

Circle of Giving

2023 Women's Health Research Funding Opportunity

Proposal Due: January 13th, 2023

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Overview

The OHSU Center for Women's Health Circle of Giving is now accepting submissions for its 2023 Women's Health Research Funding Opportunity. Circle of Giving funding is intended to support new or established investigators interested in developing innovative directions in research that will advance women's health. Applications will be accepted from faculty at the rank of Instructor, Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor. The Circle expects to award \$125,000 to support one project for one year.

The Circle of Giving Women's Health Research Program is designed to invest in research that will lead to improvements in women's health. Applications may be in basic science, clinical investigation, population health, or behavioral research. The pilot project conducted using these seed funds is expected to be innovative and lead to additional research fundable by federal and non-federal sources; the proposed research must be intended to produce a tangible improvement in women's health. We ask that you consider the diversity, equity, and inclusion lens in your proposal. **Key selection criteria include scientific rigor, the likelihood of proposed research leading to future funding, and the likelihood for the project to exert a sustained, powerful influence on women's health.** Funds are unrestricted and may be used for equipment, salary, or travel (no indirect cost allocation allowed).

The Circle of Giving brings together a community of leading women who are passionate in their support of the OHSU Center for Women's Health and its commitment to advancing research and clinical programs that address the health needs of women. Established in 2006, the Circle of Giving has awarded \$2.9 million to support a total of 26 OHSU-led pilot studies designed to help improve women's health outcomes. Donors are interested in direct impacts on women's health and health outcomes.

For further information about the Circle of Giving and prior awardees, please visit our [Center for Women's Health webpage](#).

Submission and Review Process

Required Submissions

Application: Due January 13th, 2023

Please submit your application via the [Competitive Application Portal](#).

The application must include:

1. Executive Summary (300 words): **Write this section in non-scientific language, for a lay audience** (e.g. how you might describe your research to a distant family member). Explain the overall intent of your project using the following headings: Pilot Project Title; Principal Investigator(s); Problem/Need; Goal; Method. Be clear about how this project will contribute to the advancement of women's health.
2. Main Application (3 pages): **Write this section in non-scientific language, for a lay audience** (e.g. how you might describe your research to a family member or an 8th-grade science class). Describe your proposed research using the following headings: Background/Significance; Methods (brief overview); Outcomes. Please include innovation (conceptually or technically) as well as the rigor of science.
3. Budget (1 page or less): Budget template is required and available for download in the [Competitive Application Portal](#) under "Competition Files."
4. Budget justification (1 page or less): Funds are unrestricted (i.e. equipment, salary, and travel), but limited to funding OHSU investigators only (i.e., no external Co-I's, consultants, or non-OHSU investigator funding to be covered with the grant); no indirect cost allocation allowed. Submissions are expected to fully utilize the full \$125K award. Requests for partial funding will not be considered.
5. Research Appendix (2 pages): **This section is key for the investigator peer-review process** and can be written with a professional/scientific audience in mind. Utilize the following headings: Specific Aims; Preliminary Studies (if applicable); Research Design and Methods; Expected Outcomes and Alternative Strategies; References. (Note: References are not counted in 2-page limit.)
6. Biosketch (follow the link for instructions re: format and content): Include NIH-format biosketches for investigators directly involved in your proposed research.
7. Letters of Support Appendix: Trainees (clinical or other fellowship), those covered by a training grant (e.g. NIH or other individual or institutional training grant), and/or post-docs are not eligible to apply independently as a PI for this funding, but are encouraged to apply as a Co-I with an independent faculty member.

An example of a successful application can be found in [the Competitive Application Portal](#). Please note: current requirements supersede formatting from the sample application. Applications this cycle must conform to the 2023 guidelines listed above.

Selection Criteria

- OHSU faculty at the rank of Instructor, Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor (Including School of Dentistry, School of Medicine, School of Nursing, and School of Public Health)
- Faculty member's qualifications and research commitment to innovative research that advances the science that improves the health of women, defined broadly.
The research does not need to be for conditions that affect women only but can include the gender spectrum. The research should advance our knowledge and therapeutics for conditions that have either disproportionately affected women or have been underfunded and/or address a specific niche related to women's health overall.
- Scientific and technical merit of the proposed research
- Demonstrated and/or anticipated capability in the conduct and dissemination of research
- Likelihood of fundability to continue investigator's research based upon Circle of Giving-supported findings

Selection Process

- **Applications are due by 5:00 p.m., January 13th, 2023**
- Applications reviewed for compliance with the format, faculty appointment, and qualifications; submissions not in compliance returned without further review (M. Rodriguez)
- Applications submitted to investigator reviewers for peer review (applications will be evaluated by other OHSU investigators with content expertise in the proposed research area); reviewers rate proposals and return documentation (M. Rodriguez)
- Scientific Review Committee (SRC) ranks applications from among applications with the best reviews The SRC is composed of key OHSU women's health researchers and faculty, including Maria Rodriguez, MD, MPH, Director, OHSU Center for Women's Health; Julie Saugstad, PhD, Professor, Dept. of Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine; Blair Darney, MD, MPH, Associate Professor, Dept. of Complex Family Planning; Karen Eden, PhD, Professor of Medical Informatics & Clinical Epidemiology, Director of Clinical Track in Biomedical Informatics Graduate Program; Jeffrey Jensen, MD, MPH, Director, OHSU Women's Health Research Unit; Ines Koerner MD, PhD, FNCS, Professor & Vice Chair for Critical Care in the Dept. of Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine and Professor of Neurological Surgery; Leslie Myatt, PhD, Director, Placental Origins of Disease Group, Knight Cardiovascular Institute Center for Developmental Health.
- Circle of Giving Granting Meeting: May 10, 2023. Each Circle of Giving member has the opportunity to vote on the proposals presented. Each member has one vote, in person or by proxy. The proposal with the most votes is awarded funding. The investigator is notified of funding at the close of the meeting.

Responsibilities of Grantee

In addition to the conduct of research outlined in the proposal funded, the grantee will:

- Deliver a presentation updating Circle members on research progress at the Circle of Giving Annual Impact meeting (typically held in the Fall),
- Deliver a lecture on the research project at one or more academic venues (e.g. pertinent Grand Rounds) during the award year or within one year thereafter,
- Provide updates on the progress of research of funded and related projects upon request.
- Acknowledge the Circle of Giving and the OHSU Center for Women's Health as supporters of the funded research project during national and local presentations, lectures, and in publications, and
- Inform the Interim Director of the Center for Women's Health when lecturing, presenting, or publishing information concerning the funded research project.

Circle of Giving 2023 Award Cycle Deadlines

Applications Due: January 13, 2023, by 5:00 p.m. PT

Finalists Selected: April 2023

Circle Granting Meeting: May 10, 2023

Contact Information

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