



Arnold W. Strauss Fellow Award

2017

APPLICATION INFORMATION & GUIDELINES Clinical Fellows (MD/DO) and Postdoctoral Fellows (PhD)

Application Due Date
May 1, 2017 at 11:59 PM

Selection Notification
Week of June 19, 2017

Grant Term Begins
July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

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STRAUSS RESEARCH AWARD

The Arnold W. Strauss Fellow Award, sponsored by the Office of Pediatric Clinical Fellowships and the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs, is a one-year \$10,000 funding opportunity awarded to three Clinical Fellows (MDs) and three PhD Postdoctoral Fellows, based upon the merit of applications. It was instituted in 2014 in honor of Dr. Arnold Strauss' tireless efforts at advocacy and championship towards higher education at Cincinnati Children's.

Throughout much of his career, Dr. Strauss conducted his own groundbreaking research into mitochondrial proteins and the genetic causes of congenital heart disease and cardiomyopathy. His research efforts were rewarded with continuous NIH funding, hundreds of publications and prestigious awards that included the E. Mead Johnson Award for Excellence in Pediatric Research and the American Heart Association's Basic Science Research Award.



Arnold W. Strauss, MD

Professor of Pediatrics and Associate Director for External Relations and Strategic Projects, Cincinnati Children's Research Foundation

KEY DATES

- **March 1, 2017:** Call for Applications announced
- **May 1, 2017 at 11:59 PM:** Application deadline
- All applications and required documents must be in a single PDF and emailed to the following individuals by the application deadline and time:
 - **Clinical Fellows:** Jill Loch at Jill.Loch@cchmc.org
 - **Research Fellows:** Lisa Privette Vinnedge at Lisa.Privette@cchmc.org
- **Week of June 19, 2017:** Applicants notified of funding decisions
- **July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018:** One-year funding cycle
- **July 1, 2017:** Funds disbursed
- **Mid-September 2017:** Arnold W. Strauss Fellowship Awards Ceremony – Dates TBA in late June 2017

APPLICABLE TO ALL FUNDING

- The goal of the Arnold W. Strauss Fellow Award is to provide research funds for Clinical (MD/DO) and PhD Postdoctoral Fellows to prepare the awardee for sustained research and extramural funding following the completion of fellowship training.
- Strauss Fellows are awarded \$10,000 in funding to be used over a one-year period. Based upon the merit of applications, three Clinical Fellows and three PhD Postdoctoral Fellows will be awarded funding.
- The funding amount of \$10,000 must be spent within fiscal year 2018, which begins on July 1, 2017 and ends on June 30, 2018. *Please be advised that funding cannot be extended beyond June 30, 2018.*
- To assist with the financial monitoring of budgets, the Office of Pediatric Clinical Fellowships and the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs will send monthly financial reports to the Principal Investigator and their Divisional Business Director. Each Principal Investigator should work closely with their Business Director to ensure costs are appropriately charged to the correct account.
- During each grant cycle, a researcher can only apply once as the lead Principal Investigator.
- The application and required documents must be submitted in a single PDF by the Principal Investigator on **Monday, May 1, 2017 at 11:59 PM.**
- Clinical Fellow applications should be emailed to Jill Loch at Jill.Loch@cchmc.org and Research Fellow applications should be emailed to Lisa Privette Vinnedge at Lisa.Privette@cchmc.org by the above deadline.
- All application evaluations are considered confidential and are available to scientific reviewers and the administrative personnel of the Office of Pediatric Clinical Fellowships and the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs only.
- Strauss Awardees are expected to attend and participate in the Arnold W. Strauss Fellowship Awards Ceremony to be scheduled in mid-September, 2017. The Office of Pediatric Clinical Fellowships and the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs will communicate the event date and time in late June.

