

ACCP FOUNDATION FUTURES GRANTS AWARDS

Fellows & Junior Investigators

Program Description

The ACCP Foundation Futures Grants for fellows in training & junior investigators are mentored research awards designed to provide support for the development of research skills among fellows and early-career ACCP members with a goal of establishing sustained interest and careers in pharmacy research.

Eligibility

Preference will be given to individuals who have not been awarded significant peer-reviewed extramural funding (e.g., NIH R, U, or K awards) as the principal investigator, but whose prior experience, career plans, and current professional environment indicate that they have the potential to become successful independent investigators.

Fellows & Junior Investigators are ACCP members who meet the following criteria:

- 1) a fellow, associate, or full member in good standing at the time of the application due date (September 1, 2024), and
- 2) at the time of the application due date (September 1, 2024) are in a full-time professional appointment and less than 6 years since completion of education and training, or
- 3) at the time of the application due date (September 1, 2024) are in a fellowship training program.

ACCP Regents, Foundation Trustees, PPI Directors, and ACCP staff are not eligible to serve as investigators or mentors. Please contact the Foundation with any questions regarding eligibility requirements.

Expectations

- Junior investigators are expected to develop the research plan with their mentors.
- Research will be completed during the 1-year funding period.
- Awardees are expected to formally present and pursue publication of the outcomes of their work. ACCP meetings and/or the ACCP Virtual Poster Symposium are expected venues for presentation. Awardees should provide an official journal of ACCP (*Pharmacotherapy* or JACCP) with the first right to publish the results of the research. Opportunities to present results at other appropriate meetings may be approved.
- All investigators and mentors accepting grants will agree to comply with Foundation reporting requests and applicable regulations for the protection of human subjects in research.

Principal Mentor

One-on-one mentoring is among the most effective strategies to develop the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values of a researcher. The value of such mentoring is optimized when the mentor can provide regular feedback regarding an individual's performance. Therefore, each applicant must identify one research/scholarly mentor from his or her institution with whom he or she will work. The investigator's application must include the mentor's letter of support, mentorship plan, and his/her biosketch (most current NIH version preferred, <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>).

The mentor is expected to assist each investigator in all steps and facets of the research experience. It is anticipated that mentors will meet regularly with the applicant and provide opportunities for the applicant to advance his or her interest in pursuing a career in clinical pharmacy research.

Each required progress report will include a written statement from the mentor summarizing the effectiveness of the project's mentorship plan, revisions implemented or anticipated, and mentee performance to date.

Selection of Grant Award Investigators

The Grant Award Committee will base its decisions on the overall impact and merit of the proposed research, the potential for the applicant to succeed as an investigator, and the experience of the mentor in research and research training. Applications will be segregated for review and funding prioritization using the corresponding stage of research along the translational science spectrum (<https://ncats.nih.gov/translation/spectrum>). Educational research should be submitted under Category B.

Review and Funding Category A	Review and Funding Category B
<p>Basic Research Basic research involves scientific exploration that can reveal fundamental mechanisms of biology, disease or behavior. Every stage of the translational research spectrum builds upon and informs basic research. NCATS scientists typically do not conduct basic research; however, insights gained from the Center's studies along the translational spectrum can inform basic research.</p>	<p>Clinical Research Clinical research includes studies to better understand a disease in humans and relate this knowledge to findings in cell or animal models; testing and refinement of new technologies in people; testing of interventions for safety and effectiveness in those with or without disease; behavioral and observational studies; and outcomes and health services research. The goal of many clinical trials is to obtain data to support regulatory approval for an intervention.</p>
<p>Pre-Clinical Research Pre-clinical research connects the basic science of disease with human medicine. During this stage, scientists develop model interventions to further understand the basis of a disease or disorder and find ways to treat it. Testing is carried out using cell or animal models of disease; samples of human or animal tissues; or computer-assisted simulations of drug, device or diagnostic interactions within living systems.</p>	<p>Clinical Implementation The clinical implementation stage of translation involves the adoption of interventions that have been demonstrated to be useful in a research environment into routine clinical care for the general population. This stage also includes implementation research to evaluate the results of clinical trials and to identify new clinical questions and gaps in care.</p>
	<p>Public Health In this stage of translation, researchers study health outcomes at the population level to determine the effects of diseases and efforts to prevent, diagnose and treat them. Findings help guide scientists working to assess the effects of current interventions and to develop new ones.</p>

Investigators will be notified of award decisions by **November 15, 2024**.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FOR THE FOUNDATION FUTURES GRANTS AWARD

Eligibility to Apply

Applicants are strongly encouraged to complete the required online eligibility form before beginning to prepare a full application. The eligibility tool will guide potential applicants to either the student/resident or fellow/junior investigator application. Applicants ineligible for the awards will also be appropriately advised prior to completing an application.

