The Clinical and Translational Science Center (CTSC) is pleased to announce a call for applications for the KL2 Mentored Career Development program.

The NIH-funded CTSC supports highly qualified junior faculty to conduct mentored, multidisciplinary, patient-oriented clinical research. Clinical research is defined as (a) patient oriented research conducted with human subjects (or on material of human origin) that includes mechanisms of human disease, therapeutic interventions, clinical trials, and/or development of new technologies; (b) epidemiologic and behavioral studies; (c) health services and outcomes research. The period of support is for 2 years but may be extended for up to 3 years if funding and appropriate progress is made.

The goal of the program is to accelerate the career development of promising junior faculty, promoting their development as independent clinical multidisciplinary research investigators. The program will provide selected scholars with a salary up to $110,000 plus benefits (up to $145,090 in salary and benefits combined), as well as $25,000 for travel and research expenses each year. Travel to the annual CTSA Translational Science meeting is mandatory in both years, and submission of an abstract is required for reimbursement of travel expenses.

Scholars in the KL2 program will:

- Obtain additional research training through participation in coursework, workshops, and/or individualized programs of study.
- Conduct a rigorous multidisciplinary clinical/translational research investigation relevant to their research interests.
- Be mentored by senior investigators from diverse backgrounds with a demonstrated track record of successfully developing the careers of junior colleagues.
- Utilize, and participate in, the activities and resources of the UC Davis CTSC, as well as a nation-wide consortium of 60 other NIH-funded CTSA sites. This will include a commitment to presenting their research progress at meetings and in seminars.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Junior faculty, either currently appointed or new recruits, with clinical professional degrees (MD; PhD with clinical application; DDS; DMD; OD; DO; PharmD; DVM; or DNS). Candidates with PhDs in the biological, social, or statistical sciences will be considered if they meet additional requirements below. Exceptionally promising applicants early in their academic career are particularly encouraged to apply.
- Development of a multidisciplinary training and research plan.
- Identification of two well-qualified mentors from diverse fields of investigation.
- Plans to draw on the resources of the UC Davis CTSC to conduct research and training.
- Commitment to a career in clinical/translational research with evidence of significant productivity and promise.
- Applicants who were highly ranked but unfunded in previous award cycles are encouraged to re-apply.
- Applicant must be a United States Citizen or non-citizen national, or have legal admission into the United States as a permanent citizen at the time of application.
CTSC KL2 scholars may not be a Principal Investigator on an R01, R29 or subproject of a Program Project (P01), Center (P50, P60, U54) grant, mentored career development (K-series) grants, or other equivalent research grant awards. Also, CTSC KL2 scholars may not receive concomitant salary support from any other federal grant in the first year of KL2 funding.

APPLICATION

Candidates must submit a written application electronically in a single PDF file. Unless otherwise specified, the application should conform to the standard NIH organizational structure and NIH guidelines with respect to the details of formatting (e.g. font size, margins) and include the following components:

1. Application cover sheet (see attached)
2. Research proposal should include demonstration of the feasibility (allocation of KL2 award funds) of the proposal:
   - Specific Aims (limited to 1 page)
   - Research Strategy (limited to 5 pages)
     - Significance
     - Innovation
     - Approach
   - References (not included in the 6-page limit)
   - Budget (not included in the 6-page limit) for use of KL2 research funds: Please be advised that the research budget must be administered under the current NIH directive with respect to clinical trial research. The approved budget can only be used to offset research costs that do not directly support clinical trials. For example, KL2 funds may not be used to pay subjects or purchase medications. In addition, all funds must be managed by UC Davis, and not by off-site entities. As always, direct billing for services (such as assays) is permitted. All budgetary items should be reviewed and approved prior to initiating studies.
3. Human Subjects considerations in the planned research using the standard NIH format (Section E). This is to include a planned enrollment table.
4. Career plans (limited to 2 pages)
   - Career goals and aspirations
   - Education and training plan (including didactics, mentoring, and special activities)
5. CTSC utilization (limited to 1 page) describing how the applicant plans to draw on the resources of the CTSC.
6. NIH Biosketches for both the applicant and mentors and any other co-investigator (follow NIH guidelines for page limits and formatting) from the applicant, both mentors, and appropriate collaborators. The applicant’s biosketch should include all sources of current extramural funding and describe applicant’s role, % effort and % salary support.
7. Evidence of certification in human subject’s protection.
8. Three letters of support (see specific requirements below).

