AASM | FOUNDATION

2020 Young Investigators Research Forum

ISSUE DATE:	September 30, 2019
APPLICATION DUE DATE:	November 29, 2019
AWARD SELECTION NOTIFICATION:	By January 20, 2020
YIRF 2020 DATES AND VENUE:	April 1-3, 2020 The Bethesdan Hotel 8120 Wisconsin Avenue Bethesda, MD 20814
AMOUNT OF AWARD:	Selected attendees will be awarded a scholarship that includes travel, lodging, and food expenses paid by the AASM Foundation.
LINK TO APPLICATION:	https://www.grantrequest.com/SID_5880?SA=SNA&FID=35041
CONTACT:	AASM Foundation 2510 N. Frontage Road Darien, IL 60561 Phone: 630-737-9724 E-mail: foundation@aasm.org

The 3-day research forum is designed to aid the career development of promising young investigators in clinical and translational sleep medicine research. Successful applicants will be selected based on past research productivity and future promise in sleep medicine research.

PURPOSE
This research retreat is aimed at providing guidance, tactics, and strategies to better position young investigators for a successful career in clinical sleep research. The aims are to:

- Foster the pursuit of clinical research in sleep medicine by junior faculty and fellows training in sleep medicine
- Disseminate vital information required for pursuing a career in research
- Serve as a primer for obtaining grant funding
- Provide an opportunity to network and establish extramural research mentorship

The Young Investigators Research Forum will provide an opportunity for collegial interaction with other young investigators and established senior investigators across the broad spectrum of clinical sleep research, as well as with National Institutes of Health scientific and program officers.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of the Young Investigators Research Forum, trainees will be able to:

- Understand how to build a successful career in sleep research, including how to foster collaborations and develop mentorship relationships
- Understand the policies and various mechanisms for sleep research funding
- Gain insight on the grant peer review structure and process
- Further develop specific aims for a grant proposal

AGENDA

The YIRF is a 3-day event and consists of didactic presentations, workshops, and small group sessions covering scientific writing and stewardship, opportunities for funding and collaboration, navigating the academic environment, and networking. As active participants, young investigators will have the opportunity to present their current research, provide feedback on each other's research proposals and review a grant.

The tentative Young Investigators Research Forum 2020 agenda can be found below. The program is subject to change as plans for the research forum are finalized.

Download Young Investigators Research Forum 2020 Agenda

ELIGIBILITY

The following individuals are eligible to apply:

- Early-career researchers (residents, clinical fellows, postdoctoral fellows, and junior faculty) at U.S.-based institutions who are actively engaged and planning to continue a career in clinical or translational sleep medicine research.
- Physicians (MD or DO) or researchers (PhD or other similar doctoral degree).
- Must be members of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine and/or Sleep Research Society.

FUNDING INFORMATION

Selected attendees will be awarded a scholarship that includes travel, lodging, and food expenses paid by the AASM Foundation.

REVIEW CRITERIA AND PROCESS

The Young Investigators Research Forum leadership will evaluate and score all submitted applications. Factors that will be taken into consideration include:

1. **Contribution to Science:** Clear commitment to sleep research through publication and project efforts, and training to date.
2. **Abstract and Specific Aims:** Current or planned research is scientifically sound and will facilitate advancement in sleep research.
3. **Career Plan:** Focused future career goals in sleep research.
4. **Mentorship:** Appropriate mentors are identified, and plan will help fill gaps in knowledge, skillset, and abilities. If no mentors are identified, the plan clearly outlines strategies for acquiring mentorship and support for filling gaps in knowledge, skillset, and abilities.
5. **Appropriateness:** How participation in the Young Investigators Research Forum will enhance the applicant's career trajectory.

APPLICATION

Step 1: AASM Foundation Grant Request registration

To apply for this the Young Investigators Research Forum, you must register on AASM Foundation Grant Request. Please refer to the AASM Foundation Grant Request User Access Guide for guidance on setting-up an account.