CONDITIONS OF FUNDING

The terms of the Arnold W. Strauss Fellow Award are listed below. By accepting the Strauss Fellow Award, the Principal Investigator is agreeing to abide by the following terms and conditions:

1. Use the grant funds only as specified in the approved grant proposal.
2. Maintain your records to show and account for the use of grant funds.
3. If awarded, fellows are required to submit a Mid-Year Progress Report six-months after the award start date, and a Final Progress Report within 60 days after the award completion date.
4. Notify the Office of Pediatric Clinical Fellowships or the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs of changes to your professional status, professional address and email address.
5. The Principal Investigator is ultimately responsible for the overall administration and fiscal management of the project. These obligations include but are not limited to:
 - Management of the project within funding limitations,
 - Adherence to reporting requirements, and
 - Ensuring that the Office of Pediatric Clinical Affairs and Office of Postdoctoral Affairs is notified regarding a change in project or professional status.
6. Strauss Awardees are expected to attend and participate in the Arnold W. Strauss Fellowship Awards Ceremony to be scheduled in mid-September, 2017. The Office of Pediatric Clinical Fellowships and the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs will communicate the event date and time in late June 2017.

REVIEW PROCESS AND NOTIFICATION

Applications submitted by the deadline will be reviewed by a distinguished panel of experts. The reviewers will not be identified. Applicants will be notified of funding decisions the week of June 19, 2017. All awards will be activated on July 1, 2017. The award concludes on June 30, 2018. Strauss Research Award funds cannot be deferred and are non-transferable.

Applicants will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- The Career Development and Scientific Merit of the application. This will be assessed using the same criteria as used by NIH reviewers.
- The qualifications and experiences of the applicant, factors to be considered include, but are not limited to:
 - The applicant's potential for sustained research and extramural funding following the completion of fellowship training.
 - A career as an independent scientist in an academic setting, as assessed by the applicant's personal statement as well as the nature of the planned research and quality of the proposal.
 - The likelihood of the proposed work to position the applicant to a highly competitive NIH K or K-level equivalent application.
- The significance, feasibility, and originality of the proposed hypothesis, research, and methodology.
- Quality of the mentor and the plan for mentor-applicant interaction and career development.
- Successful candidates will have a strong commitment to research, a clear mentorship structure in place, and a distinct plan for their research proposal.
- Repeat applications are welcome, if an applicant remains eligible.

STRAUSS AWARD APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Clinical Fellows (MD/DO) ONLY

Only one award application will be accepted per fellow applicant per cycle

The below instructions are specific to **Clinical Fellows in any specialty** at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Please refer to page 10 of this document for PhD Postdoctoral Fellows application guidelines.

- **APPLICATION DEADLINE: Monday, May 1, 2017 at 11:59 PM**
- Clinical Fellows should submit a single PDF of their completed application to Jill Loch, MEd, Manager, Office of Pediatric Clinical Fellowships, at Jill.Loch@cchmc.org by the above deadline.
- Applications are preferably submitted by Clinical Fellows prior to the beginning of the applicant's final year of clinical fellowship training.
 - Applications from fellows earlier in their training will also be considered.
- Successful candidates will have a strong commitment to research, a clear mentorship structure in place, and a distinct plan for their research proposal.
- Funding of all research areas will be considered.
- The anticipated outcomes of the Arnold W. Strauss Fellow Award are the successful transition to an NIH K award, K-equivalent award from foundations or industry, other early career funding, and publications in peer-reviewed journals. A clear plan for how the applicant will achieve these outcomes should be included in the career development plan.
- Progress reports will be required during and after the award period.
- Submission forms and guidelines for Clinical Fellows can be found on page 7.

STRAUSS AWARD APPLICATION

Clinical Fellows (MD/DO) ONLY

Format

Clinical Fellow applicants should follow the instructions outlined in the [Career Development Instructions for NIH and Other PHS Agencies, SF424 \(R&R\), Forms Version D Series, Updated November 22, 2016](#).

