



2020 AASLD FOUNDATION CLINICAL, TRANSLATIONAL, AND OUTCOMES RESEARCH AWARDS IN LIVER DISEASES (CTORA)

Application Deadline: December 4, 2019
Award Period: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2022
Award Amount: \$200,000 (\$100,000/Year)

Description

The purpose of these awards is to foster career development for individuals performing clinical research, translational research, or outcomes research in a liver-related area and who have shown commitment to excellence at an early stage of their research study. The award is intended to ensure that a significant portion of young investigators' time is protected for research, with an overall objective of enabling young investigators to develop independent and productive research careers in liver disease.

One award per year will be reserved for meritorious transplant related research in memory of the University of Michigan Transplant Team.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for this award, the applicant must adhere to the following guidelines:

- 1) Applicant must be within the first five (5) years of his/her first faculty appointment (including prior appointments in universities outside of North America) at the start of the award (July 1).
 - a) If the applicant does not have a faculty appointment at the time of application, a letter signed by the department chair confirming that the applicant will have a faculty appointment (i) no later than the Award start date and (ii) for the full award cycle must be submitted.
- 2) If funded, at least 50% effort will be devoted to the research project on which this application is based.
- 3) The applicant must be a member of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) at the time of award application and maintain active membership for the duration of the award period.
- 4) Applicant must have a mentor or co-mentor who is an AASLD member in good standing at the time of application and for the duration of the award period.
- 5) Applicant must be sponsored by a public or private non-profit institution accredited in the United States, Canada or Mexico engaged in health care and health-related research. The funded research project must be conducted at the sponsoring institution within the United States, Canada or Mexico.
- 6) Project is clinical, translational, or outcomes-based research. "*Clinical Research*" is defined as studies related to patients or disease processes having direct contact between the principal investigator and humans. Clinical research includes clinical trials in liver disease. "*Translational Research*" is defined as clinical research with a substantial component of laboratory investigation using blood or tissue specimens from patients with liver disease. "*Outcomes Research*" includes epidemiological studies, patient-centered outcomes research or health services research.
- 7) Applicant does not hold other similar research awards. Applicants who hold other research awards (including but not limited to NIH K08, K23, R21; Veterans Administration Merit Review Grant or Career Development Award; AGA Research Scholar Award; Glaxo Institute of Digestive Health Award; American Liver Foundation Liver Scholar Award, etc.) are not eligible.
- 8) A single sponsoring institution may submit up to two applications per distinct department within each institutional training site.
- 9) Applicant may only apply for one (1) AASLD Foundation (AASLDF) award per application cycle.

Award Details

Awards of \$200,000 will be provided over two years (\$100,000 per year). Funds may only be used for *salary support* or for *technical support/laboratory supplies* (excluding capital equipment) for the recipient. No indirect costs, registration fees, or travel expenses are provided. It is expected that additional funds are available to the investigator in order to carry out the proposed research.

Awards cannot be transferred to another institution without prior written approval from AASLD Foundation. Recipients must acknowledge the award in all publications (abstracts, manuscripts, or other documents) resulting from research performed during the tenure of this award.

Selection Criteria

Applicants will be evaluated based upon their background, their commitment to a research career, the scientific merit of their research project and the environment in which they will conduct this project.

Applications will be reviewed based on the written materials submitted. Incomplete applications and applications that fail to adhere strictly to the instructions (including the submission deadline and page limitations) will not be reviewed. All decisions are final.

Reporting

Scientific progress and financial reports must be sent to AASLD Foundation at the end of the first award year and within 60 days of completion of the award. Funding of the second year of the award is contingent upon receipt of reports.

The Liver Meeting[®]

The award recipient is strongly encouraged to both attend and present their work at The Liver Meeting[®].

Research Award Glossary

Clinical Research: Studies related to patients or disease processes having direct contact between the principal investigator and humans. Clinical research includes epidemiology and clinical trials in liver disease.

