Rheumatology Research Foundation
Advancing Treatment | Finding Cures

Career Development Bridge Funding Award: K Supplement

The mission of the Rheumatology Research Foundation is to advance research and training to improve the health of people with rheumatic diseases.

The NIH K Series and VA CDA awards provide limited resources to cover research costs, such as essential laboratory supplies or support staff (e.g. salary support for research technician, database assistant or statistician), which are crucial to the successful transition of junior investigators to independent investigators. This award is designed to address the needs of these investigators and serve as a supplement to the NIH individual K series, VA CDA, or equivalent 4- or 5-year award mechanism. Applicants should propose a new project or expansion of their career development award that demonstrates growth of the aims of the initial award and an independent direction for the investigator **leading to the submission of an R award or equivalent.**

Award Amount: Up to $50,000 per year for 2 years

All applications must be submitted by 5 PM ET on the deadline day through WizeHive at http://app.wizehive.com/apps/ksupplement.

Application Deadline
August 1, 2018
Notification
August 31, 2018
Award Term Begins
September 14, 2018

Guidelines

All award recipients must abide by Foundation [Awards and Grants Policies](#) at all times.

Eligibility

➢ All applicants must meet citizenship/permanent resident status and other eligibility requirements as outlined in the Awards and Grants policies.

➢ Applicants must be ACR or ARHP members with an MD, DO, PhD or equivalent doctoral level degree from an accredited institution.

ACR members must meet the following criteria:	ARHP members must meet the following criteria:
• Applicant must be an NIH K08, K23, K25, VA CD, or equivalent 4- or 5-year award recipient. The applicant must be in years 2, 3 or 4 of their award at the time of application. • Have earned a DO, MD, MD/PhD, or DO/PhD degree or be currently enrolled in an ACGME accredited clinical training program. • MDs and DOs who are not licensed to perform clinical care may not apply.	• Applicant must be an NIH K01, K08, K23, K25, VA CD, or equivalent 4- or 5-year award recipient. The applicant must be in years 2, 3 or 4 of their award at the time of application. • Have earned a PhD*, DSc, or equivalent doctoral degree.

➢ *The Foundation does not currently support non- MD/DO PhD scientists working on basic science research.

➢ **In addition to an excellent application, applicants must be capable of becoming independent researchers with a clear and firm institutional commitment to their career development, including a faculty position and other supporting resources.**

Review Criteria

All applications will undergo a peer review process and final funding decisions will be made by the Foundation Scientific Advisory Council. Applications will be reviewed on the following criteria:

➢ Relevance of the proposal to the Foundation's mission to improve the health of people with rheumatic diseases

➢ Demonstration of progress and momentum already achieved in the early years of their career development award

➢ Timeline and trajectory for the duration of the supplement, including date of NIH/VA independent award submission and how the supplement will specifically provide support to achieve these goals

> ➢ Description of aims and preliminary data required to build a strong NIH R01 or VA Research Career Scientist/Merit Award application

Applicants will be notified of their status within four weeks of the application deadline.

Award Terms and Funding

The award term is a maximum of two years at up to $50,000 per year; however funding in year 2 is contingent on progress and benchmarks (e.g., preparation, submission of NIH R01 or VA RCS/ORD) submitted in year 1 progress report. The supplement must be used for research costs associated with the recipient's NIH individual series award, VA CDA, or equivalent award, such as essential laboratory supplies or supporting staff (e.g. research technician, database assistant or statistician). Funding may not be used for the investigator's own salary support.

If an applicant receives NIH/VA or any other research award during the supplement award term, the applicant must notify the Foundation immediately.

Recipients must notify the Foundation each time they submit an application to the NIH or VA. In addition, recipients must submit annual progress reports detailing goals accomplished, additional publications, and timeline for NIH R01 or VA RCS/ORD submission.

Application Instructions

Before starting the online application, please read the [Instructions for All Awards](#).

Applicant Information

You will be asked to confirm your eligibility and provide contact information in this section. You will be asked to upload your biosketch in [NIH format](#) (limit to five pages including any pending support).

Project Information

The information in this section is general information about the grant submission.

> ➢ **Project Title (limit to 200 characters, including spaces)**
> Make your title specific and detailed. It should clearly state the topic of your proposal.

> ➢ **Abstract (limit to 300 words)**
> Succinctly describe the hypothesis to be tested, the specific aims or global objectives of the project and the expected results.

> ➢ **Project Narrative (2-3 sentences)**
> Briefly describe how your proposed project is relevant to the Foundation's mission to improve the health of people with rheumatic disease.

Specifically, please explain how your project will address at least one of the following:

- Increase patient access to care
- Develop future treatments and cures
- Demonstrate or improve the value of rheumatology care
- Expand the impact of rheumatology

In this section, be succinct and use plain language that can be understood by a lay audience. The Project Narrative is made public for all awarded grants and used by the Foundation for marketing efforts.

