Clinician Educator Support Policy

GENERAL

The Stanford Maternal and Child Health Research Institute (MCHRI) Clinician Educator (CE) Grant Support Program aims to encourage, develop, and support CEs to pursue impactful and meaningful clinical research for the area of proposed work. Applications may include involvement of other Allied Health Professionals.

MISSION

The Clinician Educator Grant Support Program seeks innovative, well-developed proposals that pursue clinical research relevant to their clinical practice related to the health of expectant mothers and children. Clinical research is defined by the NIH as research with human subjects that is:

- Patient-oriented research:
  - Research conducted with human subjects (or on material of human origin such as tissues, specimens, and cognitive phenomena) for which an investigator (or colleague) directly interacts with human subjects. Excluded from this definition are in vitro studies that utilize human tissues that cannot be linked to a living individual. It includes: mechanisms of human disease; therapeutic interventions; clinical trials; development of new technologies
- Epidemiological and behavioral studies
- Outcomes research and health services research

ELIGIBILITY

- All Clinician Educators (CE) at the rank of Clinical Instructor or above can apply
- All applicants must have or plan on having a focus on maternal child health research, or wish to expand their interest in maternal child health research
- A Primary Research Mentor is required for Clinical Instructors & Clinical Assistant Professors.
- A Mentor Support Form is required from the Primary Research Mentor for Clinical Instructors & Clinical Assistant Professors. Upon creation of an Online Application Record by the applicant (we encourage applicants to create a record at least 4 weeks prior to submission deadline), the Primary Research Mentor will receive an automated email with a unique link to complete the Mentor Support Form. For further instructions on the Mentor Support Form, please go here.
- The applicant and mentor are required to be MCHRI Member to apply for this grant. The mentor should be at the Associate Professor or Professor rank.
- A primary research mentor is not required for Associate Professor and Professor ranks. The Mentor Support Form is optional. However, if you select ‘yes’ when submitting your Online Application Record and choose to designate a primary research mentor, your mentor will be required to submit the Mentor Support Form.
- Projects must be novel to the field and can be a continuation or expansion of the investigator’s current research.

The following are not eligible:

- Visiting scholars to Stanford
- Lab-based only or animal studies

IRB Approval (Approved Before Application)

IRB approval of the proposed research is required prior to application submission. IRB approval letter must be attached with application. For more information, please see: http://humansubjects.stanford.edu/

Pre-Submission Consultations

Project Design/General

Brief consultations for project design and general grant writing are available. In addition, MCHRI Administration can coordinate with resources to assist with the identification of other Stanford resources (e.g., budgeting, statistics, and informatics). To request a proposal consultation, contact mchri_admin@stanford.edu at least 30 days prior to submission deadline.

\[1\] “Children” or “Child” refers to expectant mothers, oocyte, zygote, embryo, fetus, infant, child, and/or adolescent.
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Biostatistical Consultation
A biostatistical consult is required for all human-based studies and those with power calculations.

As part of a partnership with the Stanford Quantitative Sciences Unit (QSU), MCHRI Support Program Applicants may request services as needed to support the success of their research project (most services at no charge to the investigator). Their expertise is available for consultation, the development of grant proposals, and implementation of funded projects. Click here to submit a request directly to the QSU. Request QSU consults no later than 4 weeks prior to submission deadline.

AWARD
Total award is up to $35,000 for one year. One proposal per applicant is accepted each cycle.

Award may be used for:
- PI salary to secure time off from clinical duties
- Research personnel
- Supplies and ancillary services necessary for project
- Statistical support

Award may NOT be used for:
- Laboratory-based-only research
- Travel, conference fees, tuition, classes
- Computer equipment (e.g. iPads, laptops, tablets, smartphones and other similar technologies) or software
- Capital equipment
- Office supplies, ITSS communication
- Poster presentations, abstract submissions
- Any other indirect research costs

Performance Period
The project should be completed in 12 months. The start date can be no later than three months after the award announcement date.

Review Timeline
- Two competitions are offered annually (spring and fall)
- Anticipate a total review turnaround time of 10 weeks from the submission deadline

No-Cost Extensions (NCX)
All unexpended funds must be returned to the CE Grants Program after the 12-month performance period. A NCX of up to 6 months (maximum) can be requested under unusual circumstances. Requests must be submitted at least 30 days prior to the award end date and approved by the CE Review Committee. For more information, please contact mhri_admin@stanford.edu.

MCHRI Resources
The award may be applied towards Research Coordinator Services to assist with any or all of the following: IRB applications, regulatory document completion, identification of eligible subjects, recruitment, enrollment, clinical data collection or sample acquisition, specimen handling/shipping, quality control, adverse event reporting, data entry, oversight of regulatory compliance, etc. Contact MCHRI to request coordinator services.

REVIEW CRITERIA
Review is based on (1) relevance to maternal and child health and (2) NIH Investigator-initiated Review Criteria:

1. Significance. Does this study address an important [maternal and child health] problem? If the aims are achieved, how will scientific knowledge or clinical practice be advanced? What will be the effect of these studies on the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventions that drive this field?

2. Approach. Are the conceptual or clinical framework, design, methods, and analyses adequately developed, well integrated, well-reasoned, and appropriate to the aims of the project? Does the applicant acknowledge potential problem areas and consider alternative tactics?

3. Innovation. Is the project original and innovative? For example: Does it challenge existing paradigms or clinical practice or address an innovative hypothesis or critical barrier to progress in the field? Does the project develop or use novel concepts, approaches, methods, tools, or technologies?

4. Investigators. Are the investigators appropriately trained and well suited to carry out this work? Is the work proposed appropriate to the experience level of the principal investigator and other researchers? Does the investigative team bring complementary and integrated expertise to the project (if applicable)?

5. Environment. Does the scientific environment contribute to the probability of success? Do the studies benefit from unique features of the scientific environment or subject populations or use useful collaborative arrangements? Is there evidence of institutional support?

SELECTION PROCESS
Proposals are reviewed by a MCHRI Scientific Review Committee.

Successful proposals should demonstrate the potential to meet the following criteria:
• Produce abstracts, publications, or presentations resulting from the project
• Lead to external funding

Reviewer Comments
All applicants receive reviewer comments regardless of award and given the opportunity to address reviewer comments.

AWARDEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The PI will take responsibility for the research idea, development methods, IRB approval, supervision and conduct of the study in addition to the following:

• The PI will also list in their proposal a minimum of two external funding agencies to which an application for subsequent funding will be submitted
• Submit reports in a timely manner, including a Progress Report within 30 days of the award end date
• Provide updates in all Progress Reports on funding status from external and/or internal sources
• Submit progress reports for up to 3 years following the award end date that will include information about grants submitted, publications, employment, and new external funding resulting from this award
• Acknowledge research support in all publications, abstracts, and presentations as follows:

  "The project described in this publication was supported by the Stanford Maternal and Child Health Research Institute."

Award recipients, who have not acknowledged their work, as indicated above, are not eligible for future awards sponsored by the MCHRI.

RESUBMISSION

Applicants not funded may resubmit proposals for future cycles and are encouraged to work with the members of the Review Committee on revisions and/or suggestions for improvement. To be respectful of our reviewers time commitments all requests must be submitted at least one month prior to application due date. A maximum of 2 resubmissions are accepted. Attach a Resubmission Summary of Changes (maximum 2 pages) after the Face Page. See the Application Instructions for details. To request a resubmission consultation with a reviewer, contact mchri_admin@stanford.edu.