



## WOMEN'S RESEARCH MENTORSHIP GRANT

### **PURPOSE:**

The Research Mentorship Grant is designed to both support and highlight a woman performing interventional radiology (IR) research and to expand the pipeline for medical students or residents to learn about IR research. SIR and SIR Foundation believe in promoting a culture of inclusion and strengthening the specialty of interventional radiology by providing opportunities for women to engage in all facets of healthcare research. This grant was developed collaboratively with the Women in IR Section.

### **AWARD:**

Grant funding up to \$25,000, of which \$5,000 is earmarked as a stipend for the medical student or resident.

### **NATURE OF PROJECTS:**

Research involving clinical, basic science, education, healthcare equity, device development and augmented intelligence topics or any area that will advance the specialty of interventional radiology is encouraged. Priority will be given to pilot studies that will lead to further federal funding.

### **ELIGIBILITY:**

Researchers are required to identify a medical student or trainee to apply jointly. Eligibility requirements differ for the researcher and the medical student or trainee.

**Faculty Researcher:** Applicants must be a current member of the Society of Interventional Radiology. Applicants must be trained interventional radiologists with an MD, DO or equivalent degree. Applicants will be accepted from citizens or permanent residents of the United States or Canada. Applicants must be willing to engage and support a student or trainee for the duration of the summer research project. This grant is intended for a researcher who demonstrates a commitment to supporting and furthering women in IR research.

**Student or Trainee Researcher:** Applicants must be a current member of the Society of Interventional Radiology. Student or Trainee applicants must be actively enrolled and in good standing at an allopathic or osteopathic medical school or ACGME accredited training program, respectively, and must be available to be on site for the duration of the summer research project. Student or Trainee applicants must be identified and recommended by the researcher. Applications will be accepted from citizens or permanent residents of the United States or Canada.

**At least one recipient must be a woman.**

Both the student/trainee and faculty researcher are highly encouraged to submit their work to the SIR Annual Scientific Meeting and apply for an SIR Foundation Award. For more information about these opportunities, please visit the [website](#).



## Grant FAQs

- Are multi-PI applications allowed?
  - Multi-PI applications are allowed. However, SIR Foundation's ability to approve a multi-PI grant will be dependent upon the applicants' institutional policy to execute a multi-PI agreement with SIR Foundation. A contact PI must also be established and identified at the time of application submission.
- Can applicants apply for more than one SIR Foundation grant?
  - Yes, applicants are able to apply for more than one grant, but not in one grant cycle. Previous SIR Foundation grant awardees are also eligible and encouraged for the Reviewer-in-training Program.
- I do not have an adviser or mentor, where can I find one?
  - If you are an SIR member, you access the Mentor Match Program where you can request a mentor that matches your specific interests in IR.
- Can those in a SIR or SIR Foundation leadership role apply for a grant?
  - The Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) Foundation is a scientific nonprofit organization that was created for the purposes of advancing scientific knowledge in the field of interventional radiology, increasing the number of skilled investigators, and developing innovative therapies that lead to improved patient care and quality of life. It is critical to SIR Foundation that those serving in appointed leadership positions avoid conflicts of interest. The decisions and actions of those in our leadership positions must be made solely for the benefit of SIR Foundation.
    - 1) SIR members currently serving in a leadership position in the SIR or SIR Foundation\*\* are not eligible to apply for or receive new grant/research funding from the SIR Foundation during the term of their tenure.
    - 2) A principal investigator (primary recipient or transfer recipient) of a SIR Foundation grant is not eligible to apply for or to receive further SIR Foundation funding until after the completion of the existing SIR Foundation funding. Completion includes submission of a Final Report to the SIR Foundation, and SIR Foundation signoff of that report.
    - \*\* defined as: Board of Directors, members of the Steering Council, Clinical Specialty Councilors, Chair/vice Chair of an SIR/SIR Foundation Committee, Division or Section.

## REQUIRED APPLICATION MATERIALS:

When uploading your grant application to our online forms, you must save your application with the naming convention below. Please include the names of both the faculty and student researcher.

- 2024\_APP\_Mentorship\_Mary Johnson and Sarah Brown

## Faculty Researcher Application Materials:

- Updated CV
- Cover letter



- Research and budget proposal
- Proof of US Citizenship/Permanent Resident Status

#### **Student researcher Application Materials:**

- Updated CV
- Cover letter
- Recommendation letter from IR faculty or program director other than the faculty researcher
- Personal statement including a description of how the applicant became interested in IR scientific research and an explanation what the applicant hopes for future in the specialty of Vascular and Interventional Radiology
- Proof of US Citizenship/Permanent Resident Status

#### **MENTORSHIP GRANT REVIEW PROCESS:**

The application period will open annually in April.

**Highly Recommended: Pre-Review applications are due by close of business day on September 20.**

**Final applications are due by close of business day on January 15.** The deadline remains whether or not the date falls on a weekend and/or holiday. Applications that are not completed or do not comply with the guidelines, will be withdrawn.

The Grant Review Study Section will review all proposals by **March 30**. Upon their review, the applicants' scores will be presented to the Women in IR Governing Council for selection of the final recipient(s).

