

## **Instructions for Completing an Application for an American Society of Nephrology (ASN) – Association of Specialty Professors (ASP) – National Institute of Aging (NIA) Junior Development Grant in Geriatric Nephrology Application**

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Questions? Please contact ASN at (202) 640-4660 or [grants@asn-online.org](mailto:grants@asn-online.org).

**Next Application Deadline: Friday, January 27, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. EST**

Only active ASN members are eligible to apply.

Applicants to the ASN-ASP-NIA Junior Development Grant in Geriatric Nephrology must first apply for the GEMSSTAR award through the NIA. The GEMSSTAR application closes on Monday, October 3, 2011.

## Purpose

ASN supports developing academic subspecialists interested in careers focused on the geriatric and gerontology aspects of nephrology during the early years of a first faculty appointment. This award, co-sponsored by the Association of Specialty Professors (ASP) will supplement an award from the National Institute on Aging (NIA), using the R03 mechanism under the funding announcement titled [Grants for Early Medical and Surgical Subspecialists' Transitions to Aging Research \(GEMSSTAR\)](#).

The GEMSSTAR program provides two years of support for small research projects to allow early career physicians trained in medical and surgical subspecialties to establish a research track record in geriatric aspects of their subspecialty. The award will provide an opportunity to gain skills and experience in aging research and help the investigators establish an independent program of research in this field.

## Eligibility

To apply for an ASN-ASP-NIA Junior Development Grant in Geriatric Nephrology a candidate:

- Must have completed an application for the NIA GEMSSTAR opportunity.
- Should be a US citizen or be eligible for US permanent resident status.
- Must be an active member of ASN. At the time of submission the applicant's membership must be current and their dues paid.
- Must hold an MD, PhD, or equivalent degree.
- Must have completed a subspecialty internal medicine fellowship leading to certification in nephrology by the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM), and be within the first four years of initial faculty appointment.
- Should be pursuing research in a geriatric aspect of nephrology.
- Must have a mentorship team which includes a nephrologist that has successfully competed for an NIH grant, and a geriatrics mentor.
- Must show proof, after receipt, of a fundable score, as defined by the National Institute on Aging (NIA). The professional development plan must also be submitted to ASN.

Appointment to full-time faculty (assistant professor or instructor) must be confirmed in writing by the Department Chair, indicating the date of first full-time faculty appointment, and providing assurance that the department will provide needed resources for conducting independent research (laboratory and office space, salary support, and protected research time of at least 75%). It must be assured that the proposed project is independent of previous mentors.

**An applicant who is uncertain of his/her eligibility should request an advisory opinion from ASN before completing an application.**

## Previous or Current Funding Allowed

Applicants are allowed to have currently, or have had previously, extramural (NIH or Foundation) mentored career development grant funding (e.g., NIH K08). However, total grant funding, including the ASN career development grant and NIA grant, cannot exceed \$250,000 in annual direct costs, **irrespective of scientific overlap**. The amount of the ASN grant will be reduced as appropriate if total funding exceeds this amount at any time during the funding period of the grant.

Candidates cannot have previously been awarded an NIH R01 grant or its equivalent.

## Funding and Stipulations

The award will provide \$25,000 annually for two years, beginning July 1, and can support the salary of the awardee and/or the purchase of supplies, the salaries of technical personnel, and other resources necessary for the completion of the research project. The funding cannot be used for indirect costs or the costs of administrative or clerical support.

In addition, ASP will provide the award recipient \$2,500 to be allocated for travel grants which must be used to attend the meetings of the American Geriatrics Society in years one and two of the award, and Kidney Week in year two of the award.

A progress report and a financial report are required for non-competitive renewal of the grant for the second year. Final reports are also required at the end of the funding period. The award is for continuous support, and interruptions in the period of support will require prior written approval from the ASN.

Recipients shall acknowledge ASN's and ASP's support in publications resulting from their proposed work.

Grants may be transferred from one institution to another only with the prior approval of ASN.

