

Date: May 21, 2018  
To: Deans, Chairs and Yale Faculty  
From: Robert Sherwin, Director of YCCI  
Marcella Nuñez-Smith, Co-Director, Fund to Retain Clinical Scientists  
Kimberly Ann Yonkers, Co-Director, Fund to Retain Clinical Scientists  
Re: Fund to Retain Clinical Scientists who have extraordinary caregiving needs

Once again, we are writing to announce a request for applications for support from the Fund to Retain Clinical Scientists at the Yale School of Medicine (FRCS), made possible by a grant from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. The goal of this unique and exciting program is to retain early-career physician-scientists in research. The FRCS Program provides research funds to a select number of junior physician-scientists who are strongly committed to careers in clinical research, are engaged in funded research, and have a compelling need for the award in order to maintain research productivity in the face of extraordinary caregiving needs. The awards are given to researchers engaged in high quality research who may need additional support to manage caregiving needs as they make their way to the next step of their careers. Yale is one of the few centers in the country that were selected for this timely and important award.

### Key Dates

Statement of Intent due date: June 30, 2018  
Application due date: July 16, 2018  
Earliest anticipated start date: August 1, 2018

### Eligibility

- Applicants must have an MD or a DO degree and a current medical license.
- Applicants must have some clinical responsibilities.
- Applicants must have a full-time Yale faculty appointment at the level of Assistant Professor, Instructor or Associate Research Scientist at the time of the award; the appointment must not be contingent upon receipt of this award.
- Applicants may not have been a faculty member for more than 10 years by the anticipated start date of August 1, 2018. The 10-year period is cumulative and includes all appointments as assistant professor, associate research scientist, lecturer, or instructor at any institution (any part time appointments and leaves of absence should be described and will be considered in calculating the total time at a faculty rank).
- Applicants must be, at the time of application, a PI on a research project or career development award funded by a private foundation, NIH, or another federal agency.
- Applicants must have a compelling need for the award in order to maintain research productivity in the face of caregiving needs (e.g., for children, elders or other family members with an illness or other extraordinary situation; please see examples below).
- Applicants must have a clearly described and feasible career path directed toward becoming an independent investigator.

- Previous awardees may request a second year of support in extraordinary circumstances if well-justified.

### Budget

- Applicants may request up to \$50,000 of research support for a one-year period.
- Funds may be used to support an assistant such as a statistician, a study coordinator or a laboratory technician, or to enable the applicant to reduce clinical effort and gain protected time for research.
- Funds may not be used to add additional research aims, support new projects or duplicate existing funding.
- This award may support clinical research only. Clinical research is defined as the scientific investigation of the etiology, prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of human disease using human subjects, human populations, or materials of human origin. Included in the definition are studies that utilize only tissues or pathogens if they can be linked to a patient. It does not include research using animals or tissues derived from animals.

### Application Process

- Statements of intent are required, but are not binding, and must be submitted by 5pm on June 15, 2018 using the online form available here: [http://ycci.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_6sMXNL5SrF21Wx7](http://ycci.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6sMXNL5SrF21Wx7).
- Full applications must be submitted by 5:00 PM on July 16, 2018, using the online form available here: [http://ycci.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_4MaCawiDjaYFRhX](http://ycci.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4MaCawiDjaYFRhX).
- The application package with detailed instructions is available for download on the YCCI FRCS webpage, located here: [ycci.yale.edu/education/jrfacscholars/FRCS.aspx](http://ycci.yale.edu/education/jrfacscholars/FRCS.aspx).

### Other Terms and Conditions

- Recipients must provide a proposed start date (no earlier than August 1, 2018. All required approvals (IRB, IACUC, etc.) must be obtained by the proposed start date.
- The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation will evaluate the impact of this new funding program as part of an IRB-approved research study conducted by principal investigator Reshma Jagsi, MD, DPhil, at the University of Michigan Health System (UM). Applicants will be asked to complete a survey conducted by UM. Application data will be provided to Dr. Jagsi. Data submitted for this evaluation project will be de-identified. UM researchers will also collect longitudinal data on promotion and retention rates and may invite all applicants – regardless of whether they were selected for funding – to participate in follow-up surveys and interviews. The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and the University of Michigan will not have input into which applications are chosen for funding.

### Examples of Substantial Caregiving Needs

*Example 1:* An assistant professor in Pediatrics is PI on an R21 award in which she is assessing use of school-based clinics to increase rates of immunization with HPV vaccine. She has 2 young

children in day care and another in elementary school. She is reaching a point in her study in which she will need to be at the school through late in the afternoon 2 days a week and needs to spend more time working on the analysis of the qualitative component of the study. She is planning to apply for the Doris Duke award and will use the funds to buy out the two afternoons of clinical time. This will allow her to spend the time needed to conduct her study and still be able to pick up her children some afternoons.

*Example 2:* An assistant professor in Dermatology is a single parent and is PI on a K08 award. He has a child with autism spectrum disorder. His son's intervention plan requires his participation and involves substantial time, creating many conflicts with his research project. He is applying for the Doris Duke award and plans to use the additional funds to hire a study coordinator who will be able to see research subjects, allowing him to participate in the intervention plan for his child.

*Example 3:* An assistant professor in Neurology has been traveling frequently to support her father who was recently diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and is getting treatment. Her mother passed away several years ago, and she is in the process of moving her father to Connecticut to enable her to care for him. This situation forced her to take time away from her research study in which she sees patients in follow-up and recruits new patients. She is applying for the Doris Duke award so that she can hire a research assistant to see the patients in follow-up. The extra help will enable her to catch up with recruitment so that she can complete the study.

*Example 4:* An assistant professor in Psychiatry recently initiated his K23 award. His research project involves formative research to lay the groundwork for an intervention to prevent opioid addiction in young adults. His wife has been diagnosed with Hodgkin Lymphoma. The prognosis is good, but he needs to attend to increased child care duties while his wife is in treatment. He plans to use Doris Duke funding to hire an analyst to assist him in coding interview transcripts for qualitative analysis.

## Contacts

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