Applicants must include the following content, in the order below:

- 1. Face Page** – Use [standard NIH format](#)
- 2. Project Summary**
 - a. Applicant biographical sketch: [Blank Format Page](#) and [Sample Biosketch](#) (5 pg. limit)
 - i. Personal Statement
 - ii. Positions and Honors
 - iii. Contributions to Science
 - iv. Research Support
 - b. Mentor biographical sketch
 - c. Other support for applicant and mentor
- 3. Budget and justification for one year of \$10,000 funding**
 - a. Budget start date: July 1st
 - b. Cannot include salary for applicant
 - c. Cannot include indirect costs
 - d. Budget can be used for supplies and/or salary for staff working on the project
- 4. Candidate Information and Goals for Career Development **SIGNIFICANT CHANGES (12-page limit for both attachments combined)** *The NIH has made significant changes to this section with a 12-page limit for the combined Career Development and Research Plan sections.*
 - a. Format: Follow the page limits for Candidate Information and Goals for Career Development in the [NIH Table of Page Limits](#) for Career Development Award Applications.
 - b. Content: Organize your content into three sections and start each section with the appropriate section heading:
 - Candidate’s Background
 - Career Goals and Objectives
 - Candidate’s Plan for Career Development/Training Activities During Award Period
 - c. Carefully read and follow instructions for this section by [clicking here](#), pg. K-80.**

5. Research Plan (12-page limit for combined Career Development and Research Plan sections). The Research Plan is a major part of the overall career development goal. It is important to relate the proposed research to the candidate's scientific career goals. Carefully read and follow instructions for this section by [clicking here](#), pg. K-80. The following sections are to be completed:

- a. Specific Aims (1 page limit)
- b. Research Strategy
 - i. Significance
 - ii. Innovation
 - iii. Approach

c. Also include the following information as part of the Research Strategy, keeping within the three sections (Significance, Innovation, and Approach) listed above. Preliminary Studies for New Applications: For new applications, include information on preliminary studies. Discuss the PD/PI's preliminary studies, data, and experience pertinent to this application.

6. Protection of Human Subjects.

Include the "Protection of Human Subjects" attachment if you answered "Yes" to the question "Are human subjects involved?" all sections required for a NIH Career Development Application on the [K.220 – R&R Other Project Information Form](#), pg. K-35.

7. Vertebrate Animals.

Include the "Vertebrate Animals" attachment if you answered "Yes" to the question "Are Vertebrate Animals Used?" [K.220 – R&R Other Project Information Form](#), pg. K-37.

8. Scientific Mentor Information – to be completed by the mentor (6 page limit)

- a. Content: The mentor and co-mentor(s) (if applicable) must each document their role and willingness to participate in the project, and explain how they will contribute to the development of the candidate's research career. Each statement should include the following:
 - i. Provide information on mentor's research qualifications and previous experience as a research supervisor.
 - ii. Alignment of the applicant's research plan with existing research programs.
 - iii. Plan for scientific mentoring and support of the applicant, and how this will position the applicant for successful independent research.
 - iv. Description of available resources relevant to the application.

9. Literature cited.

10. Letters of support from Collaborators, Contributors, and Consultants, if any.

11. Supplementary data will NOT be accepted.

STRAUSS AWARD APPLICATION

Clinical Fellows (MD/DO) ONLY

2nd Year of Funding

The Arnold W. Strauss Fellow Award provides for one year of funding, there is no application for a second year of funding.

Review Process

1. The main criteria for the review of the application are:

- a. Career Development and Scientific Merit of the application. This will be assessed using the same criteria as used by NIH reviewers.
- b. Is the proposed work likely to position the applicant to a highly competitive NIH K or K-level equivalent application?
- c. Are the mentors appropriate?

2. All applications will be reviewed by a diverse panel of reviewers, who will determine the final awardees.

3. All applicants, regardless of award status, will receive a 1-on-1 consultation with a panel member.

- a. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the applicant's proposal.
- b. Receive critique and opinions how best to move forward with this proposal.

STRAUSS AWARD APPLICATION GUIDELINES

PhD Postdoctoral Fellows ONLY

Only one award application will be accepted per fellow applicant per cycle

The below instructions are specific to **PhD Postdoctoral Fellows** at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Please refer to page 6 for Clinical Fellows (MD/DO) application guidelines.

