

Milstein Medical Asian American Partnership Foundation 2020 Research Project Award in Stem Cell Research and Regenerative Medicine

Milstein Medical Asian American Partnership (MMAAP) Foundation invites the submission of applications for its **Research Project Award in Stem Cell Research and Regenerative Medicine** in the amount of \$60,000. The aim of the foundation is to build enduring partnerships between the US and China as well as greater Asia through funding a research project which will have immediate impact on improving stem cell research and regenerative medicine in China. The award will provide \$50,000 to the Chinese home institution where the research is to be conducted, and \$10,000 to the US partner institution. No indirect costs will be allowed. Applicant cannot use the same proposal to apply for both fellowship and research project awards.

ELIGIBILITY:

Funds may be used for support of a new or ongoing clinical research project with demonstrated potential for immediate impact on improving blood health in China. Applicant should come from a major Chinese medical center with demonstrated excellence in stem cell research and regenerative medicine and include a prominent US institution as partner. Note: Applicant should contact the US partner institution to determine if the partner laboratory receives funding from NIH and, if so, whether there are established policies to address the relationship between NIH-funded research and the proposed research in the application.

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 continuing collaboration. The applicant must serve as the principal investigator (PI) of the proposed project. The US partner will serve as the 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. The PDF should contain both Chinese and English versions:

1. **Title page** including applicant's name, title of proposal, Chinese home institution and US partner institution. **Title page and checklist** (in both Chinese and English) can be downloaded from mmaapf.org
2. **A letter from the applicant stating:**
 - a. research goals and plan for future collaboration with the US partner institution
 - b. clinical and translational impact of the project
 - c. description 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 every 6 months and an expenditure report at the end of the grant period
 - 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. **A recommendation letter** 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 research goals proposed in the application.
5. **A support letter from co-PI at the US partner institution** to address the relationship between NIH-funded research, if any, and the proposed research in this application. Also, it should acknowledge co-PI's willingness to assist in planning and implementation of the proposed research. If the applicant cannot identify a US partner institution, s/he is advised to review the list of senior investigators and their research areas on MMAAP Foundation's website under the tab "US Experts" and directly contact them to seek collaboration if appropriate.
6. **A curriculum vitae of the co-PI at the US partner institution.**
7. **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**. Note: Human and/or animal use must be approved by the Institutional Review Board or equivalent and documented before funding begins.
8. A line item **budget** and justification for the research project for both Chinese and US institutions must be attached. Matching funds by the requesting partner institutions, if necessary, are encouraged.

DEADLINE:

Deadline for receipt of application is on Monday, February 3, 2020 at 11:59 PM (China time). Decisions will be announced with funding available in mid 2020. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Applications need to be uploaded to MMAAP Foundation website 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 with final approval by MMAAP Foundation.

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

MMAAP Foundation was established by the Milstein family to contribute to the improvement of world health by developing mutually beneficial partnerships between the US 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.