Collaborator: An individual who works with the principal investigator in the scientific development or execution of the project. This individual would typically devote a specific percent of effort to the project and would be identified as key personnel. The collaborator may be employed by or affiliated with either the grantee organization or an organization participating in the project under a consortium or contractual agreement.

Grant Administrator: The staff member who oversees new grant agreements and grant payments; ensure that grants comply with relevant laws and regulations; guarantees that all required reports are submitted; and administers the grant after award.

Indirect Costs: Costs that are necessary to support a particular activity project or program but that cannot be easily or directly attributed to such activity, project or program. Examples of indirect costs are rent, utilities, and administrative personnel.

Junior Faculty: Faculty at or below the rank of Assistant Professor for no more than five years at the time of the award.

Mentor: Senior professional who provide guidance, direction and support to the applicant. This person should have a vested interest in the career development and research experience of the applicant.

Outcomes Research: Includes epidemiological studies, patient-centered outcomes research or health services research.

Standard Form 424 (Research & Related) Biosketch and NIH Guidelines: The SF424 (R&R) biosketch is the application form used to obtain federal grant support. According to NIH guidelines, the research plan should contain: title, specific aims, significance, innovation, and approach. To access the biosketch via the Web, go to <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/424/index.htm#biosketch> and select the General Blank Format Page under "Biosketches"

Translational Research: Clinical research with a substantial component of laboratory investigation using blood or tissue specimens from patients with liver disease.

Clinical, Translational, and Outcomes Research Awards in Liver Diseases Application Instructions

1. Use pages 5-6 of this application as cover pages. Print or type responses.
2. Include only the required documents and provide signatures as requested.
3. Put your name (last name, first name) and the name of the award in the upper right-hand corner of each page.
4. Use half-inch margins. Do not use lettering smaller than 10 point.
5. Assemble the application package in the order listed in the Required Documents section below.
6. Be sure to adhere to page limits and complete all sections. Applications that do not meet the requirements, in content or format, will not be reviewed.
7. The completed application, letters of support or commitment, and other documents as applicable must be combined into and submitted as one PDF document. Name the PDF file as follows: 2020 CTORA - Last name, first name (*Example: 2020 CTORA – Smith, Jane*)

Submission

The application deadline for this fellowship is **11:59 pm Eastern time, December 4, 2019**. **Applications received after the deadline will not be reviewed.**

Submit your application at www.liverresearchawards.org. You will be sent an email confirmation that the application was received. If an email confirmation is not received in two (2) business days, please contact awards@asld.org to confirm receipt.

Required Documents

Submit only the documents listed below, using pages 5-6 as cover pages. Any additional documents (including letters of collaboration, additional letters of recommendation, or documents that exceed the stated page limitations) will be removed from consideration.

1. **Cover Pages and Required Signatures** – Complete all information on pages 5-6 and use as application cover pages.
2. **Abstract** – Provide your project's abstract on page 7 of this application.
3. **Applicant's and Mentor's Biosketches (Limit five pages each)** – Provide a biographical sketch using the current SF424 Form (see glossary).
4. **Resubmission Information** – if this application is a resubmission to the AASLD Foundation awards program, complete page 8 of this application.
5. **Research Plan (Limit eight pages, including references)** – Prepare according to NIH guidelines: title, specific aims, significance, innovation, and approach. The section on previous work should highlight the candidate's previous studies and his/her contribution to knowledge in this field. (Appendices should not be included.)