LETTERS OF SUPPORT (3)

1. Mentors: Because this is a program of mentored multidisciplinary clinical research, the letters of support from the mentors will be of great importance to the reviewers. Therefore, considerable attention should be paid to the requirements for the mentors’ letter as described here:
   - The candidate will need to identify two mentors from distinct disciplines, each of whom will contribute to the applicant’s program of research and training. The mentors’ letter is to be jointly authored and cosigned by the 2 mentors. This letter must make clear how the disciplinary expertise of each mentor will contribute to the candidate’s research and training plans. It should describe how the two mentors plan to work together and what each will contribute to the candidate’s research and training. The mentors’ letter must provide evidence of familiarity with the candidate’s research and educational/training program. Ideally, the mentors will guide the candidate in the development of the research proposal to be submitted as part of this application. The mentors’ letter should describe
their degree of involvement in the preparation of the application. The mentors’ letter should also describe specific plans for the frequency of contact between the mentors and the applicant and identify expectations for candidate productivity (i.e. expectations regarding manuscripts, submission of applications for extramural funding, etc.). They should indicate a willingness to complete the required semi-annual documentation of mentee progress and participate in seminars with the other scholars and their mentors. Finally, each mentor should describe their experience with mentoring and provide a table identifying prior mentees, their current positions, and any evidence of their mentees’ research productivity.

2. Department Chair: This letter must include a commitment to provide the applicant with at least 75% release time (50% release time for surgeons) from any clinical, educational, or administrative responsibilities. In addition, it should comment on the chairman’s opinion regarding the applicant’s qualifications for a career as an independent clinical research scientist and discuss how the applicant’s work will contribute to and is consistent with goals of the department.

3. Another individual who can comment on the applicant’s qualifications for a career as an independent clinical/translational research scientist. This may include a letter or combined letter from collaborators.

CALENDAR AND DEADLINES
The calendar for the application and review process is as follows:
1. CTSC KL2 Program Q&A session .................................................. October 30, 2018
   10:00 am – 11:00 am, Education Building, Room 2206, Sacramento
2. Deadline for electronic submission of all candidate application materials, including letters ........................................... December 3, 2018 at 5:00 pm
3. Notification of finalist status ........................................... approx. week of January 14, 2019
4. Interviews with finalists ........................................... approx. week of February 11, 2019
   (Please keep your schedule clear from 8:00am until 8:00pm on the day of the interviews.)
5. Notification of results of review ........................................... approx. week of February 18, 2019
6. Start date for fellowship ....................................................... June 1, 2019
   (date to be established in discussion with the scholars’ department Chair)

REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS
Each application will be reviewed by 3-4 members of the selection committee. Applications scored in the upper half will be considered for finalist status. Announcement of finalist status will occur during the week of January 14, 2019 (approximately). Finalists will be interviewed by members of the Selection Committee during the week of February 11, 2019 (approximately).

EVALUATION CRITERIA
1. Preparation of the applicant for success as a clinical/translational researcher
2. Quality of the research plan, including importance, innovation, methodological rigor, and feasibility
3. Career and mentoring plan
4. Integration with CTSC

Reviewers evaluate each of the above categories for each application, and an overall impact score (following the NIH scale) is determined. Reviewers also provide a supplemental written evaluation identifying major overall strengths and limitations of each application. A summary of review comments and scoring will be provided to applicants after final selections are made.

