



Pediatric Dermatology Research Alliance

2024 Career Bridge Research Grant Request for Applications

Overview

Childhood skin diseases are associated with severe burden on patients, families, and health care providers. Despite this burden, effective treatments are sparse, the pace of research is slow, and board-certified pediatric dermatologists remain few-in-number. Furthermore, mid-career clinician scientists in the field often encounter challenges after receiving early career start up funds from their institution, traditional career development awards, or small pilot grants, which may contribute to stress, increased prioritization of clinic work over research, and high rates of burnout.

To better support the full career trajectory of clinician scientists in the field, the Pediatric Dermatology Research Alliance (PeDRA) is offering the **2024 Career Bridge Research Grant** to support one mid-career investigator in the conduct of an innovative research study in the field of pediatric dermatology. Applications may be submitted by a pediatric dermatologist between seven and fifteen years out of training for **\$80,000** to support salary and research activities for two years.

Goals

The Career Bridge Research Grant is driven by PeDRA's commitment to support both research and researchers in the field of pediatric dermatology. It is intended to provide protected research time and resources for a mid-career clinician scientist conducting high-impact research in the field. Ultimately, the Career Bridge Research Grant is expected to propagate the career of the recipient through the challenging mid-career phase and give them the potential to obtain larger-scale, longer-term funding from the NIH or other agencies.

Priority consideration will be given to mid-career investigators collaborating with senior mentors, projects that address high-priority patient-centered research questions, and projects that align with the focus of any of [PeDRA's Focused Study Groups](#). Additional priority will be given to applications that support PeDRA's commitment to advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion across all facets of its organization and pediatric dermatology research. Diversity and inclusion strengthen the PeDRA research network and are critical to the pursuit of its mission.

Application

Applications to the Career Bridge Research Grant must be written in 11pt Arial font or larger with at least one-half inch margins and submitted by email to research@pedraresearch.org as a single pdf (not to exceed 20MB) that includes the following:

1. Project Application (*fillable PDF available [here](#) and on PeDRA's website*)
 - To include proof of IRB or IACUC (or equivalent) approval if applicable.
2. Cover Letter (*1 page maximum*)
3. Career Development Plan (*2 page maximum*) – Should include a description of the applicant's career trajectory, a description of institutional, mentorship, and funding support for research, and a detailed explanation of how the Career Bridge Research Grant fits into plans for a long-term career as a clinician scientist with funding from NIH or similar.
4. Project Abstract (*250 word maximum*)
5. Layperson Summary (*150 word maximum*)
6. Diversity Statement (*150 word maximum*) – Should explain how the applicant and/or their research will contribute to equity, diversity, and inclusion within PeDRA and the Pediatric Dermatology community.
7. Project Proposal (*5 page maximum, not including references*) must include:
 - Specific Aims (*one page*)
 - Background and Rationale

- Project Description
 - Methods and study/experimental design
 - Primary and secondary outcome measures (*if applicable*)
 - Statistical analysis
 - Potential pitfalls
8. Budget (*2 page maximum*) – Provide a detailed budget and brief justification that includes an explanation of any actual or anticipated overlapping funds and plans for support beyond the award period (if applicable)
 9. Biosketches (*5 page maximum per biosketch*) – Provide NIH-style biosketch for the applicant.
 10. Letter(s) of support – Must include a letter from the chair of the department where the award project will be carried out. This letter should describe the department’s commitment to the applicant, environment, as well as any relevant departmental resources that will be provided (e.g., lab space, protected time, personnel). While not required, letters of support are recommended from key collaborators, mentors, and other key personnel in support of the applicant’s career and/or research.

Review

Applications will be reviewed by the PeDRA Grants Committee based on the following:

1. Strength of applicant and his/her/their commitment to advance the field
2. Strength of research proposal
 - a. Significance
 - b. Innovation and Impact
 - c. Clarity of proposal
3. Strength of budget
4. Strength of environment

Applicant Eligibility - *Must be met on or before July 1st, 2025*

- Must be a pediatric dermatologist residing in the United States, Canada, or Mexico.
- Must be a faculty member in a department/division of dermatology.
- Must be eligible to apply for grants under the guidelines of their host institution.
- Must be a current member of PeDRA with membership held at least one (1) year.
- Must hold the degree of MD; DO; MD, PhD; or equivalent.
- Must be a mid-career investigator, defined as being no less than seven (7) and no more than fifteen (15) years out of training. Special exceptions may be made for cases such as maternity leave or military service – please email us with any questions about eligibility.
- Must be able to provide evidence of IRB or IACUC (or equivalent) approval when relevant.

Award

This award provides **\$80,000 USD for two years (direct costs only)** to support research activities and up to 0.4 FTE of salary support for the applicant. Applicants may choose to use the total award amount over the period of either one or two years.

Important Dates

Application deadline:	11:59 PM PT, Thursday, September 19, 2024
Awards made:	no later than December 16, 2024
Earliest start date:	February 1, 2025

Questions

For additional information, please email research@pedraresearch.org.