#### **REPORTS:**

**A Final Progress Report (FPR) must be submitted within 60 days of the project's completion.** The report must be submitted electronically through the online forms found at <http://apply.sirfoundation.org/>. The Final Progress Report (FPR) should include the following, as applicable:

- A statement of the accomplishments/outcomes of this grant
- The current and future impact (e.g., success stories, statistics, benefits to patients, staff, and/or community)
- The use of this award to leverage other funding
- An account of any unexpended funds and/or major modifications of the budget
- The name, title and signature of both the faculty researcher and the student researcher.

When uploading your Final Progress Report (FPR) to our online forms, you must save your Final Progress Report using the naming convention below.

- 2024\_FPR\_Resesarch Mentorship Mary Johnson and Sarah Brown

The student researcher will also be required to present the findings to SIR Foundation representatives.



## **RESEARCH AND BUDGET PROPOSAL GUIDELINES:**

All the items detailed below must be included in the application before it will be considered. The format should follow the guidelines used for NIH applications and an example is posted on the [SIR Foundation website](#).

### **I. Title Page:**

- Title of research project
- Lay statement of the proposed research project and its relevance to interventional radiology
- Name, faculty position, and department of principal investigator, as well as other professional personnel collaborating in the research project
- Brief abstract (ten [10] to twenty [20] lines), with keywords underlined
- Beginning and termination dates of proposed expenditures
- Total funding requested
- Signatures of principal investigator and department chair or fellowship program director
- Contact information (name, address, phone, fax, email) for the grants office at the principal investigator's institution.

**II. Description of Research Plan:** The applicant must present his/her research logically and clearly and show that the proposed research is meaningful. (LIMIT—SIX (6) PAGES FOR SECTIONS A-D)

#### **A. Specific Aims:**

- State concisely the goals of the proposed research and summarize the expected outcome(s), including the impact that the results of the proposed research will exert on the research field(s) involved. List succinctly the specific objectives of the research proposed, e.g., to test a stated hypothesis, create a novel design, solve a specific problem, challenge an existing paradigm or clinical practice, address a critical barrier to progress in the field, or develop new technology. (0.5 pages)

#### **B. Research Strategy:**

- Organize the Research Strategy in the specified order and using the instructions provided below. Start each section with the appropriate section heading – Significance, Innovation, Approach. Cite published experimental details in the Research Strategy section and provide the full reference in the References Cited section
- Significance. Explain the importance of the problem or critical barrier to progress in interventional radiology. Explain how the proposed project will improve scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice in interventional radiology or other fields. Describe how the concepts, methods,

technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive interventional radiology will be changed if the proposed aims are achieved. (0.5 pages)

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- **Innovation.** Explain how the application challenges and seeks to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms. Describe any novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation or interventions to be developed or used, and any advantage over existing methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions. Explain any refinements, improvements, or new applications of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions. (0.5 pages)
- **Approach.** Describe the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses to be used to accomplish the specific aims of the project. Include how the data will be collected, analyzed, and interpreted. Discuss potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success anticipated to achieve the aims. If the project is in the early stages of development, describe any strategy to establish feasibility, and address the management of any high risk aspects of the proposed work. Point out any procedures, situations, or materials that may be hazardous to personnel and precautions to be exercised. (3-4 pages)

If an applicant has multiple Specific Aims, then the applicant may address Significance, Innovation and Approach for each Specific Aim individually, or may address Significance, Innovation and Approach for all of the Specific Aims collectively.

Preliminary studies are NOT required, but can help to establish the likelihood of success of the proposed project, which may influence the overall impact of the application. If applicable, include preliminary studies within the Research Strategy section, within one or more of the three sections listed above: Significance, Innovation, and Approach. If included, discuss the PI's preliminary studies, data, and or experience pertinent to this application.

**C. Human or Animal Subjects, Radioisotopes, and Biohazards:** Provide documentation that the institution has approved all proposed human, animal, radioisotope, and biohazard use

**D. Budget Proposal:** List budget items in the following main categories and give details and justification of the items in each category

- Consumable supplies including animal purchase costs
- Equipment: Identify each item, show unit cost, and explain why it cannot be borrowed
- Other expenses (only those service costs essential to the conduct or reporting of the research)
- Funds to support the salary of technicians, students, or support personnel working on the project may be requested, but they must be well justified
- Total budget.

**E. Other Support:** Describe all funding currently available to the applicant as well as any pending grant support, and describe the relationship these funds may have to the proposed research

## F. Literature Cited.

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## III. Supporting Materials:

- Resources: Describe the facilities available for conduct of the proposed research including lab space, equipment, computers, technical support, etc.
- Brief biographical sketch of all investigators, specifically following the NIH format (Not to exceed five pages for each investigator).
- A cover letter that indicates if the applicant is considering a larger project or research opportunity (i.e. potential NIH, NSF, ACS, AHA funding) and how the preliminary data from this project will support potential future funding from other larger funding agencies (i.e. government agencies such as the NIH or NSF, industry, or non-profit organizations).
- A letter from the Department Chair that:
  - Indicates approval of application
  - Comments on the merit of the project
  - Explains the extent to which the department is supporting the applicant's research in terms of funding, protected research time, technical support, and available facilities. It is important that the chair's letter indicate commitment to support the salary of the applicant during the research period.
- Letter(s) of confirmation from company(s) providing materials needed to complete the proposed research.