Foundation Futures Grants Award Application

The application will open May 15, 2024 and all applications must be submitted online by 11:59 PM Central Time (America/Chicago) on September 1, 2024. Apply here: <http://www.accp.com/app4futures>. (Link not live until May 15)

All uploaded documents must be formatted for 8.5 x 11 inch paper and use no smaller than 11 point font for text (smaller font allowed for figures and tables as long as legible). Overall length of the Research Plan is limited to 4 pages. Failure to adhere to these requirements may result in rejection of the proposal.

Applicants are encouraged to contact the ACCP Foundation (Shelly Enders at senders@accp.com) with any questions regarding eligibility criteria, evaluation criteria, etc. The following items must be included in each application:

1. Applicant Statement & CV/Biosketch: (a) contribute to your development as a researcher, and (b) how it will contribute to the development of pilot data, future funding competitiveness, and a long-term research program (**1 page limit**); copy of the applicant investigator's CV/biosketch.
2. Principal Mentor Letter of Support, Plan, & Biosketch: Signed letter from the principal mentor in support of the investigator's application to the Foundation Futures Grants Award Program, a mentorship plan, list of previous trainees, and a copy of the mentor's biosketch.
3. Administrative Support: Signed letter from the applicant's immediate supervisor in support of the investigator's application to the Foundation Futures Grants Award Program. The letter must include a statement acknowledging protected time for the applicant to complete the proposed research. If the applicant is seeking the additional \$10,000 available to proposals that have matching funding, the letter must indicate the supervisor's approval of the financial commitment of the institution (including a specific dollar amount).
4. Project Summary & Relevance: A succinct description of the proposed work, including the application's broad, long-term objectives and specific aims, research design, and methods for achieving the stated goals. In no more than two or three sentences, the applicant describes the relevance of this research to clinical pharmacy (**1 page limit**).
5. Budget & Justification: A detailed list of and justification for all direct costs to be incurred in the course of conducting the proposed research. Junior Investigators awards will be up to \$30,000 for a 1-year non-renewable grant; up to \$10,000 in additional funds may be available from the Foundation if matched 1:1 by the applicant's institution. Total potential funding from Foundation + Institution = \$50,000. All funds (including the institution's matching money) are to be used for direct costs related to the conduct of the specific research project only. Funds will **not** be awarded for indirect costs, meeting registrations, travel, publication expenses, or

salaries/investigator compensation. Computers and equipment are generally not covered. In rare circumstances where a project requires hardware or equipment that is specific to the project and is not commonly available, investigators may request special consideration. Budgets are subject to revision by the Foundation prior to any award.

6. Foundation Futures Grants Research Plan: Includes Specific Aims and Research Strategy sections (**4 page limit**).
 - a. **Specific Aims (1 page limit)**: Concise statement of the goals of the proposed research and summary of the expected outcome(s), including the impact that the results of the proposed research will exert on the research field(s) involved. Succinct list of specific objectives of the research proposed (e.g., to test a stated hypothesis, create a novel design, solve a specific problem, challenge an existing paradigm or clinical practice, address a critical barrier to progress in the field, or develop new technology).
 - b. **Research Strategy (3 page limit)**: Each section ordered, as below, with appropriate section headers: Significance, Innovation, and Approach. Citation of published experimental details in the Research Strategy section, with full references in an appendix to the Research Strategy. References in the appendix do not count toward the total 4-page limit.
 - i. *Significance*: Explanation of the importance of the problem or critical barrier to progress in the field that the proposed project addresses. Explanation of how the proposed project will improve scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice in one or more broad fields. Description of how the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field will be changed if the proposed aims are achieved.
 - ii. *Innovation*: Explanation of how the application challenges and seeks to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms. Description of any novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation or intervention(s) to be developed or used, and any advantage over existing methodologies, instrumentation or intervention(s). Explanation of any refinements, improvements, or new applications of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation or interventions.
 - iii. *Approach*: Description of the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses to be used to accomplish the specific aims of the project during the 1-year funding period. Discussion of any potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success anticipated to achieve the aims. If there are multiple Specific Aims in an application, the applicant may address Significance, Innovation and Approach for each Specific Aims individually, or may address Significance, Innovation and Approach for all of the Specific Aims collectively.