

# **Dean's Diversity and Healthcare Disparity Research Awards**

## **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**THESE ARE LIMITED SUBMISSIONS: 2 - 4 awards per category**

**Applications due: January 2, 2020 at 11:59pm**

**[Click here to apply](#)**

### **Program Summary:**

Dean Augustine M.K. Choi is pleased to announce the third round of funding for the Dean's Diversity and Healthcare Disparity Research Awards. The awards will support excellence in research to improve the health of women and underrepresented minorities and/or to reduce health disparities in healthcare systems and in clinical settings, either locally or globally. Research into improving the diversity and gender balance of the biomedical workforce will also be supported, as lack of a representative workforce can be linked to health disparities.

The awards are designed to further Weill Cornell Medicine's goal of becoming a national leader in advancing diversity, inclusion, and gender equity within academic medicine. We seek proposals for basic, translational, clinical, informatics, or outcomes research that addresses health disparity areas including, but not limited to: race and ethnicity, gender and gender identity, socioeconomic status, access to healthcare, differing standards of healthcare, insurance status, age, geography, sexual orientation, and cultural beliefs.

The Dean's Diversity and Healthcare Disparity Research Awards will provide funding for one year and will be available at four levels:

- **Faculty (4 awards)** - \$50,000 each
- **Fellows and Postdoctoral Associates (2 awards)** - \$25,000 each
- **Residents (4 awards)** - \$10,000 each
- **Medical and Graduate Students (4 awards)** - \$5,000 each (to be used for Area of Concentration Scholarly Project or Graduate Research Project)

Awardees will be required to present their research projects **the year following their completion** during Weill Cornell Medicine's Diversity Week.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

- Applicants must be full-time faculty, fellows, postdoctoral associates, medical students, or graduate students at Weill Cornell Medicine, or full-time residents or fellows at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center.
- Medical and graduate student applicants must be mentored by a faculty member with a primary appointment at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center.
- Faculty applicants must be Instructors, Assistant Professors, and Associate Professors with a primary appointment at Weill Cornell Medicine.
- Applicants must be able to complete the proposed work within 1 year or before they leave NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center (whichever comes first).

- Applicants must have a well-developed feasible, significant, and innovative research plan focused on diversity, women's health, diseases that disproportionately affect diverse communities, or the reduction of health disparities.

### **Instructions for Submitting an Application**

Please provide the following items in the order listed as a single PDF file (single-spaced, 11-point Arial type with 1-inch margins). Applications should be submitted via an online portal ([click here](#)) using the naming convention "Lastname.Firstinitial\_DHDRA\_Category."

Example:

Smith.J\_DHDRA\_Faculty.pdf  
Smith.J\_DHDRA\_Fellow-Postdoc.pdf  
Smith.J\_DHDRA\_Resident.pdf  
Smith.J\_DHDRA\_Grad-MedStudent.pdf

#### **The Faculty award application package must include:**

1. Project title and scientific abstract (250 words)
2. Key co-investigators (names and titles)
3. NIH-style biosketch of the applicant and co-investigators (limit 4 pages each)
4. Research plan (limit 5 pages)
  - a. Background, rationale and significance
  - b. Specific research objectives/aims
  - c. Preliminary studies (if applicable)
  - d. Experimental design and procedures
- e. Significance of the proposed research to the Award's diversity and health disparity goals
- f. Project timeline and specific expected deliverables
5. Human subjects (if applicable). Include all sections required for an NIH application.
6. Vertebrate animals (if applicable). Include the 5-point narrative required for an NIH application.
7. References, including the full title of each work cited
8. Detailed budget (PHS 398 form)
9. Letter of support from department chair/division chief attesting to the candidate's eligibility, resources available for support of his/her research, the candidate's past academic record, scientific progress to date, and potential for academic career development

