Family Friendly Postdoctoral Initiative (FFPI)

Request for Applications

Description of the Program: Dean Laurie Glimcher has established a program to provide technical support to outstanding postdoctoral trainees (postdoctoral associates, fellows, or visiting fellows) who are primary caregivers for an infant or child. For purposes of this program, “primary caregiver” is defined as that person who personally provides the greatest number of hours of care and/or supervision for a child in a 24-hour period. An “infant or child” is defined as a child that requires ongoing care or supervision throughout the day. This program is for care of an infant or child only and does not cover postdocs caring for other family members (eg. spouse, domestic partner, parent, etc). The goal will be to provide approximately 10 non-renewable grants of $50,000 per year for one or two years to postdoctoral researchers working in labs that do not have resources to provide such assistance. Awards will be made based on the postdoc’s past record of achievement and future promise. Postdocs must have completed one year of research in the laboratory, must have made acceptable progress as determined by the PI, and must have the ability to supervise a technician. Funding for year 2 will be contingent upon successful scientific progress in year 1.

How to Apply:
Please provide the following items as a single pdf file (11 point Ariel font, 1-inch margins) in the order indicated, and send to Pearl Arnold-Sukhram at paa2008@med.cornell.edu.

[1] Scientific Abstract (250 words)
[2] Scientific description of the project with specific aims, details of individual duties of postdoc and technician, and benchmarks of success (3-pages);
[3] Statement of applicant's career goals (1 page)
[4] Justification of how child care duties have impacted the postdoc’s ability to maintain the pace of research progress (1 paragraph)
[5] Applicant's NIH-style biosketch
[6] Signed statement from postdoc’s PI and department chair or institute/center director attesting to postdoc’s eligibility, whether other technical support is available to the postdoc, the postdoc’s past academic record, scientific progress in the lab to date, and potential for a research career, and the postdoc’s ability to supervise a technician
[7] A budget for first 12 months (PHS 398 form)

Deadline:
Complete applications are due quarterly on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1, 2015, and will be reviewed within 4 weeks of the submission deadline.

Review Process and Review Criteria:
Applications will be evaluated by a faculty-based FFPI Review Committee that will consider the candidate’s eligibility, justification of need, past record of achievement, scientific merit, and supervisory capability.

Progress Report:
Successful candidates will be required to submit a progress report within 2 months of completion of year 1. The report, not to exceed 3 pages, should describe progress toward achieving the stated aims. It should list any work products (abstracts, papers, oral or poster presentations, awards, grants, etc) and indicate the extent to which these were enabled by FFPI support. A mentor’s statement of progress (1 paragraph) will also be required. Plans for year 2 should be included in the report. Funding in Year 2 will be contingent upon timely submission and approval of the Progress Report.

Questions:
For inquiries, please contact Katherine A. Hajjar, MD, Associate Dean for Research at khajjar@med.cornell.edu.