Massachusetts General Hospital
Corporate & Foundation Relations
Office of Development

PRIVATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES: OCT 7, 2016

Please contact Corporate & Foundation Relations in the Office of Development at devcfr@mgh.harvard.edu if you wish to submit a proposal in response to any of these opportunities. Note that proposals are still routed through the standard InfoEd/Research Management process.

1. Clinical Scientist Development Award (CSDA), Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (DDCF)

Physician-scientists pursuing research careers face challenges that are particular to their dual roles as researchers and health care providers. The purpose of the CSDA is to provide support to early career physician-scientists at the Assistant Professor rank to: 1) conduct clinical research that will enable their transition to independent research funding, 2) enable research time protection to ease the tension between research and clinical responsibilities, and 3) facilitate development of strong research mentorship relations.

Ultimately, the CSDA program aims to enable physician-scientists' achievement of independent and successful research program grants and research careers.

The priority of the CSDA program is to fund outstanding individuals with promise for outstanding clinical research careers, whose projects will address highly significant research questions and lead to career advancement. DDCF does not have funding priorities based on disease area or research type.

Definition of clinical research: For this program, clinical research is defined as the scientific investigation of the etiology, prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of human disease using human subjects, human populations or materials of human origin. Included in the definition are studies that utilize tissues or pathogens only if they can be linked to a patient.

It is expected that the research protocols of grant applicants will require Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval. Occasionally, DDCF has funded research that does not require IRB approval, such as research using de-identified patient populations. If a research project is being proposed that does not require IRB approval, applicants are strongly encouraged to contact DDCF program staff to discuss whether the proposed research falls within the DDCF's definition of clinical research.

In keeping with the wishes expressed in Doris Duke's will, experiments that utilize animals or primary tissues derived from animals will not be supported by this program.

Award Amount: $495,000 paid over 3 years
Indirect Costs: 10%
Preliminary Proposal Deadline: Nov 29, 2016
Website: http://www.ddcf.org/what-we-fund/medical-research/goals-and-strategies/encourage-and-develop-clinical-research-careers/clinical-scientist-development-award/?id=1617

2. Gund-Harrington Scholar Award, Foundation Fighting Blindness (FFB)
Foundation Fighting Blindness and Harrington Discovery Institute have partnered to form The National Center for Excellence in Fighting Blindness, a Gund-Harrington initiative. This initiative is focused on accelerating the translation of research findings in inherited retinal degenerative diseases (IRD) with the ultimate goal of developing new therapies to prevent, treat or cure blindness. The initiative seeks to award Gund-Harrington Scholar Awards that recognize innovators in the United States and Canada whose research has the potential to advance standard of care.

The award provides funding for translational drug development and cell therapy along with non-financial project support to help bridge the gap between laboratory-based research and the clinic. Selected projects must demonstrate a reasonable expectation that they can develop a lead product with strong potential for clinical and commercial application by the end of the three year funding period.

Areas of interest include:

- Treatment strategies that are not gene specific, but might be broadly applicable across many patients
- Therapies that may be effective in later stages of disease
- Development of gene delivery vectors or gene modifying strategies that can be used as a general platform to target specific retinal cell types, deliver/correct genes with large coding regions, specifically target outer retinal cells and impact cells across the entire retinal area
- Therapies that address juvenile macular degeneration
- Regenerative medicine therapies that focus on stem cells differentiated into photoreceptor cells
- Novel targets to address unmet need

Of particular interest is the targeting of pathways and processes that might affect retinal dystrophies and vision, with the ultimate goal of advancing translation of research into drugs and cell-based therapies. In most cases, device development is not supported.

Projects should have the following characteristics:

1. Innovative science that addresses a significant opportunity leading to treatment or prevention of inherited retinal degenerative diseases (IRD).

2. The potential to be developed into a commercial product.
3. Development of a small molecule or biologic.
4. Diagnostics are only acceptable if linked to a therapeutic product.

Award Amount: $900,000 paid over 3 years
Indirect Costs: unpublished
LOI Deadline: Oct 15, 2016
Website: http://www.uhhospitals.org/services/harrington-discovery-institute/programs-and-initiatives/foundation-scholars/foundation-fighting-blindness

3. Kimmel Scholar Award (Kimmel Scholars), Sidney Kimmel Foundation for Cancer Research
The Program bridges the funding gap for gifted individual at the very outset of their careers. With the pressure to secure resources eased, Scholars are emboldened to pursue innovative, imaginative investigations and to establish their models in independent research, a necessity for obtaining government grants and other backing.

