
Cord Blood Association Foundation Research Scholar Award

– to encourage clinical and laboratory research by young investigators in the field of cord blood and tissue therapies

A competitive, mentored grant of \$25,000, renewable for a second year



Purpose

The CBA Foundation Research Scholar Award promotes engagement in clinical or laboratory research by young investigators with a specific focus on research advancing the field of cord blood and cord tissue therapies. It is the intent of the CBA Foundation that this grant encourage young investigators to continue in clinical/laboratory research by providing necessary funds to generate preliminary data to support continued (larger) grant applications. As such, the grant may be used to provide either partial support of the investigator's salary and/or direct research costs.

The award will be presented at the *Cord Blood Connect* international congress Sept. 13-15 in Miami Beach, Florida. It is expected that the recipient be present at the congress for the presentation.

Eligibility

- The applicant must have completed at least two years of postdoctoral training or be a fellow in training. Full-time junior faculty (instructor, assistant professor, or equivalent) at an academic institution, or a scientist at a biotech company focused on cord blood/cord tissue product manufacturing, may also apply.
- The applicant must have an identified senior mentor for the applicant's research and career development.
- The applicant and/or the mentor must be a CBA member or have a membership application pending at the time of grant submission, or have a sponsor who is a CBA member.

Judging and Evaluation

- Applications will be evaluated for (a) scientific merit within the field of cord blood and cord tissue research and therapeutics, (b) significance and anticipated overall impact of the potential research findings, (c) innovation and originality of the proposed project, (d) institutional environment, and (e) mentoring record of the sponsor/mentor.
- Priority will be given to projects that are likely to advance the field of cord blood or birthing tissues in hematopoietic stem cell therapy or regenerative medicine.
- The review committee for the Research Scholar Award is the CBA Foundation Board of Directors, or an ad hoc committee appointed by the Foundation's president and approved by the Board of Directors.
- Projects that are fully funded by other sources are not eligible. Projects with significant scientific or budgetary overlap with other funded projects must provide justification for the additional funding support.

- An applicant may submit only one application per award cycle.
- The number of awards offered varies from year to year, depending on available funding.

Funding

- Each award will pay \$25,000 in direct costs, which may include up to 10 per cent indirect costs. The term of the award is one year, and can be renewed for a second year at \$25,000, contingent upon a satisfactory progress report.
- All funds must be used as proposed and are non-transferable. Unused funds must be returned to the Foundation.

Research Areas

- The research project may be in any of these areas:
 - Preclinical studies
 - Hematopoietic stem cell therapy
 - Novel cellular therapies and regenerative medicine
 - Perinatal tissue and mesenchymal stem cell therapies
 - Cord blood manufacturing and cell engineering

Mentor

- The recipient must have a sponsor who is willing to serve as a research mentor.

Reporting

- The recipient is expected to attend the *Cord Blood Connect* international congress where the grant will be announced and presented.
- The recipient must provide a progress report at the conclusion of the first year of the grant, and a final report at the end of the second year if the grant is renewed.
- The recipient is expected to submit an abstract for poster or oral presentation at the *Cord Blood Connect* international congress after each year of the award.
- The recipient must cite support from the Cord Blood Association Foundation in any publication (pre-print, peer-reviewed manuscript, poster, public talk, etc.) describing research that is supported by the award.

Application Process

The award application must include:

- Cover page – with project title, applicant information (name, title, department, address, phone number and e-mail) and mentor information (name, title, department, address, phone number and e-mail)
- Project narrative – a description of the proposed research project (maximum four pages, including references) that includes the following sections: (a) Introduction, (b) Specific aims, (c) Hypothesis, (d) Significance, (e) Innovation, and (f) Research plan/methods

- Timeline – with detail about how the project can be completed within a one- or two-year award period
- Budget
- Applicant’s curriculum vitae – preferably an OMB No. 0925-0001 NIH biosketch including a list of all active and pending grants and fellowships
- Applicant letter (maximum 1 page) discussing the applicant’s background, training and how the proposed project will advance the applicant’s career
- Mentor letter of recommendation on institutional letterhead – including a statement of why the project should be funded and how the mentor will support the applicant and the project
- Mentor’s NIH biosketch
- Certificate for protection of human subjects, precautions involving biohazards, and care and treatment of laboratory animals – if applicable

Submissions

Award applications can be submitted by mail or e-mail attachment, and should arrive by July 1.

Research Scholar Award
 CBA Foundation
 211 Garfield Street
 Geneva, IL 60134-2313
 ScholarAward@cb-association.org

Timing

Key dates and deadlines for the 2019 award are:

Application Deadline	July 1, 2019
Awardee Notification	August 15, 2019
Award Presentation	September 13-15, 2019 *
Award Activation	October 1, 2019
Year-One Progress Report	October 1, 2020
Final Report	October 1, 2021

Recipients are expected to submit abstracts for poster or oral presentation to the *Cord Blood Connect* international congress in 2020 and 2021.

* Applicants should keep these dates open and, if the award is granted, plan to be present.