



**NASPGHAN Foundation/Alcresta Research Award for the Study of Pediatric Pancreatic Disease and Malabsorption for Fellows and Junior Faculty**  
**Submission Deadline: July 1, 2023**

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*The award is expected to begin on December 1, 2023; however, alternate start dates will be considered to accommodate non-traditional academic schedules.*

This award will provide \$75,000 for one year to a fellow or junior faculty member for meritorious research focused on pancreatic disease or malabsorption in children. Relevant conditions and areas of interest include but are not limited to: acute or chronic pancreatitis; exocrine pancreatic insufficiency; pancreatic-related fat malabsorption; quality improvement of patient outcomes in areas related to pediatric pancreatic disease or malabsorption; pancreatic acinar cell disorders; short bowel syndrome and intestinal failure associated with malabsorption.

**ELIGIBILITY**

- The applicant must hold an MD, DO, PhD, MD/PhD, or equivalent degree.
- The applicant must be a member in good standing of the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition for at least six months at the time of the application.
- The applicant must be a current pediatric gastroenterology fellow in training or hold a full-time faculty position below the rank of Associate Professor and should have finished fellowship or post-doctoral training < 6 years before the award start date.
- The applicant may not hold funding from any granting agency for a project that has an overlapping scientific objective at the time of the award is made or during the one-year period of the award.
- Applications in either the clinical, translational, laboratory, or quality improvement sciences are eligible.
- Inclusion of co-investigators or collaborators in other scientific disciplines, including registered dietitians, is encouraged.

**GRANT TERM AND STIPULATIONS**

- An award of \$75,000 for one year will be made.
- Institutional indirect costs are *not* permitted.
- All publications resulting from work supported by the NASPGHAN Foundation must acknowledge support by the relevant funding mechanism.
- A complete financial statement and scientific progress report are required at the conclusion of the grant award.
- The awardee must attend the 2023 NASPGHAN Annual Meeting to accept the award. The awardee also agrees to present their work at a future NASPGHAN Annual Meeting at the conclusion of the grant.
- If during the period of the award, an independent NIH (R01, P01, or similar), K-series or equivalent grant or a CIHR Operating grant is awarded, Foundation monies may be retained but only after

official notification to the Foundation and provision of a plan to address any potential scientific overlap. In cases of significant overlap, the Foundation may require the funds (or a portion thereof) to be relinquished.

## **Review Procedures**

The NASPGHAN Research Committee and invited experts in the field will review the applications and score proposals using the National Institutes of Health scoring system. This scoring system uses a 9-point scale for the overall impact score and individual scores for (at least) five scored criteria (significance, innovation, approach, investigators, and environment).

Reviewers will take into account:

- Potential of the proposed research project to make a significant impact on the care of children with pancreatic disease and malabsorption. Applications from a broad range of scientific inquiry are encouraged.
- Scholarly excellence of the applicant as defined by publications and previous research funding.
- Potential for the award to have a notable impact on ongoing and future career success.

Members of the review panel will follow strict conflict of interest guidelines. Contact between the applicant or sponsors with committee members regarding applications is strictly prohibited and will lead to potential disqualification.



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**APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

**FAILURE TO ADHERE STRICTLY TO THESE GUIDELINES COULD RESULT IN THE DISQUALIFICATION OF YOUR APPLICATION**

Completed applications must include the following.

1. NIH biographical sketch in NIH format of the principal investigator and if applicable, other key personnel. Fellow applicants should also include the NIH Biosketch for their primary mentor. Faculty applicants may choose (optional) to include the NIH Biosketch of their primary mentor. NIH biosketch format and instructions (non-fellowship) are posted at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>. The biosketches should also list specific aims of all active research funding to permit an assessment of scientific overlap with existing extramural funding.

2. The research plan structured according to the NIH format as outlined below with 1/2-inch margins. Times New Roman or Arial font no less than 11 point are required. Page limitations and style requirements are strictly enforced. (No application more than SIX single-spaced pages will be reviewed. References are not included in this maximum page count).

- Scientific Abstract (one page) suitable for use in the public domain should succinctly describe the scope of the proposed research, the study hypothesis, its scientific objectives, and the potential for innovation. Relevance of the proposed research to pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition should be emphasized. The names and institutional affiliations of the principal investigator and all co- investigators should be tabulated at the end of this page.
- Specific aims (one page)
  - Explain the rationale for the study, overall hypothesis, aims, and significance if successful.
- Research Strategy (4 pages) including Significance, Innovation, and Approach
  - (a) *Significance*
    - \* Explain the importance of the problem or critical barrier to progress in the field that the proposed project addresses.
    - \* Explain how the proposed project will improve scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice in one or more broad fields.
    - \* Describe how the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field will be changed if the proposed aims are achieved.
  - (b) *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.

(c) *Approach*

- \* Provide preliminary data (preferred but not required) that supports the premise for the work.
- \* 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 including statistical plan, and interpreted as well as any resource sharing plans as appropriate.
- \* Discuss potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success anticipated to achieve the aims.
- \* Provide expected results, potential problems, alternative strategies, feasibility, timeline, and benchmarks for success anticipated to achieve the aims. A power calculation is encouraged where relevant to underscore feasibility.
- \* 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. For studies involving human subjects, explain whether there is an IRB-approved protocol, and for studies involving animal, explain whether an animal protocol is approved.

*Environment (can be addressed in Research Strategy or personal statement of biosketch)*

- \* Will the scientific environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success?
- \* Are the institutional support, equipment, and other physical resources available to the investigators adequate for the project proposed?
- \* Will the project benefit from unique features of the scientific environment, subject populations, or collaborative arrangements?

- References (Not counted towards page limit)

3. A detailed budget, accompanied by an NIH style budget justification. Salary, equipment, supplies and costs may be budgeted. In accordance with National Institutes of Health (NIH) policy, salary requests may not use an institutional base salary in excess of the current federal salary cap at the time of submission ([https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/salcap\\_summary.htm](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/salcap_summary.htm)). Fringe benefits may be requested if they are treated consistently by the applicant institution as a direct cost to all funding agencies and foundations. *Indirect costs are not allowed.*

4. Letter(s) of support: The application should include a letter of support from the Division Chief attesting that the applicant will have the necessary protected time and resources to carry out the proposed research project. For applicants currently in their 3<sup>rd</sup> year of fellowship or advanced fellowship training, the letter of support must be from the Division Chief of their upcoming faculty position institution and state that the applicant will be offered a faculty position (Instructor or Assistant Professor) beginning on July 1, 2023. In addition, for fellow applicants, a letter of support from the primary mentor must be included attesting that the applicant will have the necessary scientific guidance and resources to successfully carry out

the proposed research project. A support letter from the scientific mentor is optional for faculty applicants.

5. No more than three peer-reviewed manuscripts that are published or accepted for publication are permitted as appendices. Evidence for acceptance such as galley proofs or a letter from the journal editor, of *in press* manuscripts is required.