Application Instructions
2020 Early Career Research Grants

Instructions:

Applications must be submitted through our online application portal by following the link at www.psoriasis.org/grants no later than 5 P.M. PACIFIC TIME ON MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2020. The online portal will take you to an application form that asks for general applicant, project, and institutional information. All other application materials (A-G below) must be submitted as individual pdfs in the specified fields. Note that if you wish to submit multiple documents for a single field (e.g. multiple letters of support) you must combine these documents into a single pdf for upload. You will have the ability to revisit your application multiple times before submitting and are encouraged to familiarize yourself with the online form before filling it in.

Note that the same PI may only apply to one NPF Research Grant mechanism (excluding Bridge Grants, Fellowships, and the Psoriasis Prevention Initiative) per cycle. If you wish for your application to be considered for funding under other mechanisms in the same cycle, you will have the opportunity to indicate this on the application form.

IRB/IACUC approval must be initiated prior to award date as to not delay the project start date.

Refer to the 2020 Early Career Research Grant RFP or email us at research@psoriasis.org for additional information.

Format:

A. TITLE PAGE
This page should include the grant title, principal investigator's name, mentor's name, and affiliations.

B. ABSTRACT
Summarize the proposed research for a scientific audience. Abstract must not exceed 350 words.
C. LAYMAN’S STATEMENT

Summarize the proposed research for a non-scientific audience in a written statement accompanied by one summary figure. The statement should describe the research question, the aims of the project, and the project’s significance. The layman’s statement must be different from the abstract and is weighted significantly by NPF’s Board of Directors when making its final funding recommendations. Keep in mind that the accompanying figure may be the only thing that leaves a lasting impression with the Board, so do your best to communicate the significance of your proposed research with simple diagram(s), image(s), and/or graph(s). Layman’s statement must not exceed 200 words and must include one figure. Text included in the figure will not count towards the 200 word limit.

D. BUDGET

Provide a detailed budget based on NIH budget categories. Each grant is limited to $50,000 for one year. Indirect costs are not allowed. List all personnel to be included in the project and their anticipated support. Include a concise statement of how you propose to allocate funds (amount and for what purpose). NPF requires the use of a provided budget template.

E. BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

Use the NIH format to provide a biographical sketch of the proposal’s principal investigator, mentor, co-investigators, and other key personnel who will play a significant role on the project. Each biographical sketch must not exceed 5 pages.

F. LETTER(S) OF SUPPORT

A letter of support from the applicant’s mentor must be provided. This letter should describe how the mentor will support the applicant’s research and why the applicant is a strong candidate for an Early Career Research Grant. Applicants may also use this space to provide letters of support from additional collaborators or supporting people/facilities/resources who will contribute to the proposed research.
G. RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Describe your proposal in sufficient detail for adequate evaluation by a committee of scientific peer-reviewers. Make every effort to be succinct and use figures or tables to summarize your data. Research proposals must include the following five sections:

1. **Specific aims:** The goals of this one-year proposal should be succinctly stated. Because this funding is intended to initiate projects that would qualify for additional future funding, please differentiate between the immediate aims of this project and related aims that would follow in year two or three. What do you intend to accomplish? What hypothesis is to be tested? **Include one or two sentences about how this proposal will get us closer to a cure for psoriatic disease.**

2. **Background and significance:** Why is the research important? Evaluate existing knowledge in the field and identify the possible contributions that your investigation may make.

3. **Preliminary data/studies:** Use this opportunity to describe published or unpublished data that support your hypothesis, specific aims, and/or experimental design.

4. **Experiment design:** Describe the experimental design, the procedures to be used and the manner in which the data will be analyzed. Descriptions of established lab procedures are not necessary.

5. **References:** List of references cited (not counted towards page limit).

Research Proposal Format:

- **5-page maximum**, including figures and tables, but excluding references
- Minimum of 12-point font size
- Maximum of 15 characters per horizontal inch
- Maximum of 6 lines per vertical inch
- Minimum of 1-inch margins
- Figures must be legible
- Up to two additional copies of original figures may be appended if required for clarity.

Review Criteria:

Reviewers will be asked to base their evaluations on the criteria listed below. Please keep these criteria in mind as you prepare your application.

- Relevance to psoriasis and/or psoriatic arthritis
- Ability of applicant to accomplish aims
- Strength of research environment and mentorship
• Strategy, methodology, and analyses are well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the aims of the project
• Potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success are presented
• Innovation
• Likelihood of leading to additional funding
• Likelihood of impacting patients’ lives