

## ***American Vascular Association and NHLBI Jointly Sponsored Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award (K23)***

The American Vascular Association (AVA) and the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI), National Institutes of Health (NIH), DHHS announce a program that will provide supplemental funding to an individual who receives an NHLBI Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award (K23) directed at vascular surgeon scientists in the early stages of their research careers.

**Purpose:** The AVA is offering this award jointly with the NHLBI as a means to facilitate the research career development of individuals pursuing a career in vascular research. **This award will provide financial support over and above that offered by the NHLBI K23 mechanism.**

The purpose of the Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award (K23) is to support the career development of investigators who have made a commitment to focus their research endeavors on patient-oriented research. This mechanism provides support for three to five years of supervised study and research for clinically trained professionals who have the potential to develop into productive, clinical investigators focusing on patient-oriented research. Applicants must justify the need for a period of mentored research experience and provide a convincing case that the proposed period of support and career development plan will substantially enhance their careers as independent investigators in patient-oriented research.

Awards in response to this program announcement will be for a total project period of three, four or five years and are not renewable. Planning, direction, and execution of the proposed career development program and research project will be the responsibility of the applicant and his/her mentor(s). Grants are not transferable from one principal investigator to another.

**Eligibility Requirements:** The candidate must have a MD degree or equivalent, must have completed postgraduate clinical training in vascular surgery, must identify a mentor with extensive research experience, and must be willing to spend a minimum of 75 percent of full time professional effort conducting research career development and clinical research.

**Salary Support:** The AVA and the NHLBI will each provide salary and fringe benefits for the K23 recipient. The NHLBI will award up to \$75,000 up to five years and the AVA will provide \$50,000 up to three years.

**Awards in response to this program announcement will use the K23 mechanism.** Applications should conform to the guidelines published for the NIH Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award (K23) available at the following address:

**<http://grants.nih.gov/training/careerdevelopmentawards.htm>**

In addition, K23 Helpful Hints for the NHLBI Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award are available at the following address:

**<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/funding/training/redbook/hints4k23.htm>**

Applications must be prepared using the PHS 398 research grant application and will be accepted on or before the receipt **deadline of June 1<sup>st</sup>** of each year. The PHS 398 form and instructions are available at:

**<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>**

Please take note that the maximum salary budget to be requested of the NHLBI using Form PHS 398 is \$75,000. Any request over \$75,000 in salary support may be cause for rejection of the application by the Center for Scientific Review of the NIH. Separate and distinct from the NHLBI application, the AVA will be contributing \$50,000 in addition to whatever is awarded by the NHLBI under the K23 provisions.

**To identify the application as a response to this program announcement:**

- Check YES on item 2 of the face page of the application and enter “PA-05-143 Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award: Assign to NHLBI”.
- Submit a signed, typewritten original of the application with Checklist and five signed photocopies, in one package to: Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 1040, MSC 7710, Bethesda, MD 20892-7710
- Submit ten signed photocopies to the AVA Research and Education Committee, 633 N. Saint Clair Street, 24<sup>th</sup> Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60611.
- Submit one photocopy to: Jane D. Scott, ScD, MSN, FAHA, Leader, Research Training and Special Programs, Division of Heart and Vascular Diseases, National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Suite 9212, Bethesda, MD 20892-7956.

**Review Considerations:** Applications will be reviewed for completeness by the Center for Scientific Review and for responsiveness to this program announcement by the AVA and by the NHLBI. Applications that are complete and responsive to the program announcement will be evaluated for scientific and technical merit by an appropriate peer review group convened at the NHLBI in accordance with the standard NIH peer review procedures. Representatives of the AVA Research and Education Committee will participate in the NIH peer review group. As part of the initial merit review, all applications will receive a written critique and undergo a process in which only those applications deemed to have the highest scientific merit, generally the top half of applications under review, will be discussed, assigned a priority score, and receive a second level review by the appropriate advisory council or board. The applications will also receive a secondary review by the AVA Research and Education Committee.

**Award Process:** The AVA and the NHLBI will notify the applicants of the joint action of the AVA Research and Education Committee and the NHLBI Council shortly after the Council meeting in February. The award will be presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Vascular Surgery in June of each year.

**Contacts:**

For questions regarding eligibility requirements and the K23 application process:

Jane Scott, ScD, MSN, FAHA  
Leader, Research Training and Special Programs  
Division of Heart and Vascular Diseases  
National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute  
National Institutes of Health  
6701 Rockledge Drive  
Suite 9212  
Bethesda, MD 20892-7956  
(301) 435-0535  
E-mail: [scottj2@nhlbi.nih.gov](mailto:scottj2@nhlbi.nih.gov)

For questions regarding the AVA:

Susan Burkhardt  
Program Manager  
Society for Vascular Surgery  
633 N. Saint Clair Street, 24<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
(312) 202-5614  
Email: [sburkhardt@vascularsociety.org](mailto:sburkhardt@vascularsociety.org)