Corporate & Foundation Relations
Advancement

Limited Submission Announcement

Smith Family Awards for Excellence in Biomedical Research

Overview:

The Smith Family Awards for Excellence in Biomedical Research support promising **junior faculty engaged in basic biomedical research** who are beginning to establish their own independent laboratories and research programs. Clinical research is beyond the scope of this program.

Eligibility:

- Applicants must be full-time faculty whose first independent appointment began between July 1, 2017 and December 1, 2019.

- Applications may focus on all fields of basic biomedical science. Investigators in the physical sciences (physics, chemistry, and engineering) with biomedical research projects are also encouraged to apply.

- Applicants are ineligible if, at the time of application, they have combined federal and non-federal funding totaling $500,000 or more in direct costs in either of the first two years of the grant period (12/1/19 - 11/30/20 or 12/1/20 - 11/30/21).

- Applicants are also ineligible if they were previously or are currently a PI or Co-PI on an R01, P01, Pioneer Award, New Innovator Award or similar large awards from federal agencies or national foundations.

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- Research projects must be conducted on site at the applicant's school/college and not at an affiliate location.

Award Background:

- A **three-year grant of $300,000** (funding period is 12/1/19 - 11/30/22).
- UMass Amherst may submit up to **2 applications per school/college.**
- Number of Awards: up to 5.
- We strongly encourage reviewing past grants to determine competitiveness: [2018 Recipients](#); [Alumni Directory](#)

Deadlines

Internal: July 1, 2019
Sponsor: August 2, 2019

Internal Application Process

The internal selection process will be informed by the [grant program's guidelines and submission requirements](#) and led by a committee composed of the deans of applicants' respective schools and colleges or their designees and, if necessary, the Provost, Vice Chancellor for Research Engagement, and/or faculty with relevant expertise.

If you are interested in applying to this program, please send the following items to cfr@umass.edu by **July 1, 2019**.

- A concept paper (3 pages max.) outlining:
    - Specific Aims
    - Background and Significance
    - Preliminary Data (if available)
    - Research Design and Methods
    - Potential Limitations
    - Project Timeline
    - Collaborators (if any)
    - Future Direction of Laboratory over Next Five Years
- A list of past, current, and pending support.
- NIH Biosketch or CV.
- Names, titles, institutions, and relationship of your proposed two recommendation writers, one of which must be a Postdoctoral Mentor or Residency Director.

Additional Information

The Smith Family Foundation's Scientific Review Committee uses the following criteria to evaluate applications:

- A clearly stated hypothesis, based on sound precedents and supported by relevant literature.
- Objectives that are technically feasible and personnel who are qualified to carry out

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- Project's scientific merit and the applicant's familiarity with the pertinent literature and the work of other investigators in his/her field of study.
- Applicant's potential to carry out independent research and clear ability to develop a sound research plan.
- Applicant's level of independence and institutional commitment to her/him.

For more information, visit the program's guidelines and FAQs. If you have technical questions on the Smith Family Foundation or your eligibility, please contact Liz Smith in Corporate and Foundation Relations.

Please click on the following links for more information
on funding opportunities:
On-Campus Funding Opportunities
Funding for New or Early Career Faculty

You can find additional information on the CFR Website:
Private Foundation Limited Submission Opportunities
Grant Writing Tips and Suggestions