

CALL FOR PRE-PROPOSALS – NIH DIRECTOR’S EARLY INDEPENDENCE AWARD

Harvard Pre-Proposal Deadline: October 21, 2013 by 5PM

Award Amount: \$250,000 per year for five years plus applicable indirect costs

Limited Submission Opportunity: 2 applications allowed per DUNS number (2 nominations each for HSPH, HMS, and Cambridge area)

The NIH Director’s Early Independence Award provides an opportunity for exceptional junior scientists to accelerate their entry into an independent research position at a host institution, essentially skipping the postdoctoral training period following completion of the graduate degree or clinical residency. Reducing the time to independence allows highly motivated and intellectually mature individuals to begin making contributions earlier in their research career, and invigorates research institutions by providing a means to recruit outstanding, early career scientists.

In order to apply for the award, potential candidates must matchup with an institution that is willing to submit an application on their behalf and host them as an Early Independence Award recipient. Prospective candidates may approach an institution to request that the institution consider hosting them as an Early Independence Awardee. Alternatively, institution officials may actively recruit individuals that they would like to host. The host institution is expected to make a serious commitment to each awardee through the provision of separate lab space, access to common equipment and resources, and mentoring similar to that provided to assistant professors, but without the imposition of significant administrative or teaching duties.

Eligibility (partial list):

- At the sponsor deadline of January 31, 2014, the individual either
 - within the preceding twelve months must have received a terminal doctoral degree or completed medical residency or
 - within the following twelve months must complete all the requirements for a doctoral degree or complete a medical residency. The fellowship training period is NOT included in the clinical residency or equivalent training period. The date of degree receipt is that which appears on the official transcript for the degree.
- At the time of application, the applicant must not have served as a post-doctoral fellow following a previous doctoral degree for more than one year.
- At the start date of the award (September, 2014), the candidate must have received a PhD, MD, DO, DC, DDS, DVM, OD, DPM, ScD, EngD, Dr PH, DNSc, ND, PharmD, DSW, PsyD, or equivalent doctoral degree from an accredited domestic or foreign institution.

Application Process:

This is a limited submission funding opportunity. The Office of the Vice Provost for Research will hold an internal competition to select the Harvard nominees. Applicants must submit a pre-proposal by email to Autumn Bennett at autumn_bennett@harvard.edu by October 21, 2013 by 5PM. All pre-proposals must be submitted as one PDF and contain the following:

- A nomination letter from a Department Chair or Director
- A recent CV (no preferred format)
- A two (2) page research proposal
- A one page resources/ facilities statement (size of laboratory space, if needed. Use of/availability of equipment/supplies/resources)

The candidates selected as Harvard nominees will then submit a letters of intent to the NIH by December 31, 2013 and full proposals by January 31, 2014. All full proposals must be submitted for review by the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) at least five business days in advance of the NIH deadline.

Additional Information:

Recent Harvard FAS recipients include John Calarco (Bauer Fellow, FAS Center for Systems Biology, 2011)

More information on the NIH Director's Early Independence Award can be found at <http://commonfund.nih.gov/earlyindependence>.

Please direct any questions regarding this announcement or proposal submission to Susan Gomes, (496-9448, susan_gomes@harvard.edu) or Erin Cromack, 496-5252, cromack@fas.harvard.edu)

Deadlines:

Harvard Internal Pre-Proposal Deadline:	October 21, 2013 by 5PM
NIH Letter of Intent Deadline:	December 31, 2013 by 5PM
OSP Full Proposal Deadline:	January 24, 2014 by 5PM
NIH Full Proposal Deadline:	January 31, 2014 by 5PM