



CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION

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Website: www.cancerresearchfdn.org

Research: The Best Hope Against Cancer

2011 YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARDS

To be awarded November, 2011

DESCRIPTION OF AWARDS:

The **Young Investigator Awards** are two-year research grants to be awarded to cancer researchers at the beginning of their research careers. These grants are intended to support scientists who have little or no established funding "track records" and who have not yet qualified for significant external research support at the time of submission. These awards are designed to nurture young scientists in the pursuit of independent hypotheses. The mission of the Cancer Research Foundation is to raise funds to support both early career cancer scientists and new directions in cancer science research with the goal of contributing to "transformational events" in the prevention, treatment and cures for cancer. The Young Investigator Award is the Cancer Research Foundation's main granting vehicle for funding early career cancer scientists.

Each 2011 Young Investigator will be granted \$75,000 to cover materials, lab technicians and lab time, and other costs. The award may not be used to fund the salary of the Young Investigator, indirect costs or travel expense. Funding is for two years, from January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2013. It is expected that investigators will need to expend the funds during this period, as carry-over of funds be considered only under exceptional circumstances. Three \$25,000 payments will be made, one each in December 2011, January 2012 and January 2013. If a project requires that the funding be structured differently, alternative structures will be considered.

The Cancer Research Foundation is committed to creating a collaborative relationship between itself, the scientists it funds and its donors. For that reason, Young Investigator Award grantees are required to produce reports containing both a financial statement and a narrative account of what has been accomplished in the project at both the midpoint and the end of the granting period. The narrative reports are intended as updates for the CRF Board of Directors and abstracts of these reports will be posted to the CRF website. In addition, Young Investigators will be asked to present their projects to the Cancer Research Board once during the course of the project.

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ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

The goal of the Young Investigator Award is to help promising young investigators to initiate a successful scientific career. The applicants are typically expected to be in the first two years of a non-tenured faculty appointment at a medical school or center, and to have had less than ten years of research experience. Preference will be given to those scientists with appointments at Comprehensive Cancer Centers recognized by the National Cancer Institute. In addition, it is required that Young Investigator Award grantees make themselves available to meet with the board of the Cancer Research Foundation at some point during the granting period.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

An applicant should indicate a commitment to cancer research and should include an indication from his or her medical school or center regarding the availability of adequate resources, including research space, to the applicant. The limited resources of the Cancer Research Foundation can best be applied to support young faculty members whose research projects have the potential for future major independent funding. Young investigators who have already received major independent funding are not eligible.

A senior faculty sponsor must endorse the worthiness and relevance of the applicant's project. In addition, the faculty awards committee or an applicable body from the applicant's medical school or center must support the applicant in writing, including some indication of how the application would fare if presented to a larger funding source such as the National Institutes of Health.

A Young Investigator Award application should contain the following items:

- A cover letter addressed to Ms. Merle Goldblatt Cohen, President of the Cancer Research Foundation. **This letter must contain a succinct description of the research project in clear lay terminology. If a Young Investigator Award is granted, this lay abstract will be published on the Cancer Research Foundation website.** *This portion of the application is of such importance that the proposal will be rejected without it. If scientific terms are used, they must be explained. The Foundation Directors, who are not scientists, need to understand the research in order to consider funding it.*

The cover letter should clearly describe the proposed research project: what the applicant is studying and why it is significant, how the applicant plans to proceed and how a successful outcome will impact:

- cancer research and knowledge
 - future discovery
 - cancer prevention or treatment
- Scientific proposal: no more than five pages, single spaced
 - Detailed budget and justification
 - Curriculum vitae and photo
 - Listing of publications
 - Listing of external funding secured for this and all other cancer research projects. Please include PI name, project title, agency name, project period, budget period, direct costs by budget period, and overlap, if any.
 - Letter of endorsement from a senior faculty sponsor
 - Letter of endorsement from a medical school or center awards committee or applicable body

All proposals must be submitted in PDF form via email to the Foundation by October 1, 2011 using the email address: anikitas@cancerresearchfdn.org.

Please call Alexandra Nikitas, the Cancer Research Foundation Executive Director at 312-630-0055 for other delivery options. Funding decisions will be made by the Cancer Research Foundation Board at the Foundation Meeting being held in the fall of 2011.