Academic Pediatric Association (APA)
Young Investigator Award Program Description

The APA Young Investigator Award Program funds projects in health services research, medical education, adolescent medicine, public health, epidemiology, emergency medicine, child maltreatment, hospitalist medicine, developmental/behavioral pediatrics, and other general pediatric clinical research domains. Through the process described below, the program awards up to $10,000 per selected project, drawing upon Association and Young Investigator Award Program funds. The funds available for this program will be determined annually by the Board of Directors. The number of awards will depend on the funds available and the size of the award requests of the selected projects.

The specifics of this program are as follows:

1. The principal investigator (PI) of any proposal submitted must be a member of the APA or have submitted an application for membership. Please note the application process may take up to two business days. Time must be allowed for this prior to the submission deadline.

2. Young investigators are defined as: 1) faculty members who are no more than five years out from completion of all training; 2) fellows; or 3) residents. Applicants also may be considered eligible for a period of time beyond five years due to circumstances such as extended family leave, job sharing, or military service/deployment. Additionally, graduates of APA sponsored programs that include a focus on research (e.g., Educational Scholars Program, Research Scholars Program) may be granted an additional 3 years beyond completion of the APA program provided their academic rank is at an Instructor or Assistant Professor level or the equivalent. Individuals with 1 or 2 year career development awards from their home institutions or who have received small external career development awards without salary support are eligible to apply. Applicants requesting extended eligibility should include an additional statement, 3 sentences or less, describing the situation and rationale for this request. This statement should be provided on a separate piece of paper and does NOT count toward the page limit. The mentor's letter also should support the request for extended eligibility and the applicant's commitment to research. Applicants who are uncertain about their eligibility may contact APA staff.

3. Proposals submitted should address an important area of concern for the health or healthcare of children or adolescents. The awards will be one-time awards; multiple-year funding requests will not be considered. Preference will be given to those proposals that have the potential to lead to projects of a larger or longer-term nature.

4. Initial proposals must be received by October 3, 2016 by 5 pm ET. These initial proposals must include the following items*: Only electronic submissions will be accepted. All required components must be submitted online at the following address: https://www.academicpeds.org/members/RIYIAentry/?awd=yia
- **Cover sheet** - indicating project title, PI name and contact information, funding path, and name and email for primary mentor, Division Director, and Department Chair (See Cover Page Form)

- **Description of the proposal** - not more than two single-spaced pages, including the budget and budget justification, and must use a font size no smaller than Arial 11, with 1” margins. This section must provide a brief overview of the project, including project aims, background, methods, evaluation, and significance of the study. The cover sheet and references are not included in this two-page limit. References may be single spaced and are limited to 1 page. Please adhere strictly to these requirements - failure to do so will result in return of the application without further review.

- **Budget and budget justification** - This should not include overhead (indirect costs), salary for the PI or mentors, or equipment for long-term use (e.g., computers). A maximum of $1,500 is allowable for travel to the annual PAS meeting.

- **Biographical sketch** - The biosketch should use the standard NIH biosketch form. For this purpose, the biosketch is not to exceed two pages. The biosketch also needs to be resubmitted with the full proposal and does not count towards the page limit. The form can be found at the following site: [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/biosketch.doc](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/biosketch.doc); instructions for filling out the form can be found at the following link: [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/biosketchsample.doc](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/biosketchsample.doc)

- **Letter of support from the primary mentor** including the plan for communication with the mentee. A typed signature is acceptable if an electronic signature is not available. This letter of support also needs to be resubmitted with the full proposal and does not count towards the page limit.

5. A review panel, convened by the Chair of the APA Research Committee, will review submitted initial proposals, and select PIs who will be invited to submit full proposals. PIs will be notified by **November 8, 2016**, regarding whether or not they have been invited to submit a full proposal. The deadline for full proposal submission is **December 7, 2016, by 5 pm ET**.

6. **Full proposals** must include the following items*:

- **Cover sheet** - indicating project title, PI name and contact information, funding path, and name and email for primary mentor, Division Director, and Department Chair (See Cover Page Form)

- **Proposal** - including specific aims, background, preliminary studies (if applicable), detailed methods, evaluation, timeline (the project must be completed within 1 year), description of key personnel, significance, tables, and appendices must not exceed 8 double-spaced pages, using a font size no smaller than Arial 11 and 1” margins. The 1-page cover sheet and 1-page of references (single space) are not included in the 8 pages.

- **Budget and Justification** – for full proposals, does not count towards the page limit. Please use detailed budget guidance and budget template provided (See Budget Guidance and Template). Note, budgets are evaluated based on 1) whether they are within the funding limits, and 2) whether the resources are appropriate for the work proposed. Projects with budgets that are justified appropriately within the limit (e.g., a secondary analysis), may be given additional consideration. Projects with budgets that exceed the specified limit will not be reviewed.

- **Biographical sketch** - The biosketch should use the standard NIH biosketch form. For this purpose, the biosketch is not to exceed two pages. The biosketch does not count towards the page limit.
Letter of support from the primary mentor including the plan for communication with the mentee. A typed signature is acceptable if an electronic signature is not available. This letter of support does not count towards the page limit.

7. A second study section, convened by the APA Research Committee Chair, will review and score the full proposals, and prepare a 1 – 2 page summary review that will be sent to applicants. Funding decisions will be based on the results of the study section review. Full-proposal applicants will be notified of funding decisions in late January 2017. The number of proposals approved and funded will be determined by the funds available for the given year. The awardees will be announced at the annual 2017 PAS meeting.

8. Review criteria for full proposals include: relevance of the proposed project, likelihood of project success, support from the home institution as well as commitment of the research mentor, and overall quality of the submission.

9. Awards will be made with the understanding that the project is initiated by March 2017, and will be completed within one year. Awardees are encouraged to submit abstracts from their projects to a PAS meeting and to submit a manuscript summarizing the project results to the APA journal, Academic Pediatrics, for possible publication.

10. Each awardee will be paired with a National Facilitator, an accomplished, nationally recognized senior investigator from an institution other than the PI’s. The facilitator will be available to provide advice and input on the project; complement the PI’s mentor by offering additional mentoring on an as needed basis; supply networking opportunities for awardees in their field; provide career advice to awardees regarding future academic pursuits; and be in regular communication with the awardee, via phone calls, e-mails, and in-person meetings at the annual PAS meeting.

11. Awardees are required to submit to the APA Board a progress report regarding the funded project nine months after the project start date and a final report upon completion of the project.

*Please Note – incomplete submissions and proposals that exceed page limits will not be forwarded to the review team.*