The Clinical and Translational Science Center (CTSC) is pleased to announce a call for applications for the K12 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 may extend for up to 3 years.

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 of $75,000 plus benefits (up to $93,750 in salary and benefits combined), as well as $25,000 for travel and research expenses each year. Travel to the annual meeting is mandatory in the first two years (optional in Year 3), and submission of an abstract is required for reimbursement of travel expenses, and submission of an abstract is required for reimbursement of travel expenses.

Scholars in the K12 program will:

- Obtain additional research training through participation in coursework, workshops, and/or individualized programs of study.
- Conduct a rigorous multidisciplinary clinical/patient-oriented 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.
- Prior completion of clinical/patient-oriented research training at least to the level of a master’s degree. This requirement can be met by the UC Davis MCRTP, an MAS or MPH program with emphasis on research methods for patient-oriented research, or similar programs offered at other institutions.
- 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/patient-oriented 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 K12 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 K12 scholars may not receive concomitant salary support from any other federal grant in the first year of K12 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)
   - Research proposal should include demonstration of the feasibility (allocation of K12 award funds) of the proposal: (6 pages total)
   - Specific Aims
   - Significance
   - Innovation
   - Approach
   - Budget for use of K12 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, K12 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.

2. Human subjects considerations in the planned research using the standard NIH format (Section E). This is to include a planned enrollment table.

3. Career plans (no more than 2 pages)
   - Career goals and aspirations
   - Education and training plan (including didactics, mentoring, and special activities)

4. CTSC utilization describing how the applicant plans to draw on the resources of the CTSC.

5. NIH Biosketches from the applicant and both mentors. The applicant’s biosketch should include all sources of current extramural funding and describe applicants role, % effort and % salary support.


7. 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.

CALENDAR AND DEADLINES
The calendar for the application and review process is as follows:

1. **CTSC K12 Program Q&A session** ................................................................. **January 7, 2015**  
   Time and Location: 1:00-2:00pm, Education Building #3229, Sacramento

2. **Deadline for electronic submission** of all candidate application materials, including letters .......................................................... **February 13, 2015 at 5:00 pm**

3. Notification of finalist status ................................................................. approx. week of March 30, 2015

4. Interviews with finalists .................................................................approx. week of April 20, 2015  
   (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 April 27, 2015

6. Start date for fellowship ................................................................. July 1, 2015  
   (date to be established in discussion with the scholars’ department Chair)

REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS
Each application will be reviewed by at least two faculty reviewers. Applications scored in the upper half will be considered for finalist status. Announcement of finalist status will occur approximately during the week of March 30, 2015. Finalists will be interviewed by members of the Selection Committee approximately during the week of April 20, 2015.

EVALUATION CRITERIA
1. Preparation of the applicant for success as a clinical/translational researcher (Weight: 25%)
2. Quality of the research plan, including importance, innovation, methodological rigor, and feasibility  
   (Weight: 50%)
3. Career and mentoring plan (Weight: 20%)
4. Integration with CTSC (Weight: 5%)

Reviewers assign a numerical value to each of the above categories for each application, and an overall score 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/k12/](http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/ctsc/area/education/k12/)
If you have any questions regarding the application process, please contact Kristen Venditelli at (916) 703-9194 or at kristen.venditelli@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu.

PROGRESS OF SCHOLARS AND ANNUAL RENEWAL PROCESS
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.

Scholars may request review of this award at the end of the first and second year of funding. Continuation of support for up to 3 years will be contingent on meeting the programmatic, professional, and productivity expectations identified above.

CHECKLIST OF MATERIALS TO BE SUBMITTED
Candidates must submit an electronic application in a single PDF with the following documents no later than Friday, February 13, 2015 at 5:00 pm.

☐ Application cover sheet
☐ 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 subjects protection
☐ Letters of support
CTSC K12 Mentored Career Development Program
Application Cover Sheet

Deadline: February 13, 2015 at 5:00 pm

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: _________________________________________

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):**

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**MENTOR #2 - Name & Degree(s):**

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**DEPARTMENT CHAIR - Name & Degree(s):**

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**OTHER - Name & Degree(s):**

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All applicants: Please complete this Demographics Information form 
(for grant-reporting purposes only)

Age: ________ years

Gender:  □ Male    □ Female

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:
□ United States
□ Other (please specify) ___________________________________________