

The Milstein Medical Asian American Partnership Foundation 2019 Research Project Award in Stem Cell Research and Regenerative Medicine

In connection with the **Milstein Medical Asian American Partnership (MMAAP) Foundation's** committed support of outstanding medical research in stem cell research and regenerative medicine, we invite submission of applications from Chinese investigator in stem cell and regenerative medicine for a research project award. The aim of the program is to build enduring partnership between the US and China as well as greater Asia through funding a research project which will have immediate impact on improving clinical practice of stem cell research and regenerative medicine in China. The award will provide support for the project to be conducted at a Chinese institution in the amount of USD 50,000 and support for a US partner institution in the amount of USD 10,000, total of USD 60,000. These funds will be distributed to the Chinese and US host institutions.

ELIGIBILITY:

Funds may be used for support of a new or ongoing clinical research project with demonstrated potential for immediate impact on improving clinical application of stem cell products and advancement of regenerative medicine in China. Knowledge gained should be applicable to stem cell and regenerative medicine clinical practice with clear generalizability. Applications should come from major Chinese medical centers with demonstrated excellence in stem cell research and regenerative medicine with a prominent US institution as the partner. The successful application should include a stated goal of establishing a partnership between the US and Chinese institutions to facilitate a long-term relationship and a feasible plan for further collaboration. The applicant must be a Chinese leader in the field of stem cell research and regenerative medicine who will serve as the Principal Investigator (PI) of the proposed project. The US partner will serve as co-PI. Both Chinese and US leaders must have demonstrated productivity as clinical investigators.

CONTENTS OF APPLICATION:

All applications should be prepared in one PDF document with contents in the following order. They should have both Chinese and English versions:

1. **Title page** including applicant's name, title of proposal, sponsoring Chinese institution and US partnering institution. **Title page and checklist** (containing both Chinese and English) can be downloaded from www.mmaapf.org.
2. **A letter from the applicant stating:**
 - a. research goals and plan for future collaboration with the US partnering institution
 - b. clinical and translational impact of the project
 - c. explanation of how this project will yield measurable results over a 2-year period of time
 - d. acknowledgment of the requirement to submit periodic progress reports (written in layman's language) during the grant period and an expenditure report at the end of the grant period, and if necessary to submit request for 1-year non-cost extension with report of progress made during the first year
 - e. acknowledgement of the requirement to list **MMAAP Foundation** support in all presentations and publications
 - f. acknowledgement to keep **MMAAP Foundation** informed of current/future presentations and/or publications
3. **Curriculum vitae of the PI** (up to 6 pages) including date of birth, education and training, academic appointments, key publications, and other research support.
4. **One recommendation letter** either from the President of applicant's home institution or the Chair of applicant's home department. This letter must evaluate a) research quality and commitment of the applicant and his/her department; b) applicant's ability to write and speak English; c) guaranteed access to facilities and support to ensure the success of the proposed project as well as collaboration and future partnership building. This letter must also guarantee that the home institution will provide the applicant with sufficient time to achieve the proposed goals in the application.
5. **It is advised to have the CV of and a support letter from co-PI at the US partnering institution**, to acknowledge willingness to assist in planning and implementation for success of the proposed project at the Chinese home institution. If the applicant cannot identify US co-PI/partner institution, s/he is advised to review the list of experts and their research areas on the Foundation's website (this information will be updated periodically based on availability) or elsewhere to identify a US co-PI/partner institution.
6. **A research proposal** (3-5 pages including references) prepared by the applicant detailing the title, aims, significance, approach, and projected results. The proposal must be typed in **Arial 11 pt. type with 1-inch margins**. Application for human subject use to the Chinese home institution (Institutional Review Board or its equivalent) should be submitted by the deadline and approved before funding can be started.
7. A line item **budget** and justification for the research project for both Chinese and US institutions must be attached. Indirect costs are not allowed.
8. Matching funds by the requesting partner institutions, if necessary, are encouraged.
9. The award is intended for one year. A non-cost extension for an additional year may be requested upon receipt and review of the need for such extension and satisfactory progress during the first year.

DEADLINE:

Deadline for receipt of application is midnight December 3rd (China time). The award will be announced with funding available in early 2019. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Applications need to be uploaded to the MMAAP Foundation website www.mmaapf.org. Please contact info@mmaapf.org or call +1 (212) 850 – 4505 with any questions.

PEER REVIEW PROCESS:

Applications (Chinese version) will be first reviewed by Chinese experts in Stem Cell Research and Regenerative Medicine. The selected top applications (English version) will then be reviewed by the US experts in Stem Cell Research and Regenerative Medicine. One application with the highest quality will be selected through this two-step peer review process for funding with final approval by the MMAAP Foundation.

ABOUT THE MMAAP FOUNDATION, A 501 (c) (3) NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATION

The Foundation was established by the Milstein family to contribute to the improvement of world health by developing mutually beneficial partnerships between the United States and China as well as greater Asia. Its goal is to bring together and fund exchanges between the best medical and research talent and institutions of both regions and to produce medical and scientific progress with integrity and efficiency.