

BLOOMFIELD EARLY CAREER PROFESSORSHIP IN CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH

APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

This professorship is funded through an endowment made possible by Martin Bloomfield, MD '60.

Objective

To encourage and support early-stage, independent investigators in developing high quality and competitive cardiovascular research programs. Investigation must be related to cardiovascular diseases and can be basic, clinical, translational, epidemiologic or public health-related, and includes stroke.

Eligibility

Faculty members from any UVM college who are in the initial 5 years of their first faculty appointment (assistant professor) will be considered.

Number

One professorship at any given time may be funded.

Duration

The holder of the professorship will receive funding for two (2) consecutive years. A third year of support is at the discretion of the CVRI Board of Directors and will be considered following the submission of a brief progress report, which should include the goals for the third year. The progress report will be due by 5:00 p.m. on December 1st of the second year of funding. The maximum funding duration is three (3) consecutive years.

Amount

The holder of the professorship will receive \$45,000 per academic year (July 1 through June 30). The funds may be used to support project-related expenses, such as salaries of technical personnel essential to the conduct of the project, supplies, equipment, volunteer subject costs, and publication costs. Computer expenses (limit \$5,000) will be allowed if essential to completion of the project. The funds may not be used for travel or education that is not essential to completion of the proposed research.

Application Process

The application process consists of a letter of intent and a formal application for a two-year research project. The letter of intent will enable the CVRI Board of Directors to confirm that the applicant and proposal meet eligibility requirements and allow the Board to identify expert reviewers in advance of application submissions. Details on the letter of intent and application requirements begin on page 2.

Selection Process

The review process will include CVRI Directors and Distinguished Investigators as well as outside experts asked to provide independent expert review of each proposal. Selection of the recipient of the professorship and renewal for a third year will be made by the Board of Directors of the CVRI.

In all cases, major consideration will be given to: 1) The ability of the funds to strengthen the applicant's research program and productivity, 2) The outstanding potential of the existing and proposed research program, and 3) The investigator's experience and productivity based on submitted application materials.

Announcement of the professorship recipient will be by June 15. Decisions regarding funding for a third year will be announced by January 15 of the second year.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Letter of Intent

A one-page letter of intent must be received as a PDF by 5:00 p.m. on March 1 at CVRI-VT@med.uvm.edu.

This letter should include:

- The title and brief summary of the research project;
- The relationship of the proposal to cardiovascular research;
- A statement regarding how the applicant and research meet the eligibility criteria; and
- A statement regarding overlap of the proposed research with any of the applicant's existing and/or pending research.

Application

The formal application is due by 5:00 p.m. on April 15 and should adhere to the guidelines below. The entire proposal, including the research proposal outline, future directions, letters of support (if appropriate), and CVs, **must** be submitted as a **single** PDF document to CVRI-VT@med.uvm.edu. Proposals that do not meet this requirement will **not** be reviewed.

1. The format, including type size, is to follow the standard NIH PHS grant (PHS-398). That is, "type should be 10-12 points (approximately 1/8" in height for capital letters). If constant spacing is used, there should be no more than 15 cpi, whereas proportional spacing should *average* no more than 15 cpi. Finally, there must be no more than 6 lines of text within a vertical inch." Leave 1/2" margins.
2. The application consists of the following parts:
 - A. Face Page (includes)
 - i. Proposed title.
 - ii. Names, department, phone number and e-mail of applicant.
 - iii. If applicable, a statement that IACUC or IRB approval will be obtained prior to the July 1 start date of the professorship.
 - iv. PI ASSURANCE: I certify the statements herein are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I agree and accept responsibility for the scientific conduct of the project and to provide the required progress reports if the grant is awarded.
 - v. Signature of applicant.
 - vi. Signature of the Department Chair of the applicant.

B. Narrative description of the proposal: The narrative description of the proposal should **not exceed 6 pages** and should address each of the items below.

- i. Specific Aims and Hypothesis (≤ 1 page): A clear statement of the Specific Aims and the hypotheses being explored. We recommend that you limit to 1 or, at most, 2 Specific Aims that can reasonably be completed within the grant period.
- ii. Background and Supporting Literature (< 1 page): State the research problem and review relevant literature in the area.
- iii. Significance (< 1 page): Briefly describe how this research is novel in approach, methodology, theoretical concept or intervention. Briefly describe how the environment will contribute to the probability of success.
- iv. Innovation (< 1 page): Briefly describe how this research challenges and seeks to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions.
- v. Preliminary Data (1-2 pages): Appropriate preliminary data, if available, that would assist the reviewers in determining the feasibility of the project
- vi. Research Design and Methods (1-2 pages): Outline the methods used to address the proposed studies. This should be a clear experimental design section with attention to important areas such as data analysis methods, power calculations, key methods, etc., as well as an estimated timeline.

The following sections are not part of the 6 page limit:

C. Anticipated Results (one-half page).

D. Future Directions (one-half page): Explain how the results of the proposed studies will be used in an upcoming extramural grant application. This should include the title of the grant application, the organization to which the application will be sent and the expected date of submission.

E. Career Advancement (≤ 1 page): Explain how receipt of this professorship will advance your research program, your productivity, and your career progression.

F. Budget.

G. Budget justification (≤ 1 page).

H. Other research support.

I. References and bibliography.

J. Letters of support from key collaborators (≤ 2 ; if appropriate).

K. A current CV or NIH biographical sketch of the PI and key collaborators.