



Request for Applications

2025 Emerging Investigator Research Grant

An opportunity for medical students and pediatric residents to conduct a short-term research project in the field of pediatric dermatology.

Overview

Childhood skin diseases are associated with a severe burden on patients, families, and healthcare providers. Despite this burden, effective treatments remain sparse, and the pace of research remains slow. To help overcome these challenges while developing the next generation of leaders in the field, the Pediatric Dermatology Research Alliance (PeDRA) is accepting applications for its **2025 Emerging Investigator Research Grant (EIRG)** program to support a short-term (12-week maximum) mentored research experience for medical students, pediatric residents, and recent graduates to conduct projects relevant to pediatric dermatology. The expectation is that awardees will complete EIRG projects during the summer (e.g., between MS1 and MS2) or another suitable time that is mutually agreed upon with a project mentor.

Goals

The EIRG program is driven by PeDRA's mission to create, inspire, and sustain research to prevent, treat, and cure childhood skin disease. Grants are intended to support a focused research experience that equips awardees with valuable skills and relationships, fosters interest in pediatric dermatology from a diverse cohort of applicants, and contributes meaningful research outcomes to the field of pediatric dermatology. PeDRA is interested in supporting a high percentage of 2025 EIRGs led by investigators from communities who are underrepresented in medicine (URiM).

Priority consideration will be given to projects that address high-priority patient-centered research questions and projects that align with the focus of any of [PeDRA's Focused Study Groups](#). While applications are strongly encouraged from any eligible applicant conducting any relevant research, additional priority will be given to applications that support PeDRA's commitment to advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) across all facets of its organization and pediatric dermatology research. This includes projects dedicated to EDI-relevant topics and mentors and mentees from populations who are URiM. Diversity and inclusion strengthen the PeDRA research network and are critical to the pursuit of its mission.

Application

Applications to the Emerging Investigator Research Grant program must be [submitted online](#) (<https://pedraresearch.org/eirg/>) and will include the following:

1. Fellow, Mentor, Institution, and Project Information
2. Abstract (250 word maximum)
3. Layperson's Summary (150 word maximum)
4. Diversity Statement (150 word maximum) – Should explain how the **trainee** and/or their research will contribute to equity, diversity, and inclusion within PeDRA and the Pediatric Dermatology community.
5. Cover Letter (2-page maximum) – to be written by the **trainee** and addressed to the PeDRA Grants Committee. The letter should introduce the research project, demonstrate the applicant's interest in pediatric dermatology research, and justify any potentially overlapping funds (if applicable).

6. Research proposal (*1-page maximum*) – summarize the proposed research project in the form of a one-page specific aims page as would be provided with an NIH grant application.
7. Timeline – describe the project duration (minimum of 4 weeks, maximum of 12 weeks) and anticipated milestones during the award period. *Note that priority will be given to projects that can feasibly be completed within the project timeline (as opposed to larger scale projects that are seeking partial support from an EIRG for a portion of a much longer overall timeline). Note also that the project timeline should begin at the planned start date of research work, not the date of contract signature.*
8. Budget – budget may be used to support an awardee stipend/salary, travel to conduct a project at the mentor’s institution, and limited supplies. Direct costs only. No salary support for the mentor allowed.
9. Letter of Endorsement (*3-page maximum*) – to be written by the **mentor** and addressed to the PeDRA Grants Committee. The letter should endorse the applicant, describe their project, and explain how both the applicant and project will be supported by the mentor and institution.
10. NIH-style biosketches (*5-page maximum*) from both the **trainee** and the **mentor**.

Review

Applications will be reviewed based on the strength of the applicant, mentor, project, and environment.

Eligibility

- Applicants must be actively enrolled as either medical students or pediatric residents in an accredited medical school or recent graduates and able to devote at least 50% of their effort to research during the award period.
- Mentors must be Active, Affiliate, or Emeritus Members of PeDRA in good standing. Applicants need not be PeDRA members at the time of application.
- Applicants are responsible for identifying and engaging their own mentor.
- Applicants may be concurrently enrolled in the PeDRA Mentorship Program.
- Applicants may not concurrently hold a Mentorship Grant from the Society for Pediatric Dermatology*, or Research Fellowship Grant from PeDRA.
- Mentors may not be listed on more than one application in the same cycle.
- Applicants who hold any concurrent research or mentorship support must provide an explanation of how they will manage potentially overlapping funds and/or programs in their cover letter.
- Research projects must be completed in the designated award period.
- Research projects must be carried out at an institution in the United States, Canada, or Mexico.

Award

Awards will be given to support projects for up to 12 weeks. Awardees will receive \$4,000 to support a mentored in-person research project or \$1,500 to support a mentored remote research project, plus \$1,000 in travel support to attend the 2025 or 2026 PeDRA Annual Conference, payable to the mentor or student institution. As many as ten grants may be awarded in 2025. The total number of awards will depend on available funds and the receipt of sufficiently meritorious applications.

* For mentorship opportunities focused on gaining clinical experience please visit: <https://pedsderm.net/grants-awards/mentorship-grant-awards/>

Important Dates

Application Deadline (11:59 PM PT)	Project Start Date (must fall between)
Thursday, April 17, 2025	June 15, 2025 – December 15, 2025
Friday, October 17, 2025	December 15, 2025 – June 15, 2026

Applicants will be notified of the review outcome within five weeks of each application deadline. The project period may begin at any time within the range of start dates and may end outside the date range.

Questions

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