For more information, please visit our website at:
http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/ctsc/area/education/kL2/index.html
If you have any questions regarding the application process, please contact Donna Van Dolah, Academic Program Management Officer, dvandolah@ucdavis.edu or at (916) 703-9194.
PROGRESS OF SCHOLARS AND ANNUAL RENEWAL PROCESS

Once selected, scholars are required to submit human subjects project information to NCATS. Submission is due April 1, 2019. Scholars and their mentors will meet on a regular basis, agree on productivity goals, and discuss the scholar’s progress. This will be a proactive process designed to identify and overcome any barriers to success, facilitate access to CTSC resources, and promote accelerated career development through networking. Scholars will also present their work in progress at a combined annual retreat for CTSC training programs, and will work with the Directors of the CTSC and Education Core to help advance the CTSC mission by serving on committees and assisting in the recruitment and training of scholars in other CTSC educational programs. In addition, scholars will be asked to provide advice and feedback regarding the success of this program and methods for improving it. Documentation from both scholars and their mentors will be submitted at regular intervals. It is expected that scholars will submit for an independent K or R award (dependent on their level of training) during their 2nd year of the program.

Scholars may request review of this award at the end of the first year of funding. Continuation of support for the 2nd year is contingent upon meeting programmatic, professional, and productivity expectations identified above and availability of KL2 funds. Support for a 3rd year in the program will be contingent on meeting the programmatic, professional, and productivity expectations identified above and availability of Departmental and Institutional funds for support.

CHECKLIST OF MATERIALS TO BE SUBMITTED

Candidates must submit an electronic application in a single PDF with the following documents no later than Thursday, December 3, 2018 at 5:00 pm (Pacific).

- Application cover sheet (see below)
- Research proposal
- Human Subjects section and planned enrollment table
- Career plans/CTSC utilization
- Description of training and/or educational program
- NIH biosketches from both the applicant and the mentors
- Evidence of certification in human subject’s protection
- Letters of support
Name (Last, First, Middle Initial): ________________________________ Degree(s): ____________________________

Department(s): ____________________________________________________________

Professional title(s): _______________________________________________________

Work #: ____________ Home/Cell #: ____________

Pager #: ________________________________________________________________

Preferred email address: ___________________________________________________

Permanent mailing address: ________________________________________________

Title of Project:
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LETTERS OF SUPPORT: Please provide name, degree(s), title, department/affiliation, phone # and email address for each contact. Although they jointly sign a single letter of support, please list each mentor separately.

MENTOR #1 - Name & Degree(s):

Title: ___________________________ Phone #: ________________________________

Dept/Affiliation: ___________________________ Email address: ________________

MENTOR #2 - Name & Degree(s):

Title: ___________________________ Phone #: ________________________________

Dept/Affiliation: ___________________________ Email address: ________________

DEPARTMENT CHAIR - Name & Degree(s):

Title: ___________________________ Phone #: ________________________________

Dept/Affiliation: ___________________________ Email address: ________________

OTHER - Name & Degree(s):

Title: ___________________________ Phone #: ________________________________

Dept/Affiliation: ___________________________ Email address: ________________
All applicants: Please complete this Demographics Information form
(for grant-reporting purposes only)

Gender: □ Female □ Male

Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin or descent?
□ Yes □ No

What is your race? Please mark all that apply:
□ Asian
□ White
□ Black or African American
□ Native American or Alaskan Native
□ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
□ Other (please specify): ___________________________________________

Citizenship (as a reminder, applicant must be a United States Citizen or non-citizen national, or have legal admission into the United States as a permanent citizen at the time of application.)
□ United States
□ Other (please specify): ___________________________________________

Disability or Disadvantage backgrounds:

Disability □ Yes □ No
If yes, please list: ___________________________________________

Disadvantage background □ Yes □ No
Please describe: ___________________________________________