#### **The Resident/Fellow/Postdoctoral Associate award application package must include:**

1. Project title and scientific abstract (250 words)
2. Proposed research sponsor's name and title
3. NIH-style biosketches of the applicant and sponsor (limit 4 pages each)
4. Sponsor's training record (table indicating experience supervising trainees)
5. Sponsor's current grants
6. Items 4-8 as described in Faculty award application above
7. Letter of support from sponsor
8. Two letters of reference from previous mentors or other qualified individuals

**The Medical/Graduate Student award application package must include:**

1. NIH-style biosketch of the applicant
2. Research proposal (AOC proposal format: see Appendix)
3. Letter of support from proposed mentor(s) and brief mentoring plan
4. Letter of recommendation from two additional faculty
5. Detailed budget (PHS 398 form)

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**Review Process and Review Criteria:**

Proposals will be evaluated by a scientific review committee through the Office of the Research Dean. The main criteria for the review of the applications are:

- Scientific merit, including potential for publication and for subsequent extramural funding of the research project
- Relevance of the proposed work to the goals of the Dean's Diversity and Healthcare Disparity Research Awards
- Applicant's personal qualifications and potential for academic success
- The sponsor/mentor's experience and plans for supporting the applicant (for students/residents/fellows/postdoctoral associates)

Announcement of award recipients will be made in the late winter/early spring of 2020.

**Final Report**

Awardees must file a summary report one year after funds are dispersed.

**Questions:**

For further information, please contact Elizabeth Omondi ([elo2010@med.cornell.edu](mailto:elo2010@med.cornell.edu)) in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

## Appendix

### Areas of Concentration Scholarly Project Proposal Template

Important instructions: Fill out the form in Arial 11pt font without changing the existing margins (0.5").

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#### Student Information:

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

AOC(s): \_\_\_\_\_

#### Mentor Information:

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Degrees: \_\_\_\_\_  
Position Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Institution: \_\_\_\_\_  
Department/Institute/Center/Laboratory: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Co-mentor Information (if designated):

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Degrees: \_\_\_\_\_  
Position Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Institution: \_\_\_\_\_  
Department/Institute/Center/Laboratory: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

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#### Scholarly Project Information:

##### **Project Working Title:**

##### **Aims and Hypothesis:** (0.5 single-spaced page maximum)

(Concise statement of the problem to be addressed, hypothesis to be tested and expected goals.)

##### **Background and Significance:** (one single-spaced page maximum)

(Describe why the problem to be studied is scientifically/clinically important and how the project will extend knowledge. Innovation – what is new in terms of methodologies, instrumentation and/or concepts?)

##### **Experimental Approach:** (1.5 single-spaced page maximum combined with 'Specific role and involvement')

(Describe your approach, including experimental design, methodology and data analysis if pertinent. Also describe sample selection, inclusion/exclusion criteria, study variables, outcome measures, etc.)

##### **Specific role and involvement:** (1.5 single-spaced page maximum combined with 'Experimental Approach')

(Describe your specific role and involvement in the project)

##### **Proposed Dates and Timeline:** (0.5 single-spaced page maximum)

(Describe the phases of your project: and when they occur during the 6 mo.s of the SP blocked time. While describing, please use these phases: Set-up and planning, data generation/collection, data analysis and write up.)

##### **Does the project involve human subjects or materials derived from human subjects or vertebrate animals, if yes, does the project have an IRB/IACUC approval?**

The project involves human subjects or materials derived from human subjects

- The project has an IRB approval
- IRB application is in progress
- IRB application not initiated

- The project involves vertebrate animals
  - The project has an IACUC approval
  - IACUC application is in progress
  - IACUC application not initiated
- The project does not involve human subjects or materials derived from human subjects or vertebrate animals

**Bibliography:** *(one single-spaced page maximum)*  
*(Relevant citations)*

**Previous Experience Relevant to This Research/Project:** *(0.5 single-spaced page maximum)*  
*(Describe your previous research experience (if any) and explain how it relates to this research/project)*