

Call for Applications
2009 Claflin Distinguished Scholars Awards
Two-Year Awards for Junior Faculty Women Investigators
in Basic and Clinical Research
Deadline – 3 pm, February 18, 2009

Applications are invited for grants from the Executive Committee on Research (ECOR) and the Office for Women's Careers. Each award includes funding of \$50,000 per year in direct costs, plus 15% for indirect costs. Funds may be used to support a technician, postdoctoral fellow or graduate student and supplies. Funds cannot be used for support of the investigator's salary, except with specific approval of ECOR. Eligibility and other award information are provided below.

The Application deadline is 3 pm, February 18, 2009. Applications must be delivered to the Executive Committee On Research (ECOR), 50 Staniford Street, 10th Floor, Suite 1001. Questions may be addressed by e-mail to MGH_ECOR or by telephone to 617-726-1548.

Background

Although women scientists are recruited to Massachusetts General Hospital programs, their advancement to senior faculty positions is still far less frequent than that of their male counterparts. In 1993, The Women in Academic Medicine Committee, originally chaired by Mrs. R. Morton Claflin, Honorary Trustee, was established to facilitate the academic careers of women in science at MGH. Recognizing that a significant obstacle to career advancement is the difficulty of maintaining research productivity during the child-rearing years, this Committee, with the sponsorship of the Executive Committee On Research (ECOR), established the Claflin Distinguished Scholar Awards. It is intended that this transitional funding will increase opportunities for women to advance to senior positions in academic medicine.

Application Guidelines

- The MGH ECOR Claflin Awards provide bridge funding for junior faculty women to sustain research productivity during the child-rearing years.
- Both basic and clinical research investigators are encouraged to apply
- Current recipients of the HMS 50th Anniversary Scholar Award are not eligible to apply for this award
- Proposals will be evaluated and ranked for funding priority by the Subcommittee on Review of Research Proposals (SRRP), whose recommendations will be submitted to ECOR for final approval.

Eligibility

- M.D., Ph.D., or equivalent advanced degree; candidate must be within 7 years of first full-time faculty appointment at the time the award is initiated, cumulative of all institutions, inside or outside the United States
- Academic appointment at the level of instructor or assistant professor at Harvard Medical School
- Primary appointment and research at the Massachusetts General Hospital
- Evidence of strong research training, productivity, and a well-defined focus in either basic or clinical research
- Submission of a project description on which the applicant is clearly the principal investigator, whose academic progress would benefit from such funding support
- Responsible for care of children

Award Expenditure and Start Date

- Awards are effective July 1, 2009 and will be for two years. The awards are \$50,000 in direct costs, plus 15% indirect costs per year. Funds may be used for support of a technician, postdoctoral fellow or graduate student and supplies. Funds cannot be used for support of the investigator's salary, except with the specific approval of ECOR. All applicants will be notified of the results of the review process by e-mail. If applicable, approved Human or Animal Use protocols must be current prior to award of funds.

Applications for Claflin Distinguished Scholar Awards must include the following information. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

1. Completed Standard MGH Research Proposal Coversheet with signatures. The form is available at the following address: http://phsresearchintranet.partners.org/PHS_ResearchMgmt/RM_Forms.asp Click on Coversheet for Partners Research Management (Word). Insert the following information on the coversheet:
 - Department Contact Name (Grant and/or Business Manager)
 - Funding Sponsor Name: Claflin Distinguished Scholar Award
 - Agency/Sponsor Type: Grant
 - Agreement Type: Grant
 - Dates of approved Human or Animal use protocol, if applicable
2. Title page, including:
 - Title of research project
 - Applicant's Name, Department, Center or Unit, MGH and HMS professional appointments, Office or laboratory address, telephone and e-mail address
 - Indicate if you have applied for this award previously and the year of application
3. Research plan (3-page limit, excluding references), including:
 - Specific aims
 - Background and significance
 - Preliminary data
 - Experimental design and methods
 - References
4. NIH Biosketch of the applicant
5. Listing of current and pending other support (NIH format)
6. Proposed Budget (\$50,000 direct costs per year for 2 years maximum)
7. Letters of support (one from each category, include with application):
 - Unit, Service, or Department Chief. This letter should include statement of applicant's independence and institutional commitment of resources.
 - Research Colleague or Former Mentor. This letter should be from an individual outside the applicant's current department whenever possible.
8. Briefly describe child-rearing responsibilities
9. (Optional) Provide a statement of ethnicity information, i.e: CAUCASIAN - (White, non Hispanic), BLACK - (Persons having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa - not of Hispanic origin.) ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER – (Persons with origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands.) AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKAN NATIVE – (Persons with origins in any of the original peoples of North America and who maintain cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.) HISPANIC – (Persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.)

SUBMISSION:

- One original application, with 10 Copies of the application, single sided, not-stapled and on standard size bond paper
- To ECOR (Executive Committee On Research), 50 Staniford Street, 10th Floor, Suite 1001
- Deadline: No later than 3 pm on Wednesday, February 18, 2009. Questions can be addressed to by e-mail to MGH_ECOR, or by telephone to 617-726-1548.