➢ **Science Category**
Please select one option from the dropdown in the online application. This will be used to assign your application to the appropriate study section.

➢ **Primary Study Material and Method**
Please select one or more of the dropdown options in the online application. This will be used to assign your application to the appropriate study section.

➢ **Research Category and Classification**
Information provided in this section will help to ensure each application is assigned to the most appropriate study section.

➢ **Keywords**
Choose three keywords that accurately describe the project. If the application focuses on a specific disease, please include it as a keyword.

Research Award Assurance
By checking this box, the applicant assures that the proposal is in compliance with institutional guidelines as provided by the sponsoring institution's clinical and research review boards. All research proposals including human subjects, laboratory animals and recombinant DNA techniques must show documented compliance with institutional guidelines. Copies of approval notices by the institutions IRB, IACUC and/or biosafety committees must be provided as appropriate once awarded.

Required Documents

Specific Aims

Originally submitted Specific Aims page of the career development award that will be supplemented.

Applicant Statement

Written Statement (limit 2 pages), including the following:

➢ Demonstration of progress and momentum already achieved in the early years of the current award

➢ Description of aims and preliminary data required to build a strong independent research award application, and how this supplement extends the original aims of the career development award and will allow you to move in an independent direction toward your own line of research

➢ Timeline, milestones, and trajectory for the duration of the supplement, including date of planned submission for independent research award NIH R01 (or VA RCS/ORD), and how the supplement will specifically provide support to achieve these goals

Benchmarks

Download, complete and submit the Benchmarks of Success template (see below).

Benchmarks of success should be included for the completion of the preliminary data needed to submit an independent VA or NIH proposal. **Timeline for the submission of an application for independent research funding is a required benchmark.**

Budget and Justification

Download, complete, and submit the Proposed Budget Template (see below).

Note; indirect costs are not allowed.

Letter of Institutional Support

The Department Chair must provide evidence of adequate institutional support and protected time to allow completion of the proposed work and submission of an application for independent research funding. The institution must agree to protect at least 75% of the applicant's time and effort for research. The amount of additional salary support from the institution should be stated. The letter should explicitly state how the institution will support the applicant through the process of competing for independent research support at the R01 level.

BENCHMARKS OF SUCCESS

Applications should include a list of benchmarks (expected status of the project at various points in time). These milestones will be used to evaluate progress and to facilitate communication between principal investigators and the Foundation Scientific Advisory Council. Benchmarks of Success should be included for the completion of preliminary data needed to submit an independent VA or NIH proposal. **Timeline for the submission of an application for independent research funding is a required benchmark.**

Benchmarks *(Should be listed in order of priority)*	Metrics for Success *(Projected end points)*	Expected completion Dates

PROPOSED BUDGET

Applicant (Last, First Initial):_____

DETAILED BUDGET - YEAR 1 *DIRECT COSTS ONLY*	FROM	THROUGH
Term of Award:		
Research Supplies Coordinators/Statisticians/Technician Other (please specify): **Justification:**		
RESEARCH COSTS	$	
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS	$	
TOTAL RESEARCH COST FOR YEAR 1 (NOT TO EXCEED 50,000)	$	

*Applicants should outline an itemized budget not to exceed $50,000. The award term is a maximum of two years at up to $50,000 per year; however funding in year 2 is contingent on progress and benchmarks in year 1 (e.g., preparation, submission of NIH R01 or VA RCS/ORD). The supplement must be used for research costs associated with the recipient's NIH K08/K23, VA CDA, or equivalent award, such as essential laboratory supplies or supporting staff (e.g. research technician, database assistant or statistician). **Funding may not be used for the investigator's own salary support.***

PROPOSED BUDGET

Applicant (Last, First Initial):_____

DETAILED BUDGET - YEAR 2 *DIRECT COSTS ONLY*	FROM	THROUGH
Term of Award:		
Research Supplies Coordinators/Statisticians/Technician Other (please specify): **Justification:**		
RESEARCH COSTS		$
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS		$
TOTAL RESEARCH COST FOR YEAR 2 (NOT TO EXCEED $50,000)		**$**

*Applicants should outline an itemized budget not to exceed $50,000. The award term is a maximum of two years at up to $50,000 per year; however funding in year 2 is contingent on progress and benchmarks in year 1 (e.g., preparation, submission of NIH R01 or VA RCS/ORD). The supplement must be used for research costs associated with the recipient's NIH K08/K23, VA CDA, or equivalent award, such as essential laboratory supplies or supporting staff (e.g. research technician, database assistant or statistician). **Funding may not be used for the investigator's own salary support.***