Call for Letters of Intent for the Patient and Family Engagement Early-Career Investigator Awards - 2016
Background and Purpose

The Patient Care Program of the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation aims to improve the experience and outcomes of patient care. The foundation is engaging the broader health care community to build capacity in the field of patient and family engagement.

In order to overcome barriers inhibiting adoption of strategies and interventions in patient and family engagement, the foundation’s Patient Care Program will again 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 provide an opportunity for the advancement of translational research to be implemented into health care delivery. As part of this award opportunity, the foundation will consider projects at every level of care, from community-based safety, chronic disease management and preference sensitive decision-making to approaches that may be specific to serious illness. Our interests also extend beyond specific discrete interventions to policies and other scalable approaches that encourage and enable the engagement of patients, and their loved ones, in their health care.

The intent of the Early-Career Investigator Awards is to provide funding to support a specific and identified research effort while also developing the careers of award recipients. To this end, prospective candidates should identify a project concept that 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. Grants will be made to the investigators’ institutions, which, under the terms of the grant, will be responsible for the expenditure of the grant funds and the grant project.

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.

Senior Mentors

In order to ensure potential recipients are successful and have 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 (three years).
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.

Submission Deadline

Letters of Intent are due to the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation by 5pm Pacific Standard Time on August 1, 2016. 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
- Grants will be made to the investigators’ institutions, which, under the terms of the grant, will be responsible for the expenditure of the grant funds and the grant project.
- 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 four years of first faculty appointment or equivalent (e.g., scientists employed in non-university affiliated research institutes).
- Confirmed support from a senior mentor throughout the three-year award period.
- Selected investigators should not have a concurrent federal Career Development Award (K-Award) during the funding period.

Key Dates

Request for Letters of Intent July 8, 2016
Letters of Intent due August 1, 2016
Applicants notified of request to submit full proposal August 22, 2016
Full proposal due to the foundation from the investigator’s institution September 30, 2016
Proposal review October—November 2016
Grant Award recipients announced and grants to institutions finalized December 2016
Earliest anticipated start date December 2016

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.

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**Required Letter of Intent Elements**

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

• Applicant’s 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 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 Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation’s Patient Care Program aim of improving the experience and outcomes of patient care.

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 Daylight Time on August 1, 2016.

**Selection Criteria**

The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation’s 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 that 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.
• The alignment of the proposed project with the Roadmap for Patient + Family Engagement in Healthcare Practice and Research. (see: www.patientfamilyengagement.org)

• Applicant’s proposed project and career objectives are consistent with the aim of the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation’s patient care program to improve the experience and outcomes of patient care.

Those candidates selected to submit a full proposal will be notified by August 22, 2016. 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 November 2016.

Program Contact

Please direct inquiries to:

Patient Care Program
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