

The Bockus International Society of Gastroenterology

Research Award 2022

Description

The Bockus International Society of Gastroenterology (“Bockus Society”) is offering a Clinical Research Award of up to \$10,000 for original research in clinical gastroenterology. At least one of the investigators must be a Bockus Society member in good standing at the time of submission of the grant proposal. Trainee physicians (interns, residents, fellows) are eligible to apply provided that the work is conducted under the preceptorship of a more senior and experienced investigator who is also a Bockus Society member. This award is targeted to junior to mid-career applicants who are within 15 years of completion of their GI fellowship training. Awardees will be selected based on feasibility, scientific and clinical significance, originality and potential of the research to benefit clinical outcomes and clinical practice. In addition, applications will be evaluated based on the availability of adequate resources, including personnel and facilities.

Objective

The primary objective of The Bockus International Society of Gastroenterology Research Award is to fund innovative clinical research that has the potential to improve patient care. For the purposes of this award, clinical research is defined as: (1) Human subjects’ research, (2) Research on new diagnostic and therapeutic interventions, and/or (3) Research on tissues and specimens derived from human subjects. In general, animal studies will not be considered unless the work cannot be done in humans.

Eligibility

At least one of the investigators **must be a Bockus Society member in good standing at the time of submission and throughout** the grant proposal. Trainee physicians (interns, residents, fellows) are eligible to apply provided that the work is conducted under the preceptorship of a more senior and experienced investigator who is also a Bockus Society member. This award is targeted to junior to mid-career applicants who are within 15 years of completion of their GI fellowship training.

Successful applicants must agree to:

- Acknowledge support from *The Bockus International Society of Gastroenterology* in any publications that result from the research;
- Submit a final report to the Chair of the Bockus Society Research Committee within 18 months of receipt of funding;
- Present their findings at our annual DDW lunch meeting.

Selection Criteria

The Bockus Society Research Committee will use the following selection criteria to determine ranking of the grant applicants: Scientific and clinical significance (25%), feasibility (including availability of adequate resources, personnel and facilities) (25%), and methods (50%). The methods component is comprised of preliminary data, if available but not essential (25%), the study design (50%), and power, sample size and statistical analysis (25%).

Review Process

The Bockus Society Research Committee will review grant proposals, using the aforementioned standardized selection criteria. To be a member of the review committee, you must be a member in good standing and have a tract record of scholarship and funding. Members of the review committee who apply for or are part of an application will need to recuse themselves from reviewing all proposals for that cycle. Applications reviewed for each grant cycle will be prioritized by the committee and presented to the Governing Board (President, President Elect, Secretary-General, and Treasurer) for selection. Awardees will then be notified to acknowledge acceptance, that they did not receive funding from another source since submission, agree to the eligibility criteria above, and provide contact information for the institution to receive the funds. Funds can then be released to the awardees institution.

Deadline

Grant applications should be submitted to: Bockus Society Research Committee, at richard.sterling@vcuhealth.org by the **DEADLINE: October 15**. Applicants will be notified by March 30. The award period will begin July 1, 2022.

Application Overview

Applicants are required to submit a single Adobe PDF document comprising the complete grant submission along with a biosketch (NIH format). This includes all required sections of the grant, in the order listed below. Format all pages with 1" margins and a font no smaller than 11 point. Type your name (last name, first name) and the name of the award in the upper right hand corner of each page, and the page number in the upper left hand corner of each page.

FAILURE TO ADHERE TO THESE INSTRUCTIONS WILL CAUSE THE GRANT APPLICATION TO BE RETURNED UNREVIEWED.

- o **Membership** — You will be required to state the name of the Bockus Society member.
- o **Investigators** — List the Principal Investigator and all Co-Investigators.

- o If a trainee is listed as the Principal Investigator, indicate the name of the Responsible Investigator. The Responsible Investigator must be a Bockus Society member in good standing who agrees to serve as the trainee's preceptor and to be responsible for scientific and administrative oversight of the entire research study.
- o **Abstract** — Submit an abstract of no more than 350 words. The abstract should summarize the proposed research study.
- o **Institutional Review Board (IRB) status** — Include the IRB approval letter in the application. If IRB approval is pending at the time of submission and the grant proposal is subsequently approved for funding, funds will not be released until the full IRB approval letter is received by the Bockus Society.
- o **Conflict or potential conflicts of interest** — Any conflict or potential conflicts of interest must be fully disclosed in the initial grant application. If the applicant is uncertain as to whether a conflict or potential conflict of interest exists, it should still be fully disclosed in the initial grant application, and the Research Committee will make the final determination.

Application Components

RESEARCH PROPOSAL — Limit to 5 pages (excluding cover page, abstract, references and budget).

- o **Cover page:** Title of project, Bockus member who is sponsoring the proposal, list of investigators and respective institutions.
- o **Abstract:** no more than 350 words. The abstract should summarize the proposed research study.
- o **Specific Aims** — Provide clear description of the study objectives, including: What is the hypothesis to be addressed? What are the primary and secondary outcomes to be measured?
- o **Background/Significance** — State how the proposed study will improve the extent of our current knowledge in the field.
- o **Pilot Data/Previous Work** — If available, but is not essential.
- o **Research Plan** — Provide full details of the research plan, including the inclusion/exclusion criteria for enrollment, methods to be used, the types of data to be collected, and the method for analysis of results, including statistical analysis. It is important to provide sample size estimates, where applicable.
- o **References** — Provide a separate section for key references (not included in page limit).
- o **Budget & Justification** — Provide a separate section for the budget (not included in page limit). This should include a budget table that lists each expense for the grant period, followed by a budget justification, a written explanation of each expense and how it relates to the project. **Justify each budget item.** Note that salary support for the Principal Investigator and Co-Investigators is not permitted. Salary support will be provided for other personnel (research nurse, computer programmer, etc.) if adequately justified. Support will be provided for supplies and equipment. In general, major

equipment acquisitions are not supported. Travel and manuscript preparation costs are not supported. Indirect costs (i.e., university overhead) are not provided.

- B. **OTHER SUPPORT** — For each investigator, indicate whether any scientific or budgetary overlap exists in other grants, and if so, indicate how this will be addressed.
- C. **IRB APPROVAL LETTER** — Funds will not be released unless the full IRB approval letter for the study is received by the Bockus Society.
- D. **CURRICULUM VITAE** — Provide for each investigator. **Use NIH format biosketch and adhere to the NIH 5-page limit.**
- E. **SUPPORTING LETTERS** — Provide letters from any collaborators. If a trainee serves as the Principal Investigator, a supporting letter from the individual's program director is required.
- F. **APPENDICES** — Use (if needed) for data collection forms. Do *not* use to expand Research Proposal.

**Applications must be submitted to the Bockus Society Research Committee
DEADLINE: October 15**

Research Committee:

Dr. Richard Wong (Chair)

Dr. John Vargo

Dr. Colm O'Morain

Dr. Petar Mamula

Dr. Frank Gress