
Clafin Distinguished Scholar Awards 2014

Two-Year Awards for Junior Faculty Women Investigators

in Basic and Clinical Research

Deadline – Tuesday, March 4, 2014 – 9:00 PM

DESCRIPTION OF THE AWARDS

Applications are invited for Clafin Distinguished Scholar Awards 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.

BACKGROUND

Although women scientists are recruited to Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) 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 Clafin, 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 Clafin Distinguished Scholar Awards. It is intended that this transitional funding will increase opportunities for women to advance to senior positions in academic medicine.

AWARD EXPENDITURE AND START DATE

Awards are effective July 1, 2014 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.

ELIGIBILITY

- The MGH ECOR Clafin Awards provide funding for junior faculty women to sustain research productivity during their child-rearing years
- Both basic and clinical MGH investigators are eligible to apply
- Current recipients of the Eleanor and Miles Shore Fellowship offered through HMS are not eligible to apply for this award
- MD, PhD, or equivalent advanced degree
- Candidate must be within 10 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 full-time appointment at MGH
- Conducting research at MGH
- Evidence of salary support from a grant or other funding source
- Submission of a project description on which the applicant is clearly the principal investigator whose academic progress would benefit from such funding support
- Evidence of strong research training, productivity, and a well-defined focus in either basic or clinical research
- Responsible for care of children

REVIEW PROCESS

Applications 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.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The application process requires the following six items to be submitted:

1. **Partners Research Proposal Coversheet** with original signatures. Please [click here](#) to download the form.
2. **Research plan** (3-page limit, excluding references), include:
 - Specific aims
 - Background and significance
 - Preliminary data
 - Experimental design and methods
 - References
3. **NIH Biosketch** of the applicant (not a CV). Be sure to list all other current and pending research support with funding amounts in NIH format.
4. **Proposed Budget** (\$50,000 direct costs per year for 2 years maximum, plus 15% for indirect costs)
5. **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.
6. Briefly **describe child-rearing responsibilities** – no longer than 2 paragraphs
7. (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.)

HOW TO APPLY

ECOR is now accepting applications online via the ECOR Online Grant Management Portal.

<http://ecor.mgh.harvard.edu/GrantManager/Login.aspx>

This user-friendly system will allow MGH researchers to submit electronic applications to ECOR. The system has been designed to allow users to:

- Create a personal profile which will auto populate your future ECOR applications
- View current calls and apply to open opportunities
- Save and edit current applications in progress
- Submit completed applications
- View all your ECOR applications that have been submitted via the online grants system

Instructions for Applying Online

1. Create your account: Login using your Partners credentials and fill-out the profile information.
2. Complete the application: once your profile is complete, you will automatically progress through the online application. If you cannot complete the application at one time, "save" the application and return to it at a later time to finish. Before submitting your application, you will have the ability to make changes to the application.
3. Submit your application: once you have completed the application click on the "submit" button at the bottom of the page. Once you submit it, you will not be able to make further changes unless you send a request to ECOR (note that once the deadline passes, request to make changes will not be accepted).

Useful tips:

- To avoid losing your work, remember to save frequently
- You can only upload PDF documents
- If you previously created a profile, please ensure your information is current

Click "Apply" below to begin the application.

QUESTIONS

Please visit the ECOR website <http://ecor.mgh.harvard.edu/> and specifically the FAQ page for the Claflin awards under the Awards and Grants tab of the site.

If you still have questions remaining, please submit them via e-mail to [ECOR](#).

Apply