



## ACADEMIC PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATION

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December 1, 2011

Dear APA Member:

With generous support from the Aetna Foundation, the APA Board of Directors is delighted to announce the 2012 award cycle of the Academic Pediatric Association Aetna Foundation Young Investigator Awards Program. This program provides three awards of up to \$13,500 each for pediatric research by junior faculty, fellows, or residents addressing one or more of the three Aetna Foundation priority areas of: 1) obesity, 2) racial/ethnic healthcare equity, and 3) integrated healthcare. One award will be devoted to research in each of these priority areas. Preference is given to projects that have the potential to lead to further studies.

### The specifics of this program are as follows:

1. The principal investigator (PI) of any proposal submitted **must be a member of the APA or have submitted an application for membership**. Preference will be given to NEW investigators, including those in training. **New investigators are defined as: 1) faculty members who are no more than five years out from completion of all training; 2) fellows; or 3) residents. The PI must also submit a biographical sketch (using the standard two-page NIH biosketch form) and a letter of support from a mentor with the initial two-page proposal. These documents do not count toward the overall page count.**
2. Proposals submitted must address obesity, racial/ethnic healthcare equity, or integrated healthcare. These are one-time awards; multiple-year funding requests will not be considered. Preference will be given to those proposals that have the potential to lead to projects of a larger nature and/or longer-term.
3. **Initial proposals** must be received by **January 2, 2012**. Only electronic submissions will be accepted. All required components must be submitted online at the following address: <http://www.academicpeds.org/members/aetnayia/index.cfm>

These initial proposals must include the following items\*:

- **Cover sheet**- indicating the project title, PI name, and contact information, including e-mail address for the PI and research priority area (obesity, racial/ethnic healthcare equity, or integrated healthcare).
  - **Description of the proposal**- not to exceed **two single-spaced pages**, including the budget and budget justification, and must use a font size no smaller than Arial 11, with 1” margins. This section must provide a brief overview of the project, including project aims, background, methods, evaluation, and significance of the study. The cover sheet and references are not included in this two-page limit. Please adhere strictly to these requirements - failure to do so will result in return of the application without further review.
  - **Budget and budget justification**- This should *not* include overhead (indirect costs), salary for the PI or mentors, or equipment for long-term use (e.g., computers). A maximum of \$1,000 is allowable for travel to the annual PAS meeting.
  - **Biographical sketch**- using the standard NIH biosketch form. For this purpose, the biosketch is not to exceed two pages, and no personal statement is needed. The biosketch also needs to be resubmitted with the full proposal and does not count towards the page limit. The form can be found at the following site: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/biosketch.doc>; instructions for filling out the form can be found at the following link: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/biosketchsample.doc>
  - **Letter of support from the primary mentor**- A typed signature is acceptable if an electronic signature is not available. This letter of support also needs to be resubmitted with the full proposal and does not count towards the page limit.
4. A review panel, convened by the Chair of the APA Research Committee, will review submitted initial proposals, and select PIs whom will be invited to submit full proposals. PIs will be notified by **February 2, 2012** regarding whether or not they have been invited to submit a full proposal. The deadline for full proposal submission is **March 2, 2012**.
5. **Full proposals** must include the following items\*:
- The entire proposal, including cover sheet, tables, budget, references, and appendices, **must not exceed 10 double-spaced pages**, using a font size no smaller than Arial 11 and 1” margins.
  - A cover sheet must be included, indicating the project title, and PI name and contact information, including e-mail addresses for the PI and her/his Division Director and Department Chair.
  - Specific aims, background, preliminary studies (if applicable), detailed methods, evaluation, timeline (the project must be completed within 1 year), description of key personnel, and detailed budget with justification (see restrictions listed above).
  - Biographical sketch, using the standard 2-page NIH biosketch form (omit the personal statement)
  - Letter of support from the primary mentor.

6. A second study section, convened by the APA Research Committee Chair, will review and score the full proposals, and prepare a 1 – 2 page summary review that will be sent to applicants. Funding decisions will be based on the results of the study section review. Full-proposal applicants will be notified of funding decisions in **late March 2012**. The number of proposals approved and funded will be determined by the funds available for the given year. The awardees will be announced at the annual 2012 PAS meeting.
7. Awards will be made with the understanding that the project is initiated no later than July 2012, and will be completed within one year. Awardees are encouraged to submit abstracts from their projects to a PAS meeting and to submit a manuscript summarizing the project results to the APA journal, *Academic Pediatrics*, for possible publication.
8. Each awardee will be paired with a National Facilitator, an accomplished, nationally recognized senior investigator from an institution other than the PI's. The facilitator will be available to provide advice and input on the project; complement the PI's mentor by offering additional mentoring on an as needed basis; supply networking opportunities for awardees in their field; provide career advice to awardees regarding future academic pursuits; and be in regular communication with the awardee, via phone calls, e-mails, and in-person meetings at the annual PAS meeting.
9. Awardees are required to submit to the APA Board a progress report regarding the funded project nine months after the project start date and a final report upon completion of the project.

**\*Please Note – incomplete submissions and proposals that exceed page limits will not be forwarded to the review team.**

Only electronic submissions will be accepted. All required components must be submitted online at the following address:

<http://www.academicpeds.org/members/aetnayia/index.cfm>

Additional information and detailed instructions for each program are enclosed. Please read the instructions carefully prior to preparing your submission. Questions about this program can be directed to Allison Hartle at the APA central office by calling 703-556-9222 or e-mailing [allison@academicpeds.org](mailto:allison@academicpeds.org).

Sincerely,



Glenn Flores, MD  
Chair, APA Research Committee  
Chair, APA YIA Program