

SIU School of Medicine Clinician-Scientist Program

December 13, 2010

1. The Clinician Scientist Program (CSP) is an approach to facilitating the involvement of clinical faculty in research at SIUSM. The objective of the CSP is to identify and support the development of outstanding clinician scientists who have significant potential for eventually obtaining national external funding for research.
2. CSP awards will be made in conjunction with the annual EAM and CRC funding programs using the same application procedure and general guidelines current for those programs, with the exception of eligibility requirements (see below). A special application is not required. Eligible applicants will be identified based on the criteria delineated below and will be automatically considered for the CSP award if the proposal is sufficiently meritorious.
3. CSP eligibility requirements:
 - a. Eligible faculty member must hold a paid position at SIUSM for at least 51% effort.
 - b. Eligible faculty members must hold the rank of Assistant Professor or higher (instructors are not eligible); tenured, tenure-track and non-tenure track faculty are all eligible.
 - c. Eligible faculty members must have a clinical doctoral degree or its equivalent (e.g., M.D., D.O, etc.) and maintain an active clinical practice at SIUSM.
 - d. Faculty members who have held or currently hold an NIH grant or other equivalent federal funding (e.g., DOD, NSF) at SIUSM are not eligible. Those who have held such funding at other (previous) institutions are eligible.
 - e. All types of investigator-initiated research (e.g., bench science, patient oriented, educational, comparative effectiveness) are eligible.
 - f. Questions regarding eligibility can be addressed to the ADRFA.
4. Among the applications submitted in response to the EAM and CRC calls for proposals, one EAM award (\$50,000) and two CRC awards (\$15,000 each) annually will be identified as CSP awards and will be paid using ADRFA funds designated for that purpose.
5. Proposals will be reviewed using criteria in place for that award cycle (i.e., CRC or EAM). Evaluation of both the proposal and the applicant will emphasize assessing the likelihood that the award will be used to establish an externally funded research program. For the EAM cycle, the focus will be on the potential of the applicant and the proposal to eventually produce a competitive NIH application.
6. CSP awards will not be made in any given cycle if none of the proposals are adequately meritorious as compared with other applications reviewed in that cycle. This will be determined by the ADRFA with the advisement of the Allocation Committee, based on the grant score relative to the distribution of scores for other applications evaluated during that cycle.
7. In the event that not all CSP funds are awarded in a given review cycle, those funds will be retained for the next appropriate cycle. For example, if an EAM- or CRC-based CSP is not awarded in a given year, an additional award will be available in the following year.
8. A given faculty member may receive only two CSP awards as PI during their employment at SIUSM. When applying for a second CSP award, faculty members who have had a previous CSP award should provide a 1-page introduction to the application that explains progress made using the previous CSP award. The first and second CSP awards need not occur in sequential years.

9. Pre-review of applications

- a. CSP-eligible faculty members have the option of requesting preliminary review of proposals. Reviewer comments will be returned to the applicants prior to the submission deadline for funding consideration, but the preliminary applications will not be scored. The preliminary proposal can then be revised accordingly and re-submitted for the funding round of review.
- b. The pre-review option is currently available for CRC applications from all clinical faculty applicants, but will also be made available on request to EAM-cycle applicants who qualify for the CSP.
- c. The due date for preliminary review will be announced with the call for proposals and will be approximately 6 weeks prior to the final submission deadline.
- d. If the pre-review option is used, the final application should include a 1-page introduction explaining how the comments raised in the preliminary critique were addressed. The initial critique will be made available to reviewers during the review for funding.
- e. Attempts will be made to assign the same reviewers for both the preliminary and the final review, but this cannot be guaranteed.