

Call for Letters of Intent for the Patient and Family Engagement Early Career Investigator Awards

Background and Purpose

The Patient Care Program of the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation aims to eliminate preventable harms and unnecessary costs by meaningfully engaging patients and families within a redesigned, supportive healthcare system. Redesigning health care means taking a systems approach to rethinking and reengineering the complex delivery of care so that it functions as a coherent system rather than as fragmented and prone to errors. Redesigning requires a focus on technology, process and culture to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of care. Redesigning also means that the system must focus on engaging the patient. Not engaging patients and families in their own health care can cause loss of dignity and respect and allow care inconsistent with their wishes and values—harms as real, and as preventable, as medical errors.

The foundation is engaging the broader health care community to build capacity in the field of patient and family engagement. With a growing body of interventions available in health care practice and varying levels of evidence supporting these, the foundation seeks to advance the implementation of patient and family engagement by supporting scalable interventions and other innovative approaches to increasing patient and family engagement that can overcome the current barriers that exist in health care.

In order to overcome barriers inhibiting adoption of strategies and interventions in patient and family engagement, the Patient Care Program will be funding a series of awards to Early Career Investigators participating in innovative, translational research in the field. Award recipients will be conducting work that has the potential to demonstrate the value of patient and family engagement as well as remove roadblocks and enable accelerants in the field. The Early Career Investigator Awards provides an exciting opportunity for the advancement of translational research producing scalable strategies which can be widely implemented into health care delivery. As part of this award opportunity, the foundation will consider projects at every level of care, from outpatient preventive services, chronic disease management and preference sensitive decision-making to approaches that may be specific to acute inpatient care, including Intensive Care Units. The foundation's interest also extends beyond specific discrete interventions to policies and other scalable approaches that encourage and enable patient and family engagement.

The Patient Care Program's Early Career Investigator Awards will provide funding to support a specific and identified research effort while also supporting the career development of award recipients. To this end, prospective candidates should identify a project concept which will advance the field of patient and family engagement, while also identifying a senior mentor to advise them during the duration of the award.

Project Scope

Awards will support a defined project or set of projects designed to advance the field of patient and family engagement. Projects varying in scope and area of interest within the field will be considered. Examples of potential projects include:

- Using health information technology to engage patients with multiple chronic diseases and facilitate communication with health care providers.
- Creating, implementing and evaluating a scalable training tool for providers in order to increase skills relevant to patient and family engagement.
- Developing and testing innovative approaches to create a culture of engagement among healthcare providers.
- Implementing and evaluating a tool to provide patients and families with a better understanding of their roles and the roles and responsibilities of their health care team.
- Examining the impact of Patient and Family Advisory Councils in reducing preventable harm in health care facilities.
- Creating paired tools designed to provide guidance to health care providers on how to encourage patients to engage with an intervention and how to sustain that engagement.
- Implementing and evaluating tools for engaging patients and families in planning the transition from inpatient to outpatient care.
- Implementing and evaluating scalable interventions to facilitate informed/shared decision-making.

This list is only illustrative and not exhaustive. Applicants should consider innovative research efforts and their potential for implementation across many health care delivery settings in developing project concepts. Projects are not limited to any one health care setting and can engage the health care system at the patient and family, provider or system level. Furthermore, the project does not need to be limited to only a specific discrete intervention, but could also focus on policies and other scalable approaches (e.g., applying principles of behavioral economics, such as changing default options).

Senior Mentors

In order to ensure the Early Career Investigator is successful and has the ability to complete the proposed work, the foundation requires the investigator to identify a senior mentor to collaborate with as part of his/her proposed effort. Senior mentors should have expertise and relevant experience in the field of patient and family engagement and/or translational research and be willing to advise the investigator throughout the total period of the award.

Career Development

Recipients of the Patient and Family Engagement Early Career Investigator Award are encouraged to participate in educational opportunities and seek new skills in an effort to advance and ensure the success of their project and their knowledge of the field. However, there is no formal requirement for additional training as part of this award.

Letters of Intent are due to the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation by 5pm Pacific Standard Time on October 31, 2013. Please read through the entire announcement to find additional details on the Letter of Intent submission requirements and deadline.

Total Awards

- Up to four awards, each for up to three years.
- Up to \$150,000 direct costs per year, for each of the three years (\$450,000 total in direct costs).
- Awards may be used to support investigator salaries and other research expenses.
- Indirect costs are calculated at 12.5%.

