

Guidelines & Eligibility

Career Development Award in Translational Cancer Research

Grant Amount: \$100,000

Tower Cancer Research Foundation supports forward thinking research work in Southern California. The goal of the Career Development award is to support young investigators to continue their laboratory studies while they improve their ability to get further funding. In general, the scientific advisory board evaluates grant applications based on the following criteria:

- Novelty of hypothesis
- Scientific quality
- Potential for revealing something meaningful about cancer
- Feasibility of the proposal
- Evidence of institutional support for the project

Eligibility Requirements

- A junior faculty position is not required.
- Applicants must not be beyond the first five years of a junior faculty appointment.
- Fellows and postdocs are allowed to apply.
- Applicants must be Southern California based (Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Ventura, Santa Barbara, Imperial, Inyo, Mono)
- The project must entail research directed towards potential oncological clinical applications in the area of molecular therapeutics or diagnostics of cancer. The project may be laboratory-based or “translational”, meaning it may involve clinical subjects but must have a direct laboratory component.
- The Principal Investigator must hold either an MD or a PhD (or both) and working in an existing active lab.
- 50% of the Principal Investigator 's time must be protected time for research in general (not necessarily for the proposed project only)
- Principal Investigators are not required to have funds already secured in order to apply for the Career Development Grant. Likewise, investigators with other private or government funding are still eligible to apply. Researchers who have received significant support within the last year need not apply (i.e., from a foundation, R01 grant, etc.)

Funding Terms

- Career Development Grantees will be awarded a one-time payment of \$100,000
- Multiple Career Development Awards will be granted.
- All grant awards are for 1 year only. The grant award must be used to cover research related expenses between **December 15, 2023 - December 14, 2024**.
- There are no opportunities of grant renewal.
- Grant funds are to be applied towards salary, processing fees, equipment and/or supplies. There is no salary cap for Principal Investigators.
- Grant funds are not permitted to be used for indirect expenses (i.e. rental expenses, equipment maintenance, and insurance fees are not allowable costs). Fringe benefits are not allowed. Please refer to the [NIH grants policy](#) for allowable direct costs.

Submission Procedures

- Completed applications must be submitted electronically on our Grants Management System: [ProposalCentral](#).
- Submissions are due **Monday, November 6, 2023 by 5pm (PST)**. Applicants will receive an email confirming receipt of the submission.
- For questions regarding the application or application process contact Kelli Sargent at (310) 299-8470 or kelli@towercancer.org
- Applications will be reviewed by a panel of renowned clinician-scientists determined by Tower Cancer Research Foundation. Applicants will be notified by no later than December 8, 2023 of the panel's decision.
- For technical questions about registering on our Grants Management System ProposalCentral (a division of Altum), please refer to [ProposalCentral FAQ](#), the detailed [ProposalCentral Guide](#), or for more support, email pcsupport@altum.com.



Formatting Guidelines:

Career Development Grant Application

Please use the following formatting guidelines (when applicable)

- Title each PDF upload as: **SectionName.LastName.FirstName**
- Include a header with the applicant's last name, first name, section name in the upper right-hand corner of each page.
- Use Times New Roman or Arial in font size 11. Minimum of 0.8 inch paper margins on all sides.
- Include a footer with the page number on the bottom right-hand corner and adhere to the page maximums indicated for each section.
- Only complete and correctly ordered applications will be considered.

Section: Applicant's Biographical Sketch

- Submit your official NIH Biographical Sketch (NIH Format if applicable)

Section: Mentor's NIH Biographical Sketch & biographical sketch of other collaborators

- Submit the mentor's official NIH Biographical Sketch and other support (NIH Format if applicable)

Section: Description of Proposed Project:

- Max of 10 pages including tables, figures etc.
- Provide a clear statement of the work to be undertaken and may include (but is not limited to):
 - Background and Relevant Knowledge
 - Specific Aims
 - Research Plan
 - Study Population
 - Methods
 - Data Analysis
 - Analytic Strategy
 - Discussion and Expected Outcomes
 - Relevance
 - Significance
 - Statement on Innovation

Section: References (Not included in 10 page limit)

- References pertinent to proposed project only

Section: Letters of Recommendation (Not included in 10-page limit)

- Include three signed letters of recommendation from individuals familiar with your work/and or training. Letters should be on official institutional letterhead and should include recommenders contact information. To include a mentor if applicable

Budget

- Please refer to the Budget Detail section to complete the project budget. Applicants are to provide a proposed cumulative budget for the grant period.