the following guidelines have been instituted. **Acceptance of an award indicates agreement to abide by these guidelines.** Failure to abide by these guidelines will jeopardize eligibility for future grants.

1. All publications resulting from research supported by this grant should contain an acknowledgement such as "Supported in part by the WCM Prostate Cancer SPORE P50 CA211024"; if research cores are used, this should also be acknowledged.
2. Written progress reports, including financial status, are required and must be provided at 6 months after grant initiation. Grantees will be notified at least one month prior to the deadline.

3. After the submission of progress reports, any additional publications or grants resulting from the grant must be promptly reported.
4. It is expected that the funds will be expended in full during the one-year duration of the grant. Spending will be monitored and unspent funds may be reclaimed if spending lags significantly.
5. Given the intent of this funding mechanism, no-cost extensions are not encouraged; any such requests must be received in writing, with justification, no less than 60 days before the original end date of the grant and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
6. The funds awarded shall be used solely for the purposes specified in and in strict compliance with the application submitted and as executed by the recipient.
7. Recipients may reallocate costs between the approved budget categories for up to 10 percent of total yearly budget without obtaining the prior written consent of the WCM Prostate SPORE. Changes exceeding 10% must be submitted in writing stating the amount, reason for proposed change, and anticipated impact on research.
8. All grant recipients must respond promptly to requests for information about their grant from the scientific leadership and administrative staff.
9. During the funding period, recipients will be asked to participate in regular progress update meetings with their mentors and CEP Program Directors to describe their research and are expected to accommodate these requests.

NO SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION WILL BE ACCEPTED. ADHERENCE TO THE SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS IS MANDATORY FOR INCLUSION IN THE REVIEW.

Please send any question to sag4013@med.cornell.edu