

**Research Center for Transforming Health  
Emerging Physician Scientist Faculty Fellowship**

**Request for Applications**

The USC School of Medicine Research Center for Transforming Health is pleased to announce the 2018-2019 call for applications for its Emerging Physician Scientist Faculty Fellowship. This program aims to provide early career or transitioning physician scientists an opportunity to gain experience and mentorship in translational research. Key components will also include education and training, along with provision of pilot project funding, intended to inform a successful extramural grant application ready for submission by end of program. When successful, this program will facilitate new and innovative, interdisciplinary, translational research with emphasis on diseases and conditions of importance to South Carolina's future. The program will support applications across the translational spectrum - from basic science to population health - including patient-centered and community-engaged applications.

Priority will be given to interdisciplinary projects with and/or those intended to reduce health disparities. Collaboration with PhD colleagues, while not required, will be prioritized and is highly recommended. Further details about the award, eligibility and program requirements can be found below and on the RCTH USC SOM [webpage](#).

**Program Overview**

**Program Duration:** August 2018-November 2019 (15 months)

**Award Amount:** \$20,000/12 months (direct costs for 12 months from award date-1 year budget)

**Number of Awards:** up to 4 may be awarded

**Eligibility:**

- The project PI must be a physician in good standing with Faculty appointment at USC School of Medicine-Columbia
- Propose a research project that is clinical/ translational in nature, that will lead to results suitable to serve as the foundation or support for a successful research grant application
- Have the ability to commit to full participation in all requirements of the program

**Benefits for Emerging Physician Scientist:**

- Didactic education and training in translational research and grant development
- Support and mentorship in project development and implementation
- Funding for pilot project that can be scaled up and/or used to establish a larger project
- Support and mentorship for successfully securing extramural funding
- Biostatistics Support

**Program requirements for PI:**

- Complete 3 days of didactic training/education (distributed over 2 months)
- Attend monthly Emerging Physician Scientist meeting/groups (remote access will be available)
- Complete proposed project
- Complete final project report
- Attend at least 1 IRB meeting as an observer
- Attend USC SOM Internal Peer Review meetings, at least one per quarter
- Present an extramural grant proposal at the Emerging Physician Scientist Fellowship Day utilizing findings from fellowship project

***Priority will be given to projects that include interdisciplinary teams (PhD colleagues strongly recommended) and/or address topics intended to reduce health disparities.***

An informational session will be held on April 23rd, 2018 at 12:00 p.m., USC SOM VA Campus, 6311 Garners Ferry Road Room 215 Columbia, SC 29209

**Application Requirements:**

- **Applications open: April 16, 2018**
- **Letter of Intent: Due May 15, 2018**

All applicants are **required** to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) that includes the following information. Letters of intent will not be used in the evaluation of applications. Applications submitted without an on-time LOI will be considered solely at the discretion of the RCTH.

**Letters of Intent requirements:**

Name, email, telephone number and department of the prospective physician scientist  
List the Name, email, telephone number and department of any key personnel  
Mentor's Name, email, telephone number and department (if one has been identified)  
Descriptive title of the project  
Brief overview or abstract of proposed project (max 500 words)

Submit Letter of Intent to The Research Center for Transforming Health at [rcth@uscmed.sc.edu](mailto:rcth@uscmed.sc.edu)

- **Online Application: Due June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

The following information will be required to complete the online application: [Online Application](#)

- Name, email, telephone number and department of the prospective Physician Scientist/Principal Investigator (PI)
- Name, email, telephone number and department of any key personnel
- Mentor's Name, email, telephone number and department (if one has been identified)
- Name, email, telephone number for Physician Scientist/Principal Investigator's Department Business Manager
- Letter of Support from Department Chair

- LOS should indicate Chair's knowledge and support of the time needed to complete fellowship requirements and proposed project
- A LOS template and instructions can be found on the RCTH [webpage](#).
- Descriptive title of the project
- Abstract of proposed project (max 500 words)
- 4-Page Project Proposal
  - 1-Page specific aims
  - 2-Page overview of research strategy
    - Significance/Problem, Innovation, Approach, Hypothesis, Planned Analysis (high level analysis plans acceptable for those currently without biostatistics support)
  - Bibliography/References Cited (not included in page limits)
  - 1-page Additional Criteria
    - Applicant must state how s/he plans to utilize the Emerging Physician Scientist program to advance their career goals.
    - Applicant must address the impact this fellowship and proposed project will have on his/her current position and how the required time needed will be accommodated to complete fellowship requirements and their proposed project.
    - State how s/he plans to use project data in future research and plans for securing future extramural funding.
    - Project Timeline- projects must be scaled to fit within the fellowship timeline and funding limit
    - Identify target organization and/or specific RFA/RFP for extramural funding
- Project Budget and Budget Justification (see allowable costs below)
  - Applicants must include biostatistics support as portion of their overall budget (not to exceed \$2500) or provide a detailed justification why this support is not needed. Potential sub-awards to other departments and/or institutions must be clearly stated on the budget.
  - A project budget template can be found on the RCTH [webpage](#).
- NIH Style [Biosketch](#) for applicant and any key personnel on research proposal
- List of past, current and pending research funding
- For projects utilizing secondary data, a current Data Use Agreement from the data provider must be submitted; or for existing datasets documentation from data provider permission to use data for secondary analysis.

### **Budget and Allowable Costs**

All applications must include a budget and budget justification. Budgets are presented in general categories and require detailed explanation on the budget justification. Budget items should align with the information below and NIH standard [guidelines](#).

The PI's Department/Division Business Manager shall be responsible for all human resource, procurement and reconciliation activities for the funded project account(s). The PI's Department/Division will be responsible for establishing and managing all sub-awards.

- Faculty salary support and fringe benefits are allowed up to 5% efforts for each member subject to the NIH [salary cap](#). Salary and fringe benefits for other personnel are allowed for technical support (i.e. research coordinators, research nurse, biostatistics).
- Funds can be used to support research expenses such as, necessary materials and supplies, patient costs, participant incentives, and animal acquisition cost and care.
- Funds cannot be used for salary support for ancillary or administrative personnel (i.e. mentors, administrative assistants), or used to cover student tuition, fees or stipends. Facilities and Administration costs/indirect costs, travel, memberships and subscriptions are not permitted. General office supplies, equipment, computers, laptops will not permitted (unless specifically justified and approved).

### **Document Formatting**

- Documents must be created in MS word and converted to PDF format for upload. Do not attach fillable forms. If combining PDFs, do not use bundling or portfolio features.
- Font Type and Size- 11 pts or larger; Arial or Calibri
- Page Margins- No less than 0.5" (one-half inch) on all sides