## Application

To apply for an ASN-ASP-NIA Junior Development Grant in Geriatric Nephrology, a candidate must provide:

- Contact Information
- Background Information (Education, Professional Experience, Publications, Current and Pending Grant Support, Other Personnel)
- Research Proposal Abstract
  - The research proposal abstract should summarize the proposal in lay terms and be no more than 500 words, single spaced.
- Research Proposal
  - The proposal should be no longer than 10 pages, not including references.
  - The proposal does not need to include a proposed budget.
  - The research proposal should follow NIH guidelines and follow the following font guidelines:

- Use Arial, Helvetica, Palatino Linotype, or George typeface, a black font color, and a font size of at least 11-points. A Symbol font may be used to insert special characters.
    - Type density, including characters and spaces, must be no more than 15 characters per inch. Type may be no more than six lines per inch. Use standard paper size (8 ½” x 11). Use at least one-half inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right) for all pages. No information should appear in the margins.
- Letter from Department Chair
  - The letter must provide assurance that the candidate:
    - Holds a full-time faculty appointment (including a description of the track).
    - Will devote at 75% of his or her time to research.
    - Will use the award for independent investigation.
    - Will have appropriate laboratory or research space and access to necessary equipment will be provided.
  - The letter should be signed and on institutional letterhead.
- Three (3) Reference Letters
  - Reference letters should be written by persons familiar with the candidate’s scientific interests and abilities. Letters are submitted blindly and can be addressed to the ASN Grants Review Committee.
- Signature Page
  - A completed signature page, with signatures from the applicant, Department Chair, Division Director (if applicable), and a fiscal officer from the sponsoring institution.

## Application Process

1. Applicants for current, active ASN members to begin an application. To become a member, please visit the [ASN Membership](#) website.
2. To begin an application, visit the ASN Career Development [website](#). Click “Application” and log-in using ASN ID and password.
3. Applicants must answer a set of preliminary questions. If answers are satisfactory, applicants will be routed to the beginning of the application.
4. Enter contact information, including research proposal title and top three keywords.
5. Enter education, professional experience, publications, current and pending grant support, institution address, and other personnel.
6. Upload the research proposal abstract (maximum of 1 MB).
7. Upload the research proposal (maximum of 4 MB).
8. Upload the letter from the Department Chair (maximum of 1 MB).
9. Enter the email address of three (3) references. They will each receive an email with a link to upload a letter of reference to the application. Make a note of which email slot (1, 2, or 3) is used for each reference. If a reference needs the email to be resent, the address needs to be entered into the same slot as the original process.
10. Download the required signature form by clicking on the image. After obtaining signatures, scan and upload the form (maximum of 1 MB).
11. Finish application/session. Applications can be edited at any point before the deadline by visiting the [Grants Application](#) page, signing in, clicking “Application”, and choosing “Edit an Existing Application”.

Please note: there is no final “Submit” button. Applications will be accepted as they are after the deadline has passed. All materials, including the reference letters and signature form, must be submitted by Friday, January 27, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. EST. Only online applications will be accepted.

## Application Checklist

- Contact and Education Information
- Research Proposal Abstract
- Research Proposal
- Letter from Department Chair
- Three Reference Letters
- Required Signature Form

## Post-Application

Applicants should send a copy of their official notice of a fundable score from the NIA (if received). A copy of the professional development plan that is required by the NIA should also be submitted when complete.

## Evaluation Criteria

The ASN Grants Review Committee will consider the potential of the applicant and the proposed project for eventual funding by an NIH R01 grant or its equivalent. Assessment will include the qualifications of the applicant with respect to prior training, productivity, and independence, as well as the scientific merit of the proposed project. The institutional commitment to the development of the applicant as an independent investigator will also be assessed.

Applicants will be notified on decisions during the month of May.

## Contact

Please contact ASN with any questions at (202) 640-4660 or [grants@asn-online.org](mailto:grants@asn-online.org).