Recipients have the opportunity to launch their first research laboratories and build their teams at a point in their development when many of their peers struggle to get started.

The Board encourages physician scientists, especially those involved in translational research, to apply. The majority of applications involve basic research; however, scientists whose work focuses on epidemiology, cancer prevention, radiation biology, pharmacology and other clinical studies will be given equal consideration. The Board does not consider applications from clinicians who manage only the clinical aspects of early phase human trials.

For research involving basic cellular biology, the applicant must clearly state the relationship of his or her work to advancing the understanding of cancer biology.

Award Amount: $200,000 paid over 2 years
Indirect Costs: 15%
Application Deadline: Dec 1, 2016
Website: http://kimmel.org/kimmel-scholars/application-process/

4. McKnight Scholar Awards, McKnight Endowment Fund for Neuroscience
The McKnight Endowment Fund for Neuroscience supports innovative research designed to bring science closer to the day when diseases of the brain can be accurately diagnosed, prevented, and treated. To this end, the Endowment Fund established these awards to encourage emerging neuroscientists to focus on disorders of learning and memory. Applicants must demonstrate interest in solving important problems in relevant areas of neuroscience, including the translation of basic research to clinical neuroscience. Awards are given to

exceptional young scientists who are in the early stages of establishing an independent laboratory and research career.

Award Amount: $225,000 paid over 3 years
Indirect Costs: none
Application Deadline: Jan 9, 2017
Website: https://neuroscience.mcknight.org/newsroom/upcoming-deadlines/2017-scholar-awards

5. Technology Awards (Technological Innovations in Neuroscience), McKnight Endowment Fund for Neuroscience
The McKnight Endowment Fund for Neuroscience supports innovative research designed to bring science closer to the day when diseases of the brain can be accurately diagnosed, prevented, and treated. To this end, the Endowment Fund offers these awards to encourage and support scientists working on the development of novel and creative approaches to understanding brain function.

The Endowment Fund is interested in how a new technology may be used to monitor, manipulate, analyze, or model brain function at any level, from the molecular to the entire organism. Technology may take any form, from biochemical tools to instruments to software and mathematical approaches. Because the program seeks to advance and enlarge the range of technologies available to the neurosciences, research based primarily on existing techniques will not be considered.

A goal of the awards is to foster collaboration between the neurosciences and other disciplines; therefore, collaborative and cross-disciplinary applications are explicitly invited.

Award Amount: $200,000 paid over 2 years
Indirect Costs: unpublished
LOI Deadline: Dec 5, 2016
Website: https://neuroscience.mcknight.org/newsroom/upcoming-deadlines/2017-tech-awards

6. Independent Grants for Learning & Change: Track 2 - Knowledge Gap: Serogroup B Meningococcal (MenB) Disease, Pfizer, Inc.
The mission of Pfizer IGL&C is to partner with the global healthcare community to improve patient outcomes in areas of mutual interest through support of measurable learning and change strategies. Independent means that the projects funded by Pfizer are the full responsibility of the recipient organization. Pfizer has no influence over any aspect of the projects and only asks for reports about the results and the impact of the projects in order to share them publicly.

Through this CGA Pfizer encourages organizations to submit grant requests that, if funded, will support education in a specific disease state, therapeutic area, or broader area of educational need.

Geographic Scope: United States Only

Clinical Area: Serogroup B Meningococcal (MenB) Disease

Specific Area of Interest for this CGA: The intent of this CGA is to encourage organizations to submit applications for independent educational grants to provide programing targeted to healthcare providers working in the areas of pediatrics, adolescent health, college health and immunization. Specifically, programs should focus on increasing the awareness, understanding, and implementation of:

- ACIP vaccine recommendations for the appropriate selection of patients for MenB vaccination
- Category A and Category B ACIP vaccine recommendations
- Identifying associated patient characteristics and implementing a vaccination strategy for both Category A and Category B MenB vaccine recomemndations
- The dosing strategies and appropriate age for initating MenB vaccines
- Counseling techniques to emphasize the importance of MenB vaccination to patients and their parents

While programing targeted at addressing knowledge gaps may involve live sessions (e.g. satellite symposia, regional workshops,), efforts should be made to encourage interaction, incorporate patient case discussions, utilize real world examples, and provide opportunities to extend and reinforce learning opportunities beyond the live setting. In addition to live programs, technology enabled distance learning, online courses, and other enduring materials may also be proposed.

