



Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation –Clinical Investigator Award

Restricted funding opportunity - Only School of Medicine and Winship Cancer Institute members are eligible.

Coordinator:	Office of the Provost and Office of Foundation Relations, Jessica McDaniel (Jessica.mcdaniel@emory.edu)
Website:	Internal InfoReady Application: https://emory.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1828707 Damon Runyon overview: https://www.damonrunyon.org/for-scientists/application-guidelines/clinical-investigator/forms
Submission Limitations:	Emory is invited to nominate five (5) such outstanding individuals committed to productive careers in clinical cancer research. Only School of Medicine and Winship Cancer Institute members are eligible.
Internal Deadline:	December 8, 2020
Foundation Deadline:	February 1, 2021

Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation: The Damon Runyon Clinical Investigator Award supports independent young physician-scientists conducting disease-oriented research that demonstrates a high level of innovation and creativity. The goal is to support the best young physician-scientists doing work aimed at improving the practice of cancer medicine.

The Clinical Investigator Award responds to three recognized realities:

- Though there has never been a more pressing need or more promising time for clinical cancer research, fewer young physicians enter this area of investigation every year.
- The number of institutions committed to training young physicians in the scientific discipline and methodologies of clinical investigation is critically low.
- The burden of medical school debt (averaging over \$100,000) discourages many physicians from pursuing clinical investigation.

The Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation’s award offers solutions to these realities. The awardee will receive financial support for three years, as well as assistance with certain research costs such as the purchase of equipment. The Foundation will also retire up to \$100,000 of any medical school debt still owed by the awardee.

The Clinical Investigator Award program is specifically intended to provide outstanding young physicians with the resources and training structure essential to becoming successful clinical investigators. The goal is to increase the number of physicians capable of moving seamlessly between the laboratory and the patient’s bedside in search of breakthrough treatments.

Emory is invited to nominate five (5) such outstanding individuals committed to productive careers in clinical cancer research. Only School of Medicine and Winship Cancer Institute members are eligible.

DEFINITION OF CLINICAL RESEARCH

- 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.

The applicant must be involved in patient care and be conducting research that has the potential to be translated to impact patients.

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

Award: 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.**

Internal Submission Requirements: To be considered for nomination, the following should be submitted in one PDF via InfoReady by Tuesday, December 8, 2020: <https://emory.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1828707>. Emory's Faculty Review Committee will review all internal applications and select their (5) nominations no later than Monday, December 21, 2020.

1. Applicant's NIH biosketch
2. Mentor's NIH biosketch
3. 2 pages including the following:
 1. Applicant's eligibility
 2. Outline of the position of the applicant and mentor
 3. Summary of the mentor's training record for the past 10 years
 4. Brief description of the research proposal
4. Budget and budget justification

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. *Applications will only be accepted from institutions that have been invited to submit them by the Foundation (See list). 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, 2016*). *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 (*including Co-Mentors*).
- Candidates may apply up to two times during this eligibility period.
- Only one application will be accepted from a Mentor per review session (*including Co-Mentors*).

Please review the full application requirements that will be needed if selected as one of Emory's five (5) nominees:
<https://www.damonrunyon.org/for-scientists/application-guidelines/clinical-investigator/forms>

If you have any additional questions, please contact Jessica McDaniel (jessica.mcdaniel@emory.edu) in the Office of Foundation Relations.