Eligibility Criteria

- Demonstrated dedication, track record and interest in patient and family engagement related strategies and interventions.
- At the time of award be within five years of the Early Career Investigator's first faculty appointment or equivalent (e.g., scientists employed in non-university affiliated research institutes).
- Demonstrated support from a senior mentor committed to the career development of the Early Career Investigator.

Key Dates

Request for Letters of Intent	October 1, 2013
Letters of Intent due	October 31, 2013
Applicants notified of request to submit full proposal	December 1, 2013
Full proposal due to the foundation	February 15, 2014
Proposal review	February–April 2014
Grant award recipients announced	May 2014
Earliest anticipated start date	June 2014

Award Requirements

In order to receive funding as part of the Patient and Family Engagement Early Career Investigator Awards, recipients must be able to:

- Commit a minimum of 30 percent effort toward the grant work in each year of the award.
- Provide proof of affiliation with an organization in the United States that is either a public entity or non-profit organization that is tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Required Letter of Intent Elements

Letters of Intent should not only highlight the specific project(s) the applicant is seeking funding for, but should also demonstrate the applicants commitment to advancing the field of patient and family engagement. Letters of Intent should include the following elements:

- Applicants name, title, contact information and current organization.
- Identified senior mentor's name, title, contact information and name of current organization.
- Statement of the applicant's career goals relative to the field of patient and family engagement.
- Description of proposed effort for which the applicant is seeking funding as part of the Patient and Family Engagement Early Career Investigator Awards and how this effort is innovative translational research that has the potential to advance the field of patient and family engagement.
- Brief explanation of the role of the senior mentor in the proposed research project and the applicant's career development.
- Description of how the proposed effort has the potential to contribute to the Patient Care Program's overall goal of eliminating preventable harms and unnecessary costs.

Letters of Intent should be no longer than two pages in length using an 11 point font with one inch margins (not including bibliographic references). No supporting documentation should be included with the Letter of Intent. Each applicant is allowed to submit only one Letter of Intent for the Patient and Family Engagement Early Career Investigator Awards. *Letters of Intent should be submitted by email to patientcare@moore.org and received by 5pm Pacific Standard Time on October 31, 2013.*

Selection Criteria

The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation Patient Care Program will consider the following criteria in evaluating potential investigators and applications:

- The applicant's potential for making a significant contribution toward advancing patient and family engagement in health care practice.
- The proposed project's potential to demonstrate the value, remove roadblocks and enable accelerants in the field of patient and family engagement.
- The proposed project's potential for producing scalable strategies which can be widely implemented into health care delivery.
- The senior mentor's potential for successfully collaborating with and advising the applicant on their proposed project and career development.
- Applicant's proposed project and career objectives are consistent with the aim of the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation's Patient Care Program to eliminate preventable harms and unnecessary costs by meaningfully engaging patients and families in their own health care within a redesigned, supportive healthcare system.

Those candidates selected to submit a full proposal will be notified by December 1, 2013. This notification will include details and instructions for completing a full proposal submission to the Foundation.

Full proposals for the Patient and Family Engagement Early Career Investigator Awards will be reviewed by foundation staff and an expert advisory panel. The Early Career Investigator Award finalists will be notified of the foundation's intent to award their proposal by the end of May 2014.

Informational Webinar

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation staff will host two webinars prior to the Letter of Intent deadline. Webinars are scheduled for October 7th at 11am PST and October 10th at 10am PST. Each one hour webinar will be an opportunity for foundation staff to describe the Patient and Family Engagement Early Career Investigator program and answer questions about the Letter of Intent submission process. Potential candidates interested in participating in the webinars should plan to participate on only one of the dates. Please email Susan Baade at susan.baade@moore.org to register to participate in either webinar.

Program Contact

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The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation believes in bold ideas that create enduring impact in the areas of patient care, environmental conservation and science. Intel co-founder Gordon and his wife Betty established the foundation to create positive change around the world and at home in the San Francisco Bay Area. **Patient care** focuses on eliminating preventable harms and unnecessary health care costs through meaningful engagement of patients and their families in a supportive, redesigned health care system. Our **environmental conservation** efforts promote sustainability, protect critical ecological systems and align conservation needs with human development. **Science** looks for opportunities to transform—or even create—entire fields by investing in early-stage research, emerging fields and top research scientists. Visit us at Moore.org or follow [@MoorePatient](https://twitter.com/MoorePatient).