

Trustee Grant Awards

\$100,000* Funding Opportunity

*per annum for 2 years

Due: Monday, May 6th by 5:00 pm

The goal of the Trustee Grant Award is to provide research funds for junior faculty to aid in the rapid achievement of independent, sustained extramural funding for their research program.

- Applications should be submitted within the first 4 years of initial appointment at CCHMC by full-time faculty whose rank does not exceed Assistant Professor (Tenure Track) or Research Associate Professor (Non-Tenure Track).
- Awardees must devote >80% effort to research.
- Note that a pre-existing R01 or similar grant (i.e., 4-5 year duration with similar funding levels as R01) precludes the award of a Trustee Grant, and that receipt of an R01 (or similar grant) during the course of a Trustee Grant leads to termination of the Trustee Grant at end of that year of funding. Applicants with K99/R00 awards or other developmental/transitional awards are permitted to apply. Please contact the program director with any questions about eligibility in advance of applying.
- Funding of both laboratory and patient-based research projects will be considered, including proposals which are likely to have a direct impact on clinical practice such as phase I and phase II clinical trials.
- The anticipated outcomes of the Trustee Award are the successful transition to an NIH R01 award, R01-equivalent award from foundations or industry, and publications in peer-reviewed journals.

Applicants may not submit the same proposal to more than one internal funding program simultaneously.

Submission guidelines and forms are available on the [Trustee Grant Website](#).

The deadline for submission for this cycle is **Monday, May 6th at 5:00 pm**. Otherwise, the deadline is the first Monday in May or October, at 5:00 pm. Please send a single PDF file of the assembled application to **Tony De Falco** (Trustee Awards Program Director) at Tony.DeFalco@cchmc.org.

Questions should be sent to **Tony De Falco** (Trustee Awards Program Director) at Tony.DeFalco@cchmc.org.

Application Instructions

- Only one Trustee Grant application will be accepted from a faculty member
- Previous Trustee Award recipients are ineligible to apply

Format

There is a **5-page** limit for the body of the application based on the **NIH FORMAT** (Specific Aims and Research Strategy: Significance, Innovation, and Approach).

The applications must contain the following*, in order (see Word file for forms):

1. Face Page.
2. Project Summary, Relevance, Division or Institute & Personnel
3. Table of Contents
4. Budget for year 1 of \$100,000 and budget justification. The application should also include a budget for year 2. The release of funds for year 2 will be dependent upon the progress made in year 1.
 - a. Salary support is allowed for anyone working on the project other than the principal investigator.
 - b. PI or co-Investigator (i.e., faculty) salary support is not permitted.
 - c. Funds can be requested for travel to a single domestic scientific meeting.
 - d. Indirect costs are not provided.
 - e. Budget start date: May submission is July 1; October submission is January 1.
5. Budget Justification
6. Biosketch for PI and Co-Investigators (must follow current NIH format)
7. Other Support: Provide other support for the principal investigator and co-investigator (if applicable), especially sources of funds currently available to support research on this or closely related topics by the applicant. If any overlap exists between this application and any other currently funded, or pending projects, clearly indicate why Trustee funds are being requested. Duplication of funds is not permitted.
8. If applicable: Introduction to Resubmission (Response to Previous Review) (**1 page**)
9. Research Plan: **5-page limit** (+1 additional page for resubmissions)
 - A. Introduction to Resubmission describing response to previous review (**1 additional page if applicable**).
 - B. **Specific Aims (1/2 page):** Remember this is a 1-2 year pilot project.
 - C. **Research Strategy (4 ½ pages).** Organize the Research Strategy into three sections - *Significance, Innovation and Approach* using the instructions provided below. Include a thorough, but concise description of the work leading up to your current hypothesis. The research strategy should be written using language that can be evaluated by non-expert reviewers (i.e., accessible to NIH-level reviewers outside the field).
 - **Significance:** Describe the scientific premise for the proposed project and explain how the work will address an important problem or a critical barrier in the field. Explain how this proposal will generate the preliminary data needed for an NIH R01 (or equivalent) grant application.

- **Innovation:** Explain how the proposal challenges existing paradigms or clinical practice and/or how it addresses an innovative hypothesis in the field.
- **Approach:** Describe the overall strategy and analyses used to accomplish the specific aims of the project. Include preliminary data, a rationale for experimental design and discuss any potential problems and solutions. In keeping with NIH guidelines, describe methods to ensure robustness and reproducibility and explain how relevant biological variables (i.e., sex) are factored into the research design. [See NIH guidance regarding rigor and reproducibility.](#)

D. Literature cited. Provide full details of literature cited including full title and authors.

E. Human Subjects. Include all required sections required for NIH applications. [See NIH instructions for more information.](#)

F. Vertebrate Animals. Include 4-point narrative required for NIH applications. [See NIH instructions for more information.](#)

G. Resource Sharing Plan. [See NIH instructions for more information.](#)

H. Data Management and Sharing (DMS) Plan. [See NIH instructions for more information.](#)

I. Authentication of Key Biological and/or Chemical Resources. [See NIH instructions for more information.](#)

J. Brief description of how the proposal supports your career development and your subsequent NIH R01 application (**1 page**).

- Brief synopsis of your career and long-term goals.
- Describe your plan for an NIH R01 grant application and how the Trustee Award will help you achieve this.

K-L. Statement of Divisional commitment by the Division Chief **and** mentoring plan by the applicant's primary scientific mentor(s) (**1 page each**).

- Describe the mentoring plan and career development support of the applicant.
- Describe Divisional support currently available to the applicant – start up package, research space and any other resources relevant to the application.
- Please include the Division Chief and Scientific Mentor's name in the statements.

M. Letters of support from collaborators, consultants or mentoring committee.

10. Supplementary data will **NOT** be accepted.

2nd Year of Funding Process

A maximum of \$100,000 per year for two years can be requested initially. Renewal for year 2 is dependent upon the timely submission of progress report after year 1. Progress reports are due June 15th or Dec. 15th depending on funding cycle.

Review Process

The main criteria for the review of the application are:

- Scientific merit of the application. This will be assessed using the same criteria as used by NIH reviewers.
- Career development plan and mentoring plan.
- Is the proposed work likely to position the applicant well for a highly competitive R01 or R01-equivalent application?