Step 2: Complete application

ACCESS THE 2020 YOUNG INVESTIGATORS RESEARCH FORUM APPLICATION

Full applications must be completed and submitted through AASM Foundation Grant Request. Instructions for required forms are available via the online submission system. The Application Checklist below shows required attachments to be uploaded.

Face Page
Enter the applicant's information, institution, and mentor(s).

Biographical Sketch
Upload the applicant's biographical sketch in the NIH required format. Please use the following link to create an NIH-format Biosketch:
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sciencv/ (5 pages, max).

The following sections must be present in the NIH-format Biosketch:

A. **Personal Statement**
   Briefly describe why your experience and qualifications make you particularly well-suited for a career in sleep research. (100 words, max)

B. **Positions and Honors**
   List in chronological order previous positions, concluding with the present position. List any honors. Include present membership in any professional organizations, editorial boards, institutional or governmental boards and in particular any AASM task forces or committees.

YOUNG INVESTIGATORS
RESEARCH FORUM

C. Contribution to Science

Include a list of your publication(s) here. We realize that applicants are early-career scientists. Applicants with one or two publications should summarize the key findings of their paper(s) and the importance for this section. Applicants with no publications should describe their efforts on other peoples' papers and projects (*e.g., I used this method, I conducted the literature review for this paper, I cared for all the animals in this lab, etc.*). If an applicant has no actual research or thesis experience, he or she should describe their training to date.

D. Research Support

List all funded ongoing and completed research projects with the source of funding, dates of funding, and title of project. Briefly indicate the overall goals of the projects and your role on the project (PI, Co-Investigator, Graduate Student, etc.). Do not include number of person months or direct costs.

Research Goals

A. Abstract

Include an abstract reporting results of your current study: Study Objectives, Methods, Results, and Conclusions. Abstracts for future projects or abstracts previously presented/submitted at other meetings are welcome. (200 words, max)

B. Specific Aims Page

Submit a 1-page specific aims document from a current or future research proposal. It should address one or more important unanswered scientific questions related to sleep and/or sleep disorders. The following link is a resource for writing a specific aims page: https://www.niaid.nih.gov/grants-contracts/draft-specific-aims

Career Plan

Describe future career goals and objectives, particularly as they relate to a career in sleep research. Briefly describe why your experience and qualifications make you well-suited for a career in sleep research. Additionally, describe how attending the Young Investigators Research Forum will facilitate your career trajectory.

Mentorship

A. Mentoring Plan

Include a plan describing the role of the primary mentor in the research project and any additional training that will be provided. Identify co-mentors if any. This plan should include:

1. The level of experience of all mentors.
2. The skills that will be taught and knowledge to be gained.
3. The time commitment of the mentor(s)
4. Methods that will be used to monitor the applicant's research career development.

If no mentor is available, describe what steps you will take to seek mentorship and any additional training you would like to receive from a mentor for filling gaps in knowledge, skillset, and abilities.

B. Mentor Letter(s) of Support

Provide letters of support from your primary mentor and co-mentors, if any. The letters of support from your mentor(s) should describe their commitment to providing mentorship to you during your career development.

If no mentor is available, provide a letter of support from your department chair or fellowship program director.

Application Checklist

Form	Page/Word Limit
☐ **Face page** A. Applicant B. Institution C. Mentor(s)	
☐ **Biographical Sketch** A. Personal Statement B. Positions and Honors C. Contribution to Science D. Research Support	5 pages, max
☐ **Research Goals** A. Abstract B. Specific Aims Page	A. 200 words, max B. 1 page, excluding citations
☐ **Career Plan**	2 pages
☐ **Mentorship** A. Mentoring plan B. Mentor letter(s) of support	A. 2 pages B. 1 page per letter

QUESTIONS

We encourage potential applicants to contact us early in the application process with questions. Eligibility questions may need to be reviewed by a member of the AASM Foundation Executive Committee, so please allow for at least a 1-week response time for eligibility questions. For all other inquiries, please allow a minimum of two business days for a response. Please note that questions received within 48 hours of an application deadline may not be answered before the deadline.

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