6. **Research Facilities (Limit three pages)** – The research environment should be described, including access to patients, laboratory space (if applicable), consultants and technical (including computer) resources.
7. **Research Support** – Accounting of all other institutional, federal and non-federal support is required. The NIH “Other Support” form should be used and is available through academic institutions’ Office of Grants and Contracts. Include all funding available from collaborators and sponsors.
8. **Letter(s) of Collaboration (if applicable, limit one page each)** - Letters of collaborative arrangements that are significant to the proposal may be included.
9. **Candidate’s Statement (Limit one page)** – Describe the benefits of this award to your research career and, where applicable, the impact the research preceptor will have on your research development.
10. **Letter of Commitment from Department Chair (Limit one page)** – Letter should be provided from the head of the candidate’s department confirming that a minimum of 50% of the available time will be devoted to research activities during the award.
11. **Letters of Recommendation (Two letters, limit one page each)** – Two letters of recommendation attesting to the candidate’s qualifications, commitment to research and quality of scientific work should be submitted with the application. One letter must be from the applicant’s mentor.
12. **Institutional Review Board (Limit one page)** – If human subjects are to be used, verification of IRB approval of the proposed research in the applicant’s institution must be provided prior to the award being granted, and applied for at time of award application, All human studies require IRB approval. If IRB approval is not necessary or not attached, please state why using page 9 of this application.

Funding Notifications

Funding notifications for the 2020 awards cycle will be sent no later than May 1, 2020.



APPLICATION FOR THE
**2020 CLINICAL, TRANSLATIONAL, AND OUTCOMES
RESEARCH AWARD IN LIVER DISEASES**

APPLICANT NAME:

SPONSORING INSTITUTION:

The applicant (check all that apply):

- Is a junior faculty member (at or below the rank of Assistant Professor for no more than five years at the start of the award).
Faculty start date: _____
- Has a faculty appointment that will start on or prior to the award start date.
Anticipated start date: _____

Have you previously held or do you currently hold any similar research awards, including but not limited to:

NIH K08, K23, R21; Veterans Administration Merit Review Grant or Career Development Award; AGA Research Scholar Award; Glaxo Institute of Digestive Health Award; American Liver Foundation Liver Scholar Award, etc

- I **have not** held nor currently hold any of these awards
- I **have** held or currently hold one or more of these awards

Is this application a resubmission to the AASLD Foundation awards program?

- Yes. If yes, please complete the information on page 8.
- No.

APPLICATION FOR THE 2020 CLINICAL, TRANSLATIONAL, AND OUTCOMES RESEARCH AWARD IN LIVER DISEASES APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant (last, first, middle initial)

AASLD Member Number

Project Title

Degree(s) and year(s) granted

Current Position

Appointment Date (month & year)

Address

Telephone

Email

Sponsoring Institution

Mentor (last, first, middle initial)

AASLD Member Number

Address

Telephone

Email

Institution's Grants Administrator

Grants Administrator's Address

Grants Administrator's Phone

Grants Administrator's Email

Institution Fiscal Officer, if different (please print)

Required Signatures

NOTE: By signing below, you are certifying that the information in this application is accurate and that you understand that AASLDF guidelines do not allow for any indirect costs (e.g. facilities management and utilities; general-purpose or capital equipment; travel; memberships and dues; subscriptions/books/periodicals; etc.).

Signature of Applicant

Name

Date

Signature of Mentor

Name

Date

Signature of Department Chair

Name

Date

Signature of Grants Administrator

Name

Date

Abstract of Proposed Research

In the box below, briefly describe the research project, technical approach and anticipated results. Describe how this award will advance your career in research.

Research Information

Current Percent Effort:

_____ Research
_____ Administration
_____ Clinical Activities
_____ Teaching

100%=Total

Projected Under This Award:

_____ Research
_____ Administration
_____ Clinical Activities
_____ Teaching

100%=Total

Resubmission Information (if applicable)

In the box below, briefly describe how your resubmission responds to the issues and criticisms raised by reviewers in the original application. Also briefly describe any major additions, deletions, or changes to the application.

****IRB (if necessary) must be applied for at time of award application.****

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD

A. Does the proposed study require Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval? Yes No

B. If the proposed study requires IRB approval, has the documentation verifying approval been obtained and included in the award application? Yes No

If the proposed study has been approved, please provide documentation of verification with your application (**limit 2 pages**).

If IRB approval is not necessary or not attached, please state why below: