New Investigator Award 2017 Application

Submission Deadline:
- Print copies (5) - postmarked on or before Wednesday, September 2014, 2016
- PDF electronically sent to ASBMT Office on or before Wednesday, September 14, 2016

Purpose
- The ASBMT New Investigator Awards are designed to encourage clinical or laboratory research by young investigators in the field of blood and marrow transplantation. The award, usually ~$30,000 per year for two years, is intended primarily to provide partial support of the investigator’s salary in order to offset some of that burden from the mentor. Alternatively, the award may of course be used for direct support of research costs.

Eligibility
- By the award start date of July 1, 2017, the applicant must have completed at least two years of postdoctoral training. For applicants who are full-time junior faculty (Instructor, Asst Professor, or equivalent) at an academic institution, that appointment or promotion must have occurred on or after July 1, 2014 (i.e., no more than three years before the award start date of July 1, 2017).
- Applicants may submit only one application per cycle.
- Applicants are encouraged, but not required, to be an ASBMT member. An applicant must have a sponsor who is an ASBMT member. The sponsor serves as a mentor for the applicant’s research and career development.

Submission
- Applicants are required to submit this New Investigator Award application, a curriculum vitae that adheres to the current NIH biographical sketch format, a list of Other Support that also adheres to the NIH format, a letter of recommendation from the sponsor/mentor (maximum two pages), and a description of the proposed research that must not exceed 5 pages, including legible tables, figures, and legends. Beginning with the 2016 submissions for 2017 awards, we have increased the page limit from 4 to 5. This is to improve readability for the reviewers, and not necessarily to encourage applicants to squeeze more text and data into the allowable space. NOTE: A reference list, adhering to NIH Guidelines, is required. Please include ALL authors. (The Reference list is NOT INCLUDED in the 5 page limit).

Judging and Evaluation Criteria
- The review committee is chaired by a member of ASBMT, appointed by the ASBMT President with Board approval. The Chair then appoints review committee members from the Board itself as well as ad hoc outside the Board, with approval of the ASBMT President, but based on the expertise required to review the topics covered by the submitted applications.
• New Investigator Award applications will be evaluated for (a) scientific merit within the field of blood and marrow transplantation, (b) significance and anticipated overall impact of the potential findings, (c) institutional environment, (d) the mentoring record of the sponsor/mentor, and (e) the potential contribution of the proposed research to the field of blood and marrow transplantation. As these are “new” investigator awards, less emphasis is placed on preliminary data.

• Applicants with other significant new investigator funding from peer-reviewed and/or extramural sources, including funding for projects with different scopes and aims, may be viewed as less competitive by the review committee. Institutional startup funds for junior faculty need not be disclosed, as these are neither peer-reviewed nor extramural.

• The number of award(s) that can be made varies from year to year, depending on available funding from sponsors. Typically, ASBMT is able to provide support to at least five awardees.

• Unfortunately, due to the additional work that would be required of reviewers and the Chair, as well as the short time lines involved, applicants will not receive written critiques after review.

Timing

• Applicants will be notified of their award status (awardee, alternate, or not fundable) by late November or December.

• The review committee always selects and rank orders alternates, as successful awardees sometimes receive and accept grants from other sources for the same or similar project. Significant scientific or budgetary overlap is not allowed.

• The awards will be publicly announced at the 2017 BMT Tandem Meetings, February 22-27, 2017 in Orlando, Florida. ASBMT hopes that awardees will attend this meeting to accept their award in person. Attendance at the BMT Tandem Meetings is not a requirement for receiving a New Investigator Award, however, because ASBMT is unable to provide financial support for awardees’ travel and attendance.

Funding

• Awards will be $30,000 for the first year, renewable without reapplying for an additional $30,000 for a second year, contingent upon a brief report of satisfactory progress.

• Applicants with other funding that overlaps an approved ASBMT NIA application’s aims and/or scope of work must choose one or the other award but may not keep both. This applies up to and through the duration of the funded ASBMT NIA project. ASBMT entrusts mentors and applicants to follow an honor system and report any actual or potential overlap for review by ASBMT.
New Investigator Award Application

American Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation
85 W. Algonquin Road, Suite 550
Arlington Heights, IL  60005
Phone: (847) 427-0224  Fax: (847) 427-9656

Submission Deadline
•  Print copies (5) - postmarked on or before Wed, 9/14/16
•  PDF electronically sent to ASBMT Office on or before Wed, 9/14/16

THE ENTIRE APPLICATION MUST BE TYPED AND USE
•  11 point, ARIAL, HELVETICA, CALIBRI, OR TIMES NEW ROMAN FONT
•  LEFT (not FULL) JUSTIFICATION
•  1-inch MARGINS ALL AROUND

APPLICATIONS NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS WILL BE RETURNED WITHOUT REVIEW

1. The face sheet of your submitted application should be Form Page 1.
2. Form Page 2 is the project Abstract. This should include a brief explanation of the relevance of your project to the field of hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, if this is not already obvious. This page also includes Key Personnel and Other Significant Contributors.
3. Form Page 3 is the Budget.
4. Form Pages 4 and 5 cover Human Subjects, Biohazards, and Laboratory Animals.
5. Form Page 6 is the Applicant’s Certification.

There are no Form Pages for the remainder of the application, which should be compiled in the following order with sequentially numbered pages:

7. Other Support information, following NIH format. See links via https://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/competing_othersupport.docx. Explain and justify any project or budgetary overlap with existing and/or pending funding resources for the applicant and/or the mentor. Indicate which source(s) will be accepted in case of overlapping award(s).
8. Mentor/sponsor’s letter of recommendation, followed by his/her CV, as per #6 above: The sponsor must be (a) an ASBMT member and (b) willing to serve as a research mentor. The letter of recommendation should specify the direct relevance of the research to the field of blood and marrow transplantation and outline the career plan of the applicant. The letter should not exceed two single-spaced pages.

The remainder of the application comprises the “Experimental Plan” and should continue sequential page numbering:
9. Experimental Plan: MAX FIVE PAGES, adhering to the above guidelines. Applications not meeting these requirements will be returned without review. Any figures and tables, with legends, must fit within these 5 pages and must be fully legible. Only legends may use a smaller font, e.g., Arial 8pt or equivalent. Review and scoring of the application will suffer if reviewers cannot easily read text, figures, tables, and legends because they are too small. Application length has been increased from 4 to 5 pages to facilitate legibility, not to facilitate squeezing in more text, figures, tables, etc.
   A. SPECIFIC AIMS: appropriate to the scope and 2 yr term of the award. Aims should be testable and hypothesis-driven.
   B. BACKGROUND and SIGNIFICANCE: Note the difference between Significance and Overall Impact. Discuss with mentor as needed.
   C. PRELIMINARY DATA: For NEW Investigator Awards, there is less emphasis on preliminary data during review.
   D. RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODS: According to the Specific Aims, explain how you will experimentally test your hypotheses and analyze data. What are the expected results and alternative approaches? Remember to keep the experimental plan within the scope and 2yr time line.
10. Include a max half page each for description of applicant’s (a) career plans and (b) past clinical or bench research experience. THIS IS NOT PART OF THE 5pg LIMIT FOR #9.

IMPORTANT
FIVE (5) print/hard copies must be mailed by regular mail or courier, but postmarked or shipped on or before Wednesday, September 14, 2016, to:
Maureen Knight
Administrative Assistant/Project Manager, ASBMT
85 W. Algonquin Road, Suite 550
Arlington Heights, IL  60005

An electronic PDF must also be emailed on or before Wednesday September 14, 2016, to: maureenknight@asbmt.org
Late submissions will not be accepted.
The award will be activated on July 1, 2017, and conclude on June 30, 2019. The second year does not require re-application, but it is contingent upon a brief report of satisfactory progress in the first year.