



2021 Physician Scientist Training Award (Cycle 1)

ISSUE DATE:	April 26, 2021
APPLICATION DUE DATE:	June 7, 2021 by 11:59 ET
AWARD SELECTION NOTIFICATION	By October 29, 2021
PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:	1 year
AMOUNT OF AWARD:	Up to \$100,000 per award
LINK TO APPLICATION:	https://www.grantrequest.com/SID_5880?SA=SNA&FID=35084
CONTACT:	AASM Foundation 2510 N. Frontage Road Darien, IL 60561 Phone: 630-737-9724 E-mail: foundation@aasm.org

The AASM Foundation is committed to developing the careers of sleep and circadian investigators by increasing support for sleep researchers. To meet this goal, the AASM Foundation has established research career development awards (CDA) to assist sleep researchers at various stages of their career.

The Physician Scientist Training Award is an AASM Foundation CDA which supports early career sleep medicine physicians who are committed to pursuing a research career in basic, translational, clinical or population sleep and circadian science. Given the growing shortage of physician scientists in sleep and circadian science, the Physician Scientist Training Award is designed to recruit outstanding sleep medicine physicians by providing them the opportunity of a protected research training experience for a mentored research project upon completion of their clinical training, help establish a track record of funding, become competitive for larger grants and/or prepare for a larger study, and ultimately launch them to a successful sleep and circadian research career.

This request for applications is open for mentored projects that address one or more important unanswered scientific questions related to sleep and circadian science, sleep disorders and/or sleep health.

FUNDING INFORMATION

The Physician Scientist Training Award provides funds for one year and can be for up to \$100,000 per award. There are no restrictions on the distribution of expenses, however, indirect costs are capped at 8%. The award is a contract between the AASM Foundation and the awardee's institution. A sample contract is available [here](#).

ELIGIBILITY

The following individuals are eligible to apply:

- Individuals with the following education and training are eligible to apply:
 - Physicians (MD or DO) who are board-eligible or board-certified in sleep medicine by a member board of the American Board of Medical Specialties or American Osteopathic Association and have completed their sleep medicine fellowship within the past 10 years, or who are currently enrolled in or accepted into an ACGME-accredited sleep medicine fellowship program are eligible to apply.
- Individuals must identify a research mentor with the skills, knowledge and resources to provide mentorship to the applicant in sleep and circadian research.
- Individuals may apply for multiple AASM Foundation awards however, the same proposal (i.e. projects with budgetary and scientific overlap) may not be submitted for multiple requests for applications in a given cycle.
- Individuals who are the Principal Investigator on an open or previous AASM Foundation research award at the time of the application deadline are eligible to apply if:
 - The open or previous award is NOT a Bridge to Success Award for Mid-Career/Senior Investigators or Strategic Research Award - Category I.
 - They can demonstrate that there is no budgetary or scientific overlap between their open award and the new project they are applying for funding. If there is budgetary and/or scientific overlap between projects, the applicant must indicate their plan to close their open award in the event their new application is selected for funding (e.g. relinquish the current award or complete the current award to start the new award).
- International individuals who meet all the eligibility criteria are eligible to apply; however, payment of award funds must be accepted by the institution in US dollars.

INELIGIBILITY

The following individuals are not eligible to apply:

- Individuals who have received independent research funding of more than \$150,000 are not eligible to apply. This does not apply to post-doctoral/fellowship level training grants primarily covering the applicant's salary (e.g. NRSAs).

- Individuals who have a financial conflict of interest or have the potential to incur significant financial benefit from the proposed work and beyond the work itself are not eligible to apply.
- Individuals who are seeking funding from AASM Foundation research awards to support ongoing projects that are currently funded by another awarding body or supplement ongoing work (eg. enrolling additional subjects into an ongoing trial) are not eligible to apply.

***Note:** The principal investigator will be required to make a statement to this effect prior to execution of the contract.*

APPLICATION RESUBMISSION POLICY

Applicants are allowed a single resubmission of an original and unfunded Physician Scientist Training Award application within 12 months of receipt of the original application notification. If resubmitting an original and unfunded application, the applicant must still meet all eligibility criteria listed under the Eligibility section of this request for applications. The resubmission must include a response to the reviewers of the original application; resubmissions that do not include this response will not be reviewed.

***Note:** Resubmission of an original application for one award program across another award program is not permitted.*

AWARD REVIEW CRITERIA AND PROCESS

An award review committee, appointed by the AASM Foundation Executive Committee, will evaluate and score all submitted applications. Factors that will be taken into consideration include:

1. **Significance:** Significance of planned research in addressing important questions related to sleep, sleep disorders or sleep health.
2. **Experience and Appropriateness of Mentors:** Plan for mentorship will facilitate applicant's success and key personnel are well-suited for the project.
3. **Career Development Activities and Goals:** Planned research and mentorship will fill gaps in applicant's knowledge, skillset, and abilities.
4. **Approach:** Planned research (overall strategy, methodology, and analyses) is scientifically sound, plan addresses protection of human subjects from research risks and inclusion/exclusion of individuals justified (if applicable).
5. **Environment:** Institutional support and availability of equipment and other physical resources for the planned research.
6. **Appropriateness:** What will be achieved with the Physician Scientist Training Award funds and how it will enhance the applicant's career trajectory.

