



**Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation – Clinical Investigator**

*Unrestricted funding opportunity*

**From:** Office of the Provost  
**Coordinator:** Juanita Sheppard, Senior Associate Director, Foundation Relations  
[juanita.sheppard@emory.edu](mailto:juanita.sheppard@emory.edu)  
**Website:** [www.damonrunyon.org/for-scientists/application-guidelines/clinical-investigator](http://www.damonrunyon.org/for-scientists/application-guidelines/clinical-investigator)  
**Full Proposal Deadline:** **February 3, 2020 by 5:00pm EST**  
**Submission Limitations:** None, however, please contact your RAS unit \*and\* Juanita Sheppard to inform them of your intent to submit

**Opportunity Details:** The Damon Runyon Clinical Investigator Award supports early career physician-scientists conducting patient-oriented research. The goal of this innovative program is to increase the number of physicians capable of moving seamlessly between the laboratory and the patient's bedside in search of breakthrough treatments.

**Budget Terms:** The **\$600,000** award will be for a period of three years. Funding in the amount of \$200,000 will be allocated to the awardee's institution each year for the support of the Clinical Investigator. Funds are intended to be flexible and can be used for a variety of scientific needs including the Investigator's stipend and/or fringe benefits (up to \$130,000 annually), salaries for professional and technical personnel, special equipment, supplies, and other miscellaneous items required to conduct the proposed research. **No part of this grant can be used for indirect costs or institutional overhead.**

**Application Components/Eligibility Requirements:**

- The applicant must be a U.S. citizen or permanent legal resident.
- The applicant must hold an independent assistant professor position or equivalent.
- Each applicant must be nominated by their institution. **Five (5) nominations per institution**, including its affiliated schools, will be accepted.
- The applicant must have received an MD, DO, or MD/PhD degree(s) from an accredited institution, completed their subspecialty training and be U.S. Board eligible.
- The applicant must hold a valid, active U.S. medical license at the time of application.
- The applicant must apply within the first five (5) years of their initial full faculty appointment (*Cut-off date: July 1, 2015*). *Adjunct or acting positions are not eligible.*
- Candidates holding or awarded R01s at the time of application are not eligible to apply.
- The applicant must commit to spending 80% of their time conducting research. *[In rare unique circumstances, the CIA Committee may consider an applicant with a very modest reduction of 80% protected time if their Department Chair can provide a compelling reason explaining why a waiver of the 80% requirement should be granted, what percentage of effort will be guaranteed, and what safeguards will be put in place to make sure the individual's research will not be compromised by their clinical/administrative activities.]*
- The applicant is required to apply in conjunction with a Mentor who is established in the field of clinical translational cancer research, cancer prevention and/or epidemiology and can provide the critical guidance needed during the period of the award. No more than two Damon Runyon Clinical Investigators will be funded to work with the same Mentor at any given time.
- Candidates may apply up to three times during this eligibility period.
- Only one application will be accepted from a Mentor per review session (*including Co-Mentorships*).

*Investigators may receive funding from other sources to support their research. However, no other physician-scientist mentored career development award from a private source (non-federal government) may be held concurrently with the Clinical Investigator Award.*

*Physician-scientist career development awards from the federal government including the National Institutes of Health (e.g., K-08, K-12, K-23), the Department of Defense, and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs are allowed.*

*Scientific or budgetary overlap with other funded projects is **not** allowed. Therefore, it is critical that all current and pending grant support for your research be reported to the Foundation and the relationship of that support to the Damon Runyon-funded project be explained.*

**The Foundation defines clinical research as:**

- a) 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 directly interacts with human subjects. This area of research includes: patient-based studies of mechanisms of human disease, diagnostic and therapeutic interventions, clinical trials and development of new technologies for the detection, treatment and prevention of human cancers.
- b) Epidemiologic and behavioral studies.
- c) Outcomes research and health services research.

Excluded from this definition are *in vitro* studies that utilize human tissues but do not deal directly with patients. In other words, clinical or patient-oriented research is research in which it is necessary to know the identity of the patient(s) from whom the cells or tissues under study are derived.

Preference will be given to research that adheres to the “Handshake Rule,” meaning that the physician will conduct research studies that directly involve patients.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Juanita Sheppard ([juanita.sheppard@emory.edu](mailto:juanita.sheppard@emory.edu)) in the Office of Foundation Relations.