CCMBM/JIC Junior Investigator Research Grant Program

The goal of the Core Center for Musculoskeletal Biology and Medicine (CCMBM) is to stimulate and support transdisciplinary collaborations to accelerate translational research in the musculoskeletal field. With the mission of developing, implementing, disseminating innovative research initiatives, and supporting the career development of early stage musculoskeletal researchers, CCMBM has announced the Junior Investigator Research Grant Program.

The Junior Investigator Research Grant Program is designed to support research independence of the junior researchers and provide them with initial seed funding to gather critical preliminary data for an upcoming grant submission. Grant support for research projects of up to $3,500 each (direct costs only) is available. Although funding is not dependent on utilizing CCMBM cores alone, the relevance of the proposed work to musculoskeletal research must be demonstrated.

The submission deadline is November 30, 2020, 5:00PM (PT)
Review criteria will include significance of the research topic, scientific rigor of the approach, innovation, potential impact of the project, and feasibility. ***Applicants will be notified in December 2020.***

The guidelines below describe the application process and eligibility criteria.
Who are eligible to apply:
1. Early Stage Investigators who are Full CCMBM members and are UCSF Professional Researchers or Faculty (Ladder rank, in residence, Clin X, HS Clin, or Adjunct) and have yet to obtain their first R01.
2. Associate CCMBM members (Research staff, specialists, instructors, resident, fellows, and post-doctoral scholars).
3. Applicants must be CCMBM members prior to the submission of application, and the goals of the application must align with that of CCMBM in stimulating musculoskeletal research.
4. Applicants planning to submit extramural grants within the next 6 months will be given preference.

Applications must include:
1. NIH style Biosketch with other support pages
2. 2-page proposal addressing following components:
   - Title of Project
   - Aims and hypotheses
   - Project plan - What will the project accomplish if successful? Will it lead to future research programs or patient benefit?
3. 1-page document providing the plans for extramural grant application (including the funding agency and grant application deadline you will apply) and describing why the investigations to be supported by this grant are critical for their planned extramural grant proposal
4. For post-docs, a letter from the current mentor must be included indicating:
   - the studies proposed will support funding for the applicant's independence
   - plans for the applicant's transition to independence
5. Budget justification page, based on consultation with relevant Core director(s) (see template)
6. Timeline - applicants should specify the feasibility of completing project and spending within the approximate 6-month time frame.

Please submit your application as a single PDF file and email to: Researc.vmdo64yiss30v1kb@u.box.com, with naming convention for your file - last name, first initial, JI grant *(eg. Jones S_JI grant)*

Other responsibilities of the PI upon receiving the grant:
1. If awarded, the funds must be used within the P30 budget year *(until June 15, 2021).*
2. A PI may submit only one proposal. At the beginning of the project, the PI is required to participate in a CCMBM Grant Review meeting. Core faculty members of the CCMBM will serve as panel members to provide additional input on the project, design, and implementation.
3. A 10-minute final presentation is due at the end of the funding period and should include a description of future plans relevant to the proposal. The PI will be invited to present findings at a future report out meeting, seminar series, and/or other research forum of the CCMBM.

For more information about the CCMBM membership guidelines, please see ccmbm.ucsf.edu/become-member . Please email Neha Dole, PhD at nehashashank.dole@ucsf.edu, for any questions regarding your application or the grant program.