Only materials submitted within the application will be used in the evaluation of applications. The AASM Foundation Executive Committee will submit funding recommendations to the AASM Foundation Board of Directors based on the Award Review Committee scores. The AASM Foundation Board of Directors will make the final funding decisions.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Payment #1 – Upon execution of contract	90%
Payment #2 – Upon receipt and approval of Final Report	10%

If unique circumstances are explained in the budget justification of the applicant’s proposal, the Board of Directors will consider requests for an alternate payment schedule, with a maximum variance of 10%.

Note: *Once awarded, reallocation of funds of <10% do not require approval.*

DELIVERABLES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The AASM Foundation intends the Physician Scientist Training Award to assist in the growth of physician scientists in the field of sleep and circadian research and provide protected time to conduct a mentored research project and receive research training. Since the Physician Scientist Training Award is awarded to promising early career sleep medicine physician scientists, the AASM Foundation is supportive of transferring the award in situations where the award recipient is moving to a new institution, in effort to ensure that the proposed research training and mentored project is completed by the award recipient.

Applicants are expected to address the specific aims as described in the application. Major modification of the proposed aims requires AASM Foundation Board of Directors or Executive Committee approval.

The expected results and deliverables should be clearly stated in the application. The applicant must submit progress and final reports during the project period, describing project activities and results, as outlined below. Failure to meet the deliverables or submit progress or final reports may result in termination of project funding.

REPORTING SCHEDULE

Progress Reports	Every six months
Final Report	Within 90 days of award completion

Outcomes evaluation is an essential component of this award. All proposals must identify the goals and appropriate outcomes measures of the research. The outcomes should align with the goals and objectives stated in the applicant’s proposal for this award. The AASM Foundation intends that the research funded by this award will lead to the publication of original research in peer-reviewed journals.

HUMAN/ANIMAL SUBJECT PROTECTION PLAN

If using human or animal subjects, the applicant will be responsible for obtaining Institutional Review Board (IRB) or Institutional Animal Care and use Committee (IACUC) approval. The IRB or IACUC letter of approval for the specified project must be on file with the AASM Foundation office prior to the execution of the contract. No funds

will be released for the project without receipt of written approval by an IRB or IACUC. Failure to obtain IRB or IACUC approval will result in retraction of the award.

APPLICATION

Step 1: AASM Foundation Grant Request registration

To apply for this award, 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 2021 PHYSICIAN SCIENTIST TRAINING AWARD (CYCLE 1) APPLICATION

New and resubmission 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.

CHECKLIST FOR NEW APPLICATIONS

Form	Page/Word Limit
<input type="checkbox"/> Face Page A. Primary investigator B. Institution C. Institution contact D. Mentor(s) E. Project information F. Signed Applicant Sponsoring Organization Page	E. 300 words, max
<input type="checkbox"/> Research Plan and Goals A. Abstract B. Research plan and goals	A. 200 words, max B. 6 pages, excluding citations
<input type="checkbox"/> Project Personnel A. Primary investigator: Biosketch and other support (required) B. Mentor: Biosketch and other support (required) C. Key personnel: Biosketch and other support (optional)	Biosketch: 5 pages per individual Other support: No page limit
<input type="checkbox"/> PI Career Plan	2 pages, excluding citations
<input type="checkbox"/> Mentoring Plan	2 pages, excluding citations
<input type="checkbox"/> Letters of Support A. Mentor letters of support	1 page per letter

B. Additional letters of support	
<input type="checkbox"/> Budget and Budget Justification A. Budget B. Budget justification	B. 2 pages
<input type="checkbox"/> Human Subjects/Animal Research Protection Plan	3 pages

CHECKLIST FOR RESUBMISSION APPLICATIONS

Form	Page/Word Limit
<input type="checkbox"/> Face Page A. Primary investigator B. Institution C. Institution contact D. Mentor(s) E. Project information F. Signed Applicant Sponsoring Organization Page	E. 300 words, max
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Reviews A. Response letter to critiques	A. 1 page
<input type="checkbox"/> Research Plan and Goals A. Abstract B. Research plan and goals	A. 200 words, max B. 6 pages, excluding citations
<input type="checkbox"/> Project Personnel A. Primary investigator: Biosketch and other support (required) B. Mentor: Biosketch and other support (required) C. Key personnel: Biosketch and other support (optional)	Biosketch: 5 pages per individual Other support: No page limit
<input type="checkbox"/> PI Career Plan	2 pages, excluding citations
<input type="checkbox"/> Mentoring Plan	2 pages, excluding citations
<input type="checkbox"/> Letters of Support A. Mentor letters of support B. Additional letters of support	1 page per letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Budget and Budget Justification A. Budget B. Budget justification	B. 2 pages
<input type="checkbox"/> Human Subjects/Animal Research Protection Plan	3 pages

AWARD 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.