Smith Family Awards for Excellence in Biomedical Research

Overview:

This program supports promising junior faculty engaged in basic biomedical research who are beginning to establish their own independent laboratories and research programs.

Eligibility:

- Full-time faculty who have received or will receive their first independent faculty appointment on or between July 1, 2016 and December 1, 2018.
- 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 must have completed their postdoctoral training by Dec 1, 2018.
- 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 (12/1/18 - 11/30/19 or 12/1/19 - 11/30/20).
- 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.
- Clinical research is not eligible.
- Collaboration with other researchers within or outside of the applicant's institution is encouraged but not required.
- Research projects must be conducted on site at the applicant's school/college and not at an affiliate location.
- Women scientists are encouraged to apply.
- If an Applicant has been on medical or family leave, or if research was interrupted for other reasons, this period of absence does not count towards eligibility.

Award Background:

- A three-year grant of **$300,000** (funding period is December 1, 2018 - November 30, 2021)
- Up to **2 applications per school/college**
- Support is for new independent faculty engaged in basic biomedical research. Investigators in the physical sciences (physics, chemistry, and engineering) whose projects focus on biomedical science are also encouraged to apply.
- Number of Awards: Up to 5.
- We strongly encourage reviewing past grants to determine competitiveness: [2017 Recipients; 2010-2016 Recipients](#).

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**Deadlines**

**Internal:** June 22, 2018  
**Sponsor:** July 27, 2018

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**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@admin.umass.edu](mailto:cfr@admin.umass.edu) by **June 22, 2018**.

- 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.
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 the proposed research.
- 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 or Michael Stein 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