



The Career Development Academic Enrichment Fund is an internally funded program providing up to one year of support for junior investigators completing periods of research funding from either internal or external sources.

**PURPOSE:**

To provide junior faculty investigators, completing a period of funding either by career development awards or other equivalent institutional or external support, with the opportunity to apply for bridge fund support between current funding and other mechanisms of independent federal (e.g., R01, R21, U01, P01) or peer-reviewed equivalent research funding.

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:**

Applicants must satisfy the following criteria at the time of CDAEF funding request:

1. Must be CNMC faculty member;
2. Be employed not less than 75% full-time equivalent at the Children's National Medical Center;
3. Be the PI of a research award (e.g., K01, K08, K12, K23, or KL2) or Avery Career Development Award or equivalent institutional or external funding of research
4. Have a report (summary statement) from a review of a K-type or R-type or a peer-reviewed equivalent grant application in which the applicant's role is that of Principal Investigator

Note: Investigators, previously awarded Bridge funding, are not eligible to apply for additional Bridge funding for the same project.

Note: Criteria 1 and 2 may be waived at the discretion of the Chief Academic Officer (CAO) but must be in full effect prior to the award of Bridge funding. Other grant mechanism not listed in criterion 3 may be considered at the discretion of CAO.

**APPLICATION DUE DATE:**

Applications are accepted by the administrative coordinator of the Centralized Funding Office four times a year by the following due dates: January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15. However, applications must be received not less than three months prior to the scheduled termination date of the applicant's Career Development award.

For purposes of this award competition, qualifying "career development awards" must include:

1. An institutional career development award issued to CRI;
2. An individual career development award issued directly to the applicant by an agency of the DHHS;
3. An intramurally funded Avery Scholar award; or equivalent (e.g. research support package)
4. A Minority Investigator Research Supplement (MIRS)

**Other Deadline:**

If Biostatistical Analysis is required or you are in need of their assistance, please contact Annie Fulton at (202) 476-3856. Please note that the usual turn around time for Biostatistical Analysis is 60 days.

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:**

The application packet should include:

- a) Cover letter describing the circumstances and reasons for the Bridge request including dates of previous funding, dates of grant submission, and dates of potential extramural funding. If previous funding has not been by an official award, the provider of the research support should provide a letter with specifics of dates and amounts.
- b) Research Proposal (A copy of the complete grant application and summary statement from peer-review)
- c) One page plan of how you will respond to the review critiques
- d) Biosketch
- e) Letters of Support providing protective time of 75%
  - Mentor letter of recommendation (describing continuing mentoring during the bridge period)
  - Mentor NIH Biosketch (including Other Support)
  - Letter from clinical service chief providing 75% protected time during the CD-bridge period
  - Other letters of support (optional)
- f) Budget

**REVIEW CRITERIA:**

Applications are reviewed and scored on the basis of:

- Potential for a productive, independent research career;
- Progress made during the period of appointment to the career development award;
- Relevance and quality of the candidate's research training proposal;
- Rigor, creativity, and innovation of the candidate's research proposal; and
- Qualifications of the selected mentor and "match" between candidate's research and mentor's qualifications
- Commitment of 75% protected time throughout the program from the candidate and candidate's chairperson

Bridge funding applications will be reviewed by an ad hoc committee, assembled by the CRI Scientific Director and including the Vice Chair for Academic Affairs, the Chair of the RAC Committee and other ad hoc members with specific expertise pertinent to the grant application. The committee will be chaired by the Scientific Director. The Committee will make its recommendations on funding to the CAO who has the final authority for granting bridge funding.

Normally, the committee will complete its review within three weeks (21) days of receipt of a bridge funding application.

**EARLIEST POSSIBLE FUNDING DATE:** 90 days from receipt of application

**FUNDING PROVIDED:**

Typical funding provided to appointees includes:

- 75% of salary up to \$90,000 for salary and fringe benefits
- Trainee Research Support expenses up to \$30,000 per year

Examples of allowable expenses:

- Computer purchase (up to \$2000)
- Education expenses (these include graduate course tuition, books, and other educational materials);
- Research expenses (this includes research supplies and paying for some of the ancillary costs of clinical research – that cannot be covered by the CTSA);
- Travel (not to exceed \$1150 per year);
- Research assistant salary;
- Other expenses (photocopying \$200, telecommunications \$420 per year, equipment)

**NOTIFICATION OF AWARD:**

Applicants will receive direct notification (written or electronic) concerning funding status of their applications. For applications selected for funding, the Office of Grants and Contracts will coordinate the establishment of a project ID to facilitate the financial management of the award.

**REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:**

Final Progress Report is required.

**SCIENTIFIC CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Vittorio Gallo, PhD, Scientific Director, CNRI  
[vgallo@childrensnational.org](mailto:vgallo@childrensnational.org)

**ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Sze Nguyen 301-565-8554  
[snguyen@childrensnational.org](mailto:snguyen@childrensnational.org)