



## UHI ENDOWMENT PROGRAM EMERGING SCIENTIST AWARD RELEASE



**DATE: April 9, 2021**

### **Overview:**

**A principal strategic goal of the Urban Health Institute (UHI) Endowment Program is to significantly increase competitiveness for mainstream NIH funding in minority health and health disparities research projects, particularly for diseases that disproportionately affect ethnic groups in the South Central Los Angeles area. To this end, the Emerging Scientist Award serves to successfully transition junior faculty to independently funded investigators.**

### **Key Dates:**

LETTER OF INTENT DUE DATE: April 30, 2021 at 5:00pm PT  
APPLICATION DUE DATE: May 21, 2021 at 5:00pm PT  
SCIENTIFIC REVIEW PERIOD: May 28, 2021 - June 18, 2021 PT  
EARLIEST ANTICIPATED AWARD DATE: June 30, 2021 PT

### **PURPOSE OF THE RFA**

This Request For Application (RFA) is intended to enhance the retention of individuals currently underrepresented in the biomedical, clinical, behavioral, social sciences and community health sciences by providing partial support (two-year period) for the development and transition of Junior Faculty from career development grant support to independent investigator-initiated research grant support.

### **APPLICATION**

**Eligibility:** Any *junior faculty member* of CDU (assistant professor) is invited to submit an application. CDU Faculty Members who are current and former recipients of a career development program (e.g., NIMHD Loan repayment, NIMHD Disparities Center, RCMI, CTSI, K), an S11 award, HRSA award or CDC award are encouraged to apply. Applicants must not currently hold an R-series or RPG award or have never been a Principal Investigator in a funded R-series NIH grant. Those with R01-equivalent awards from the National Science Foundation, Department of Defense and national societies and foundations, such as the American Heart Association, are also ineligible, as are postdoctoral fellows and graduate students. An applicant may submit only one application.

**Letter of Intent:** A Letter of Intent is mandatory, but is not binding. All applicants must use the Letter of Intent Template (Attached in email) and submit via email to sanaabbasi1@cdrewu.edu.

**Submission Process:** All applicants must submit the UHI Endowment Program Emerging Scientist Award application online through MS forms. Click here to access the application. Applicants must also upload the following:

1. Letter of Support
2. NIH Biosketch (Template Provided)
3. Budget and Justification (Template Provided)
4. Mentoring Plan

Incomplete applications or those submitted after the deadline will not be reviewed. Incomplete applications include those from ineligible faculty and applications deviating from the guidelines.



Letter of Support and Mentoring Plan: Applicants must attach a letter of support from a senior faculty member who will serve as a mentor to the applicant. The mentor must be a faculty member (internal or external to CDU) who is an experienced, externally-funded principal investigator. The mentor's letter should describe his or her plan for providing guidance and project oversight. The defined participation of a mentor follows a number of external funding models, and is designed to help promote the applicant's success and positive professional development.

Funds Available: The UHI Endowment Program intends to commit \$105,000 to fund four (4) awards at \$26,250 per award for up to two years. Support through the Emerging Scientist Award Fund must be primarily used for salary (at least 80% of total award must be allocated towards applicant's salary). Travel or other research infrastructure needs proposed to enhance faculty research and development will be approved on a case-by-case basis. Consistent with the NIMHD Endowment Program guidelines, direct funding for the conduct of research is not allowed.

## **REVIEW AND FUNDING PRIORITIES**

Applications will be reviewed and scored (using a 5 point scale) by the UHI Program Management Team, Internal and External Advisory Boards and other external faculty with subject-matter expertise. In all cases, individuals with conflicts of interest will not be assigned as reviewers. Funding decisions will be based on priority scores with awards being given preferentially to faculty members who are in the career-academic track and demonstrate urgency of need, research potential, high scientific productivity during the prior three years, and likelihood that support will be leveraged into a fundable R-series (or similar) submission. Continuation of support to faculty who were awarded in a previous funding cycle will depend on their scientific productivity and progress.

Post-Award Requirements. Each recipient of support from the UHI Endowment Program Emerging Scientist Award will be required to submit quarterly reports and a written summary of research progress to be included in the annual NIH progress report. Each recipient must participate in at least 6 professional development workshops per year. Publications arising from support through the UHI Endowment Program Emerging Scientist Award must conform to the NIH Public Access Policy. This Policy, which ensures that the public has access to the published results of NIH-funded research, requires scientists to submit final peer-reviewed journal manuscripts that arise from NIH funds to the digital archive PubMed Central *upon acceptance for publication*. To help advance science and improve human health, the Policy requires that these papers are accessible to the public on PubMed Central no later than 12 months after publication (<http://publicaccess.nih.gov>). UHI Emerging Scientist Award recipients must cite award #S21- MD000103 on all research published and presented.

## **INQUIRIES**

We encourage inquiries concerning this RFA. Should you have any questions, please contact:

Keosha Partlow, PhD, MPH  
Director, Urban Health Institute Program  
Email: [keoshapartlow@cdrewu.edu](mailto:keoshapartlow@cdrewu.edu)