

Hope for Vision New Investigator Grant Guidelines

Hope for Vision supports research aimed at furthering our understanding of and developing treatments for retinal degenerative diseases including retinitis pigmentosa, Usher syndrome, Stargardt's disease and macular degeneration. The New Investigator Award is meant for scientists in the early phase of their career who have an interest in studying the diseases listed above. The goal of this award is to provide substantial funding over a two-year period, which will allow the new investigator to become established in the field and pursue grant support from the National Institutes of Health.

New Investigator Awards are awarded every two years, generally for a period of two years. The New Investigator Award ranges from \$75,000 to \$150,000, per year and the grant amount is based on the current or potential value of the research to the field of retinal degeneration. The grant is generally non-renewable after the two-year period.

Application Eligibility

In order to be eligible to apply for a Hope for Vision New Investigator Award, a researcher must:

- Hold a Doctor of Medicine (MD), Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), Doctor of Science (DSc), or other equivalent degree relevant to their research (DVM, etc.)
- Be a member of a research team at an appropriate medical, educational, or research institution
- Not currently have significant NIH funding (i.e. an RO1)
- Be within 5 years of achieving latest degree (PhD, etc; 7 years for combined M.D./Ph.D.)

Application and review process

Please provide the following by October 15, 2009

- Hope for Vision grant application (form provided)
- Curriculum Vitae
- Lay Abstract (form provided)

All materials should be emailed to: grants@hopeforvision.org.

We will not accept applications received by postal mail.

Once your materials are received, they will be reviewed by Hope for Vision's Board of Visionary Scientists. Candidates of interest will be contacted and asked to provide a more detailed description of the work to be completed. Final selection of awardees is determined through a joint effort by the Board of Visionary Scientists and the Board of Directors.

Recipients will be notified in late December or early January.

Award restrictions and reporting requirements:

Restrictions:

- Funds must be employed by the award recipient's laboratory to perform retinal degenerative disease research.
- Funds cannot be subjected to any fee by the hosting university or organization. This limitation includes, but is not limited to, overhead fees, administrative charges, and general operating expenses.
- Funds must be provided to the recipient in addition to, and not as a substitute to, monies otherwise allocated, or plan to be allocated, by the University, or affiliated entities.

Reporting Requirements:

Grantees are required to provide the following:

Lay Abstract

Within 3 weeks of receipt of award, grantee is required to provide Hope for Vision with an abstract in layman's terms of the work to be accomplished with HFV funds for the Hope for Vision website. The abstract submitted with the application may be used.

Progress updates for the HFV Website

Hope for Vision will establish a dedicated page on the website for all grantees to share their progress and perspectives. Grantees are encouraged to provide this information quarterly or as often as possible. If you wish to share any information, please email nicole@hopeforvision.org.

Annual report

A summary of the progress of the research and accomplishments during the period of the HFV grant including: the specific aims of the research and what progress has been made toward achieving them. Please use the attached form. The report is due within 30 days of the end of the grant period.

Making research publications freely available to the public

All researchers who receive a Hope for Vision grant will be required to deposit any resulting peer-reviewed research papers in the PubMed Central online archive, which will make the articles available to the public within 12 months of journal publication.