

Children's Trust

GRANTMAKERS' AWARD

Collectively, the UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Office of Research Administration and UPMC Children's Hospital Foundation are responsible for soliciting, evaluating, awarding, and administering internally funded research projects which will be awarded by the Children's Trust.

Founded in 2015 by 60 emerging leaders, Children's Trust is an exclusive group of rising philanthropists interested in supporting UPMC Children's most promising researchers. By pooling charitable resources, members directly impact the lives of children here in Pittsburgh and beyond by advancing pediatric research.

The Children's Trust's signature event, the *Grantmakers' Meeting*, will be held on May 16 at 5:30pm in Rangos Auditorium. At this event, final candidates for the Children's Trust Grantmakers' Award will have the opportunity to meet with members and present their funding request. Members will then vote for their top two research projects, awarding a total of \$120,000.

Program Type:

The Children's Trust recognizes that young investigators may find it difficult to remain in research because of lack of funding. Therefore, the purpose of this program is to encourage the development of basic/translational/clinical research in pediatrics by awarding small grants to junior faculty who are establishing their independence at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. Through the process described below, the program expects to fund 2 grants up to **\$60,000** each for a one-year period of funding. Applications will be due **March 15, 2024**, with an expected start date of July 1, 2024. As part of the selection process for the award, finalists will be required to present a 10-minute summary of their project to the Children's Trust members at the Grantmakers' Meeting May 16, 2024.

Summary of Eligibility Criteria:

1. Junior faculty is defined as: faculty members who are no more than **five** years out from completion of all training who have attained an MD or PhD degree. Individuals at the Associate Professor level (on any track) are not eligible.
2. Applicants who have obtained an NIH R01 or R21 grant are not eligible. Applicants may have obtained Foundations awards or any type of NIH K award.
3. Proposals submitted should address an important area of concern for the health or healthcare of children or adolescents.
4. Applicants who have previously received a Grantmakers' Award are not eligible.
5. Project and faculty must be based at UPMC Children's.

Grantmakers' Award Submission and Review Cycle:

Receipt Date	March 15, 2024
Scientific Merit and Committee Review	April
Pitches at Grantmakers' Meeting	May 16, 2024
Funding Start Date	July 1, 2024

Allowable Expenses:

Budget may not exceed **\$60,000** and is excluded from indirect cost. Allowable expenses include salaries and fringes for staff, consultants, supplies, other costs (may include animal costs, patient reimbursement, core costs, and publications; subcontracts to other organizations are not permissible). Awards are non-transferable to other investigators or other institutions.

Application Format:

Please use the standard NIH page format and budget template; the science portion of the application may not exceed 5 pages.

- CHP Face Page
- Lay Abstract (**One page limit**)
- Detailed Budget and Justification: This should not include overhead salary for the PI or mentors, equipment, or travel.
- Biographical Sketch: The biosketch should use the standard NIH biosketch form. Please see instructions and blank templates at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/biosketch.doc> (**Five-page limit**)
- Facilities/Resources/Equipment pages (**Two-page limit**)
- Proposal
 - Specific Aims (**One page**)
 - Research Strategy (**Four-page limit**)
 - Significance
 - Innovation
 - Approach-Preliminary Data
 - Approach-Experimental Design and Methods
 - Literature Cited
 - IACUC or IRB memo of approval (if required)
 - Letters from collaborators as required
 - Letter from the primary research mentor/supervisor should address:
 - Applicant's accomplishments
 - Potential for success as an independent investigator
 - Overview of the research environment that will contribute to the success of the applicant (physical resources, other investigators, financial resources)

Submission: Research applications are to be submitted in a single pdf as an attachment in an email to **Kate Critchlow, Manager, Grants and Contracts**, at critchlowkm@upmc.edu. Hard copies of applications are no longer required. Electronic signatures will be accepted.

Review Criteria: The evaluation committee will use NIH criteria including significance, innovation, investigators, and approach to score proposals. An additional criterion of this RFA will also be the likelihood of the research to impact childhood health and whether the project will provide valuable preliminary data for subsequent grants.