



Pancreatic Disease Research Pathway to Independence Award

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The OHSU Brenden-Colson Center for Pancreatic Care (BCCPC) recognizes the challenges of transitioning from post-doctoral training to independent research funding. The goal of this mentored award is to invest in promising early career researchers and assist with their transition into independence as junior investigators in research related to biology, diagnosis, or treatment of hereditary, inflammatory or malignant pancreatic disease. This mechanism is intended to support clinical, basic, or population-based research that is pancreas focused. The goal of this program is to assist in supporting new careers that will advance the understanding of pancreatic biology, disease, and/or therapy.

Award Opportunities:

- The award provides support of \$100,000 per year for two years with the 2nd year renewal dependent on progress during the first year. Competitive renewal for an additional two years will be dependent on progress, milestones met, and proposed area of study.
- These funds are made possible through philanthropic support to the Brenden-Colson Center for Pancreatic Care.

Eligibility:

- Doctoral level degree, such as MD, PhD, DO and/or comparable degree.
- Applicants must be early career investigators within 10 years of receiving their doctoral degree who are at the post-doctoral, instructor, or assistant professor level.
- Applicants should not have received an R01 or similar level grant as PI or co-PI.
- Clinician applicants must have at least 80% protected research time guaranteed by their home department.
- Awardees are expected to contribute 100% of their research effort to activities related to the study of pancreas disease.
- Demonstrated record of productivity through publications and may include awards of prior grant funding.
- Documented history of commitment to pancreas research – publications, other grants, collaborations, service to the field, etc.
- Surgeons interested in BCCPC fellowship training opportunities should pursue the Norton Surgical Fellowship rather than this mechanism (see O2 for posting).

Mentorship:

- Candidate should identify at least two mentors, one of whom will serve as primary mentor. Mentors should be OHSU Professors, Associate Professors, or research-track equivalent established in a field of biology, cancer, or disease of the pancreas.
- Applicants should identify and meet with project/career development mentors before submitting their proposal. The mentor team will guide and advise the awardee on the research project and individual career development plan.
- Award recipients will work with their mentor team to refine or create an individual career development plan to encompass both short- and long-term goals. This can follow the career development plan proposed in the application or can be modified upon further discussion with mentors after award. It is expected to include career goals, actionable steps to accomplish goals (plans for didactic learning, conference attendance, grant writing etc.), and metrics of success. The awardee will review the career development plan with the mentor team every 6 months and will modify the plan as needed.

Key Dates: Application deadline: **January 5**; Award start: April 1

Submission Details and Questions: Applications should be submitted directly to Dove Keith at keithd@ohsu.edu

Contact Dove Keith with any questions.

A. Application Requirements

1. Cover page (1 page). Form is on O2. Includes limited space for lay summary and brief descriptions of project and training plan.
2. Research plan (3 page max). Include aims, significance, innovation, approach, plans for extramural funding. State how these goals materially contribute to any of the three focus areas for pancreatic disease of the Brenden-Colson Center (Early Detection, Advanced Therapy, and Patient Resiliency).
3. Career Development plan (1 page). Please fully address the following:
 - Include a detailed career development plan. Describe any specific activities and contributions that you plan to pursue. Explain how these new areas of training and exposure will complement your prior area(s) of expertise and how these new areas of training will enable you to reach your research goals and further your pancreatic translational research career.
 - Explain how the Brenden-Colson Center and OHSU is an appropriate environment to help you realize both your research and career goals.
 - Describe how your background will enable you to accomplish these goals or how your background helped you develop these goals.
 - Describe any portion of the research or training that will be performed at an outside university, hospital, or research institution.
4. Timeline. Includes timeline with milestones (e.g., for career goals) and deliverables (e.g., for research project goals). Form is on O2.
5. Literature Cited (does not count against the page limit)
6. Biographical sketch for applicant
Use the most recent version of the NIH "Biographical Sketch Format Page" (non-fellowship version).
7. Letters of support
Arrange for three letters of recommendation to be sent separately to keithd@ohsu.edu by the deadline. One letter should be from either a Department Chair or the proposed primary mentor providing confirmation of laboratory space, equipment, and time commitment available to complete the proposed research plan. The others should be from previous mentors or others with the ability to comment on the applicant's background and potential to take advantage of the opportunities offered in this fellowship and to grow into an outstanding researcher in the field of pancreas biology.

B. Format Specifications

- Use Arial 11-point font, single-spaced.
- Margins no smaller than 0.5 inch (top, bottom, left, and right) for all pages.
- Consecutively number pages.

Figures, Graphs, Diagrams, Charts, Tables, Figure Legends, and Footnotes

- You may use a smaller type size but it must be in black ink and readily legible.
- Do not include figures or other materials that are not inserted directly into the body of the

application.

C. Awardee Responsibilities

- An InfoEd proposal is not required by BCCPC at the time of application; awardees (with the help of their department pre-award coordinator) will be required to route their application through InfoEd including filling out the ePPQ. Start date should be no earlier than July 1 and no later than Sept 1 of the fiscal year following application.
- Funds may be applied toward salary, associated benefits, and/or for research support. BCCPC does not award any F&A costs. Capital equipment is not supported unless it is clearly shown that the equipment will continue to be used primarily in the service of pancreas research (must be pre-approved). Budgets are not required as part of the initial application, but a budget and justification should be developed with the mentor after award.
- The developed budget and justification should be submitted to BCCPC within 1 month of starting the award.
- IRB, IACUC and IBC approval (if applicable) are required prior to release of funds.
- All fellows are expected to attend the following events: Knight Cancer Institute Basic & Translational Science seminar series (weekly on Monday), Brenden-Colson Center seminar series (monthly on 2nd Friday), ad hoc BCCPC pancreas science meetings or conferences, and to participate in their mentor's lab meetings.
- A summary report (2 page max) describing accomplishments (research project and career development progress) must be submitted at the end of each fiscal year, until all funds are used. This should include publications, grant applications (applied and funded), INDs or IDEs resulting from the project, plans to further develop the research work, a short (2-3 sentences) lay language description of the research work. The annual summary report must describe any changes that were made to the career development plan or research plan after consultations with the mentorship team.
- Results from funded studies must be presented annually during a Brenden-Colson Center research meeting.
- Any publications or presentations resulting from this support must acknowledge this BCCPC Pathway to Independence award.

It is expected that the Awardee will pursue the following objectives:

- Establish a strong research program in biology, diagnosis, or treatment of pancreatic disease.
- Present pancreatic cancer research findings at local, national, and international venues.
- Pursue collaborative research projects with other BCCPC researchers.
- Publish research papers on pancreatic disease.
- Apply for external grants to support pancreatic research, both individually and collaboratively with other BCCPC researchers.
- Assist in review of pilot grant applications submitted to BCCPC.
- Serve on student DAC committees.
- Mentor trainees (graduate students and postdocs) or affiliated researchers in pancreatic disease projects.