

*MD Anderson Gynecologic SPORE in Uterine Cancers*

2019-2020 Proposals Call for Career Enhancement Program

**Release Date: August 12, 2019**

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center Uterine SPORE solicits applications for development awards to individuals interested in pursuing careers in the broad area of uterine cancer. These awards are intended to provide funding for the career development of individuals who wish to receive the advanced research training that will prepare them to conduct independent research in this area. Awards will cover direct and indirect costs of up to \$50,000 total for one year, with the opportunity for competitive renewal of one additional year. Please note that the \$50,000 is all inclusive of direct and indirect costs and is subject to change depending upon available funds. Please check with your institution regarding current F&A rates and policies.

A. A qualified applicant will:

- Hold either an M.D. or Ph.D. degree, or equivalent.
- Fall into one of the following categories:
  - Senior trainee within 1 year of accepting an independent position
  - Junior investigator (Instructor, Assistant Professor, etc.)
  - Established investigator who wishes to initiate new research efforts in the area of uterine cancer

B. Applicants may collaborate with senior Uterine SPORE investigators, but it is not required.

C. The proposed research may be basic, translational, or clinical, but must be directly relevant to uterine cancer and have the potential for future clinical application.

D. A pre-proposal is required prior to submission of a full proposal. Pre-proposals will be reviewed promptly, and applicants judged to be responsive will be invited to submit a full proposal.

Pre-Proposals (**DUE by 5:00 P.M. CST on FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2019**) will include:

- Letter of intent from the applicant describing his/her career interest and career goals in the area of uterine cancer research and how the proposed research training project will enable the applicant to meet the stated goals.
- Letter of intent should identify which mentor/sponsor will be selected by the trainee.
- A separate abstract (1-page maximum) may be included, however may not be necessary if the project is discussed in sufficient detail in the letter of intent.

E. Applicants invited to submit full proposals will be notified by **September 13, 2019**. Awards will be based primarily on: 1) scientific merit of the research training project, including its potential impact in the area of uterine cancer and 2) the applicant's commitment to, and potential for, an independent research career in this area.

Full Proposals (**DUE by 5:00 P.M. CST on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2019**) will include:  
 (Please use 11 pt. font, 0.5 margins on all sides, and the most recently updated NIH PHS398 forms at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>.)

- Form Page 1: Face Page
- Form Page 2: Summary, Relevance, Project/Performance Sites, Senior/Key Personnel, Other Significant Contributors, and Human Embryonic Stem Cells
- Form Page 4: Detailed Budget with Budget Justification (\$50,000 total costs maximum)
- Full Curriculum Vitae for Primary Applicant, including All Current and Pending Funding
- Biosketches using Current NIH Format/Guidelines for All Other Key Personnel (not including applicant)
- Proposed Research Training Project (3 pages maximum, excluding references)
  - The research proposal should include 1) background/significance, 2) hypothesis, 3) specific aims, 4) experimental approach, and 5) translational and/or clinical impact.
- Career Development and Mentorship Plan (2 pages maximum), including:
  - Description of the impact of the Career Development award in the development of the trainee’s career.
  - How (if at all) the proposed project interfaces with the trainee’s other current or anticipated projects.
  - Details for previously sought funding for the proposed project and/or anticipated requests for alternate funding.
- Names and Contact Information for Two Additional Individuals who may be contacted for Recommendations Regarding the Applicant’s Potential for an Independent Research Career
- Any Necessary Certifications (human subjects, animal care and use, biosafety or hazardous chemicals)

F. Projects will be evaluated based on the criteria below. Recipients will be expected to participate in various career development activities sponsored by the Uterine Cancer SPORE.

- Scientific merit
- Investigator’s potential for future career in uterine cancer research
- Degree to which the project contributes to the priorities and objectives of the SPORE
- Adequacy of the career development and mentorship plan
- Technical feasibility

G. Submission Information: Pre-proposals and full proposals should be submitted electronically by the due dates to Tomiko Fisher at [TIFisher@mdanderson.org](mailto:TIFisher@mdanderson.org).

Timeline
• <b>Pre-Proposal due by Friday, August 30, 2019 (5:00 p.m. CST)</b>
• <b>Notification of Invitation to Submit Full Proposal by September 13, 2019</b>
• <b>Full Proposal due by Friday, October 11, 2019 (5:00 p.m. CST)</b>
• <b>Award Notification by October 25, 2019 (5:00 p.m. CST)</b>
• <b>Funding Begins on November 1, 2019*</b>

\* Letter of support from the applicant’s current supervisor will be required before funding is released.

H. MD Anderson Uterine SPORE Career Enhancement Program Leadership:

- Diane Bodurka, M.D. – Program Director
- Karen Lu, M.D. – Co-Director

**Please direct questions to Tomiko Fisher at (713) 745-6329 or via email at [TIFisher@mdanderson.org](mailto:TIFisher@mdanderson.org)**