

The AGS Foundation for Health in Aging and the Association of Specialty
Professors Announce

The T. Franklin Williams Research Scholars Award

2009

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

To receive an application, please visit our Web site: www.healthinaging.org

SUBMISSION TIMELINE

Application Deadline:
January 7, 2009

Start of Grant:
July 1, 2009

Amount:
\$37,500 per year for two years

Number of Awards:
One award will be made in 2009

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Visit www.healthinaging.org or contact Li-Chia Ong via email at LOng@americangeriatrics.org or by phone at (800) 247-8779 or (212) 308-1414.

PURPOSE

The AGS Foundation for Health in Aging and the Association of Specialty Professors are pleased to announce the availability of a T. Franklin Williams Scholars Award for academic geriatricians who are conducting research on older patients that has applicability to the care provided by sub-specialists of internal medicine. This program supports physician-scientists committed to improving the health care of older adults. The award is intended to allow individuals to initiate and ultimately sustain a career in research and education.

The T. Franklin Williams Scholars Award is offered by the AGS Foundation for Health in Aging (FHA) in collaboration with the Association of Specialty Professors (ASP) and is supported by a generous grant from the Atlantic Philanthropies. The award provides \$75,000 in project support over two years (\$37,500/year) for a junior faculty member who is devoting 75% of his/her time to research. The award must be matched by support (either from the applicant's home institution or a grant-making agency) that provides for 75% protected time for research.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Academic

The AGS/ASP T. Franklin Williams Research Scholars Award is a career development program aimed at junior level physician-scientist faculty at US academic medical (allopathic or osteopathic) institutions. To be eligible, the applicant must:

- have a MD or DO degree;
- hold a full-time faculty appointment at the level of assistant professor for no longer than four years at the time the grant becomes effective (please note, for applicants who are in the process of securing a faculty position, a letter from their future Department Chair or Division Head must accompany the application asserting the institution's commitment to the applicant and when the faculty position will become effective);
- devote 75% of his or her time to conduct research related to improving the care of older adults with 40% specifically devoted to this project; and
- be an internal medicine geriatrician who has completed all of the requirements to be eligible to sit for a Certificate of Added Qualifications by the time the award commences (July 1, 2008).

2. Sponsorship

The applicant must have at least two sponsors who are committed to providing guidance and collaboration throughout the course of the proposed project. At least one sponsor should represent geriatrics and at least one sponsor should represent a Specialty of internal medicine. The sponsors must:

- a. Have research experience and a successful record of providing academic career development guidance for junior faculty.
- b. Be on the faculty of the applicant's home institution.
- c. Be committed to continued involvement throughout the period of the project award.

Selection Committee members are not eligible to sponsor applicants during their tenure on the Selection Committee.

3. Research Interest

The applicant must:

- a. Demonstrate a strong commitment to an academic career devoted to improving the care of older adults.
- b. Devote 75% of his/her professional time to the research on the care of older adults.
- c. Provide a research plan that focuses on research with older patients that is germane to Specialty care of older adults.

4. Citizenship

An applicant must be a citizen or a lawfully admitted permanent resident of the United States. Applicants in temporary non-immigrant visa categories are not eligible.

5. Institutional Endorsement and Sponsorship

- a. Applicants must be sponsored at a US allopathic or osteopathic institution by two full-time faculty members, one in the division of geriatrics and one from any of the divisions of Specialty internal medicine.
- b. Permission to apply for this award must be obtained by the applicant from the dean of the medical school. The dean may authorize the submission of no more than one application.

- c. Have a written commitment from his/her departmental chair or division chief that 75% of the applicant's time will be devoted to research.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

The FHA is committed to ensuring fair and unbiased consideration of all eligible applicants for this award. Selection Committee members who have vested interests in an applicant's career advancement (e.g., when the applicant is from their own institution) will excuse themselves from deliberation/evaluation of that applicant's candidacy for this award. The FHA will forward its recommendation as to the recipient of the 2008 T. Franklin Williams Research Scholars Award to the ASP Geriatrics Committee for review and approval.

SELECTION CRITERIA *

A Selection Committee composed of nationally prominent academic physicians reviews all applications. Final selection of grant recipients is made by the Selection Committee and approved by the ASP Geriatrics Committee.

In their evaluations, Selection Committee members consider:

- qualifications of the applicant;
- impact of the proposed project on the applicant's career;
- the applicant's commitment to an academic research career devoted to improving the care of older adults;
- scientific merit of the research proposal and its relevance to improving Specialty care of older adults;
- evidence of the sub-specialty and geriatrics sponsors' commitment to the applicant through the period of the program as well as the sponsors' experience in research and training in the applicant's area of research interest; and
- commitment of the applicant's institution to supporting the career development of the junior faculty member (specific examples of evidence of such commitment include: provision of research facilities, research assistance, etc).

* Please note: it is not possible for applicants to receive verbal or written feedback from the Selection Committee regarding their applications.