- **APPLICATION DEADLINE: Monday, May 1, 2017 at 11:59 PM**
- PhD Postdoctoral Fellows should submit a single PDF of their completed application to Lisa Privette Vinnedge, PhD, Director, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs, at Lisa.Privette@cchmc.org by the above deadline.
- First and second year PhD Postdoctoral Fellows are eligible (start date of July 1, 2015).
- Successful candidates will have a strong commitment to research, a clear mentorship structure in place, and a distinct plan for their research proposal.
- Funding of all research areas will be considered.
- All awardees are expected to submit an NIH NRSA Fellowship or equivalent fellowship by the end of the year of support. Therefore, a clear plan for how the applicant will achieve this outcome should be indicated in the career development plan. International Postdoctoral Fellows must submit a plan for a non-NIH fellowship award that they will be eligible to apply for (if they are not eligible for an NIH award).
- Progress reports will be required during and after the award period.
- Submission forms and guidelines for PhD Postdoctoral Fellows can be found on page 11.

STRAUSS AWARD APPLICATION

PhD Postdoctoral Fellows ONLY

Format

PhD Postdoctorate Fellow applicants should follow the instructions outlined in the [Fellowship Instructions for NIH and Other PHS Agencies, SF424 \(R&R\), Forms Version D Series, Updated November 22, 2016](#).

Eligibility requirements:

- First and second year PhD Postdoctoral Fellows are eligible (start date of July 1, 2015).
- PhD Postdoctoral Fellows with NIH NRSA or foundation fellowships are not eligible.
- Funding is for one year; successful applicants cannot apply for additional funding.

Applications must include the following, in the order indicated:

1. **Face page** – Name, division, list of members of the applicant’s scientific advisory committee and title of proposal. Use [standard NIH format](#).
2. **Biosketch for applicant:** [Blank Format Page](#) and [Sample Biosketch](#) (5 pg. limit)
3. **Budget and justification for one year of funding at \$10,000**
 - Budget start date is July 1, 2017
 - Budget cannot include salary support
 - Budget can be used for any combination of the following:
 - Attendance at appropriate national or international meeting
 - Attendance at an appropriate workshop
 - Support for use of core facilities (including animal facilities) with a preference for the use of high-throughput core services such as RNA Seq, Mass Spec/NMR, biostatistics/epidemiology, etc.
 - Attendance at a grant writing workshop (required)
 - Reagents and contracted services specific to this project
 - Computer and software (with the understanding that these stay in the lab after the applicant has left the lab or CCHMC)
 - Recruitment strategies for conducting clinical research
4. **Applicant’s Background and Goals for Fellowship Training **SIGNIFICANT CHANGES** (6 page limit)**
 - a. Format: Follow the page limits for Candidate Information and Goals for Career Development in the [NIH Table of Page Limits](#) for Fellowship (F) Applications.
 - b. Content: Organize your content into three sections and start each section with the appropriate section heading:
 - i. Doctoral Dissertation and Research Experience
 - ii. Training Goals and Objectives
 - iii. Activities Planned Under this Award

iv. IDP abbreviated timeline or full IDP

c. Carefully read and follow instructions for this section by [click here](#), pg. F-58.

5. Research Training Plan

A Research Training Plan is required for all types of fellowship awards and is a major part of the fellowship application. It is important to relate the proposed research to the applicant's scientific career goals. Carefully read and follow the instructions for this section by [clicking here](#), pg. F-60. The following sections are to be completed:

- a. Specific Aims
- b. Research Strategy
 - i. Significance
 - ii. Innovation
 - iii. Approach
- c. Also include the following information as part of the Research Strategy, keeping within the three sections (Significance, Innovation, and Approach) listed above.
Preliminary Studies for New Applications: For new applications, include information on preliminary studies (including data collected by others in the lab), if any. Discuss the applicant's preliminary studies, data, and/or experience pertinent to this application.

6. Scientific Mentor Information – to be completed by the mentor (6 page limit)

- a. Mentor Information
 - i. Provide information on mentor's research qualifications and previous experience as a research supervisor
 - ii. Alignment of the applicant's research plan with the mentor's research program.
 - iii. Description of available resources relevant to this application
 - iv. Biosketch
- b. Mentoring plan
 - i. Plan for scientific mentoring and support of the applicant and how this will position the applicant for eventual success as an independent researcher
 - ii. Description of scientific advisory committee/mentoring committee and the role each member will play in the scientific and career development of the applicant

CONTACT INFORMATION

For additional questions, please contact the following individuals for questions pertaining to your Fellowship Program Office:

Office of Pediatric Clinical Fellowships

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Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

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