Award Amount: $500,000 paid over 2 years
Indirect Costs: unpublished
Application Deadline: Oct 26, 2016
Website: http://www.pfizer.com/responsibility/grants_contributions/grants_process

7. Research on Hutchinson-Gilford Progeria Syndrome (HGPS, or Progeria), Progeria Research Foundation (PRF)

PRF is the only organization in the world dedicated to discovering treatments and the cure for Progeria and its aging-related disorders. Progeria is a rare, fatal, "premature aging" disease that affects children, who die of heart disease (heart attacks or stroke) at an average age of 14 years - the same heart disease that affects millions of normal aging adults (atherosclerosis). Scientific studies have solidified biological links between Progeria, heart disease and aging. Investigation

of the disease mechanism Progeria will help not only children with Progeria, but has implications for heart attacks, strokes and other aging-related conditions.

PRF encourages proposals in the areas listed below. Investigators are not limited to applications that address these priorities, but rather are encouraged to use them to better understand the needs of the field at this time.

PRF is seeking proposals that address the following priorities:

1. Discovery of biological markers of disease in HGPS that can be assessed in human and/or mouse samples. Highest priority will be given to those markers that can be assayed in easily obtainable human samples such as blood, urine, and cheek swabs. In addition, proposals that explore biomarker relevance to disease process and/or change in markers with disease treatment are encouraged.
2. Discovery and/or testing of candidate treatment compounds in both cell based and mouse models of HGPS. Of note, proposals should test compounds in a progerin-producing mouse model as the priority. Comparisons to other mouse models of disease, such as ZMPSTE24 -/- and other non-progerin producing mouse models is acceptable, but only as a comparison to progerin-producing models.

Awards are given in 3 categories. Projects must have specific relevance to HGPS, and show promise for contributing to the scientific or clinical advancement in this field of study.

1. Innovator Awards: The aim of this Award is to allow an investigator to embark on new lines of investigation, and to produce enough preliminary data to be competitive for longer-term funding by NIH and/or other agencies.
2. Established Investigator Awards: These awards are designed for advanced investigations in areas critical to the goals of PRF by senior investigators established either in the field of Progeria or a field that can be directly applied to Progeria.
3. Specialty Awards: Specialty awards are for smaller, more technology-driven projects, e.g., sequencing, screening potential drugs, obtaining cell lines (including IPSCs) and preparation of antibodies.

Key Words
Progeria, progeroid, aging, genetics, Lamin A, genetic disease, heart disease, cardiovascular disease, Werner syndrome, senescence, pediatric disease, stem cell, mouse model, telomere, LMNA, chromatin, translational science, progeroid syndrome, restrictive dermopathy, mandibuloacral dysplasia, laminopathy

Award Amount: Up to $300,000 paid over 3 years
Indirect Costs: If an institution has a strict, written policy which does not allow researchers to apply to granting organizations that do not pay indirect costs, and if there have been no exceptions to that policy, PRF will negotiate a minimal rate. The policy must be provided.
Proposal Deadline: Mar 21, 2017
Website: http://progeriaresearch.org/application-deadlines.html

8. Roddenberry Prize, Roddenberry Foundation
The Roddenberry Foundation was created to build on Star Trek creator Gene Roddenberry's legacy and philosophy, to drive social change and improve the lives of people around the world. In honor of the 50th anniversary of Star Trek, the Roddenberry Foundation is launching a prize to award bold ideas that will achieve a boldly better future.

The Roddenberry Prize is seeking all types of solutions that deliver on the promise of innovation, captures the spirit of discovery and embraces the power of diversity to benefit all humanity. There are infinite possibilities for a boldly better future, some of which may include, but are not limited to, solutions that address the following:

- Arts, Culture, Media
- Education
- Environment
- Health
- Human Rights
- Science & Technology

We seek bold solutions that are on the cusp of achieving scale. Solutions may cover a range of topics and disciplines. A panel of judges and the prize administrator, who will assess the overall quality of the entry, will review applications. Entries will be evaluated along three criteria: their potential for transformative and lasting impact, demonstration of a feasible and achievable path to implementation, and the boldness of their vision to benefit our shared future.

Transformative Impact

- The solution strategically intervenes in a broader system to maximize impact.
- The solution will yield significant and meaningful outcomes.
- The solution will create transformative impact for its target community.
- The solution is designed to scale the magnitude of its impact.

Path to Implementation

- The entrant has the skills, capacity and partnerships to deliver on the solution.
- The solution has a realistic and feasible plan to move forward.
- Major risks are identified and effectively addressed.

Boldness

- The solution is substantially different from other efforts addressing similar issues or efforts in its field.

Award Amount: $1 million
Indirect Costs: unpublished
Submission/Entry Deadline: Nov 16, 2016
Website: https://roddenberryprize.org/about-the-prize/