CONDITIONS OF THE GRANT

A. Financial Administration

The AGS Foundation for Health in Aging will make the T. Franklin Williams Scholars Awards payment to the sponsoring institution on behalf of the awardee, hereinafter referred to as the Scholar. The amount of each grant is \$75,000 (\$37,500/year for two years). The first award payment will be made on July 1, 2008 in the amount of \$37,500. Subsequent payments will be made based on satisfactory Scholar financial reports. The institution is responsible for administering the funds in accordance with its prevailing procedures and policies, and the procedures and policies described in this brochure.

B. Use of Scholars Funding

Applicants for the Scholars Awards must submit a line-item budget. The primary intent of the award is to provide research project support with the expectation that salary and fringe support will be provided by other sources. No more than 10% of the award should be devoted to salary and fringe support. The line item budget should include a delineation of funding available from other sources to support this research project. Scholars are eligible for up to \$3,000 in travel grants, which must be used to attend two annual meetings of the American Geriatrics Society (one per year of the grant) and one meeting of the Specialty society in the recipient's Specialty area of interest in the second year of the grant. Award recipients will be reimbursed up to \$1,000 for attendance at each of the meetings. For purposes of budgeting, the 2010 meeting in Orlando, FL and the 2011 meeting will be in National Harbor, MD.

Funds may not be used to support institutional indirect costs for this award.

C. Presentation of Research

During the annual AGS meetings, all first-year Williams Scholars will be asked to present a poster on the general overview on their research methods and study design. Second-year Williams Scholars will present a poster on the results of their research project.

D. Semi-Annual Financial Reports

A separate financial record must be maintained by the institution for each Scholar, and this account must be available for audit by the AGS, Foundation for Health in Aging or its designee. Semi-annual expenditure reports will be required and a reporting schedule will be supplied to successful applicants. Failure to submit reports may result in withheld payment.

E. Progress Reports

Semi-annual progress reports and a final report discussing the Scholar's research must be submitted to FHA during the period of funding. Guidelines and a reporting schedule for submitting these reports will be provided. Failure to submit reports may result in withheld payment.

F. Publications

The AGS/ASP T. Franklin Williams Research Scholars Award is funded and administered through multiple sources. In addition to always using the proper title of your award, it is important for you to identify the supporting organizations whenever you present research funded through this award. After listing the award title, the funding organizations should be recognized in the following order: Atlantic Philanthropies, the AGS Foundation for Health in Aging, the John A. Hartford Foundation, and the Association of Specialty Professors. For your own reference, the Atlantic Philanthropies provides the award funds, the AGS Foundation for Health in Aging provides grant review and administrative support,

the John A. Hartford Foundation provides meeting travel during this award and administrative support, and ASP provides overall administration of the program.

For your own reference, the Atlantic Philanthropies provides the award funds; the subspecialty society provides matching award funds, grant review, and administrative support; the John A. Hartford Foundation funds the alumni meeting and visiting professor program; and ASP provides overall administration of the program.

G. Stipulations

1. The Scholars Award may not be transferred to another institution or sponsor without the permission of FHA. Transfer requests must be made in writing six months prior to the date of the proposed transfer. Such requests must include letters of support from the new sponsor and the division head of the new institution agreeing to all the terms and conditions of this award.
2. If the institution or the Scholar wishes to terminate the award before its completion, an agreement between the institution and FHA will be arranged. Termination will be made with the understanding that all unexpended funds will be returned to FHA and any unpaid balance of the award will be cancelled.

H. Visiting Professor Program

During the course of the award, the Scholar must apply for additional funds to invite a visiting professor to his or her institution. The visiting professor should be either a geriatrician or a specialist with a professional research background similar to the Scholar's research focus.

ABOUT THE AGS FOUNDATION FOR HEALTH IN AGING

In 1999, the American Geriatrics Society reached beyond its traditional role as a professional medical society and launched the AGS Foundation for Health in Aging. The AGS Foundation for Health in Aging builds a bridge between the research and practice of geriatrics health care professionals and the public and advocates on behalf of older adults and their special needs: wellness and preventive care, self-responsibility and independence and connections to family and community.

The Foundation focuses on public education, clinical research and public policy, championing initiatives that:

- Advance the principles and practice of geriatric medicine;
- Educate policy makers and the public on the health care needs and concerns of older adults;
- Support aging research that reduces disability and frailty and improves the quality of life;
- Encourage older adults to be effective advocates for their own health care; and
- Help family members and other caregivers take better care of their older loved ones and themselves.

ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION OF SPECIALTY PROFESSORS

ASP is the national organization of specialty internal medicine divisions at the US medical schools and several non-university teaching hospitals. ASP is the only organization that focuses specifically on providing training and educational opportunities for internal medicine division chiefs and fellowship training program directors. The T. Franklin Williams Scholars program is part of ASP's Geriatrics Development Initiative.

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ABOUT THE ATLANTIC PHILANTHROPIES

The Atlantic Philanthropies work globally to identify and support leaders, institutions, and organizations dedicated to learning, knowledge building and solving pressing social problems. The Atlantic Philanthropies have a longstanding interest in aging.

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ABOUT THE JOHN A. HARTFORD FOUNDATION

Founded in 1929, the John A. Hartford Foundation is a committed champion of health care, training, research, and service system innovations that will ensure the well-being and vitality of older adults. Its

overall goal is to increase the nation's capacity to provide effective, affordable care to its rapidly increasing older population.

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