



2020 AASLD FOUNDATION ADVANCED/TRANSPLANT HEPATOLOGY AWARD

Application Deadline: January 15, 2020

Award Period: July 1, 2020 – June 30,

2022 Award Amount: \$30,000

Description

The purpose of this award is to encourage the academic career of exceptional hepatology trainees. The Advanced/Transplant Hepatology Award provides \$4,000 in travel funds to fourth year Transplant Hepatology fellows or third year GI/Hepatology pilot program fellows in accredited U.S., Canadian, or Mexican programs to attend The Liver Meeting® and one additional educational meeting (approved by the Research Awards Committee). The Award provides an additional \$26,000 in research support to boost the Fellow's career as an academic hepatologist during the his/her first faculty year at an academic institution that will provide protected time to the applicant to perform mentored research.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for this award, the applicant must meet the following criteria:

1. The applicant must be a member of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) at the time of award application and maintain active membership for the duration of the award period.
2. For the duration of the award period, the applicant must have a faculty mentor who is active in hepatology at the applicant's sponsoring institution; the faculty mentor must be an AASLD member in good standing. Each mentor may only support one Advanced/Transplant Hepatology Award applicant per awards cycle.
3. The applicant must:
 - a. Have been accepted to a U.S. ACGME approved (or Canadian/Mexican equivalent) transplant hepatology training program with a start date of July 1, 2020; or
 - b. Plan to apply for the pilot GI/Transplant Hepatology combined program with a start date of July 1, 2020. *Note: Prior to funding, successful applicants from 3rd year pilot programs must have confirmed acceptance into the pilot GI/Transplant Hepatology program.*
4. The sponsoring institution must have a United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) or Canadian/Mexican equivalent approved liver transplant program, which must be in good standing and must perform at least 10 liver transplantations per year. The program must have a full-time faculty member or members capable of teaching a curriculum with a broad-base of knowledge in transplant medicine and hepatology. The program must provide training in living donor transplantation.
5. The research funds portion of the award is strictly for the fellow's first year of faculty appointment at a North American (U.S., Canada, or Mexico) academic institution that will provide protected time to the applicant to perform mentored research. The research portion of the funds will transfer with the fellow to their first faculty appointment even if that is a distinct institution from his/her training institution. Fellows who transition to fully clinical positions, however, will not be eligible to receive the research funds of this award.
6. There is no restriction on the number of applicants each sponsoring institution can submit each cycle, but each faculty mentor may only support one applicant per cycle.
7. Applicant may only apply for one (1) AASLD Foundation (AASLDF) award per application cycle.

Award Details

The award provides \$4,000 travel support (on a reimbursement basis, up to \$2,000 per meeting) for the recipient to attend The Liver Meeting® and one additional educational meeting (subject to Committee approval) during their fellowship year. The awardee will receive an additional \$26,000 in research support during the fellow's first faculty appointment at an academic institution, paid directly to the recipient's institution. **Research funding cannot be used for salary for the awardee or to support non-research expenditures or indirect costs.** The research funding is granted to the individual applicant; however, funds will be paid directly to the recipient's institution. The research portion of the funds will transfer with the fellow to their first faculty appointment even if that is a distinct institution from his/her training institution. Changes in institution and/or mentor must be approved by AASLD Foundation. Recipients must acknowledge the award in all publications (abstracts, manuscripts, or other documents) resulting from research performed during the tenure of this award.

Travel Stipend

Travel-related expenses incurred to attend the 2020 Annual Meeting and one additional educational meeting (subject to committee approval; e.g. Digestive Disease Week, International Liver Congress, American Transplant Congress, or any course offered by AASLD) will be reimbursed up to \$2,000 per meeting and according to guidelines provided prior to each meeting. Reimbursement funds are specifically and only available for attending the 2020 Annual Meeting and one additional educational meeting subject to committee approval; travel funds not used for this purpose will be forfeited and may not be used to attend other conferences that are not pre-approved by the AASLD Foundation Research Awards Committee.

Reporting

Travel funds will be paid on a reimbursement basis only and must meet all AASLD Foundation reimbursement requirements.

The Awardee will be required to provide proof of their pending faculty appointment prior to payment of research support funds. Award progress and financial reports must be sent to the AASLD Foundation within 60 days of completion of the award.

Any unexpended funds, either due to cancellation or funds not used during the award period, must be returned to AASLD Foundation by August 31, 2022.

Selection Criteria

Candidates will be evaluated based upon their background and their commitment to a career in adult or pediatric clinical hepatology. Specifically, candidates will be reviewed based on:

- Background and professional potential of the applicant as an academic hepatologist (presentations at meetings, publications, etc.)
- Quality of proposed future research project and planned use of seed grant
- Experience, productivity, and commitment of the faculty mentor(s)
- Clinical and/or academic environment

Applications will be reviewed based only on the written materials submitted. All decisions are final. **Incomplete applications and applications that fail to adhere strictly to the instructions (including the submission deadline and page limitations) will not be reviewed.**

Advanced/Transplant Hepatology Award Application Instructions

1. Use the included cover pages (pages 4-5). Print or type responses.
2. Include only the required documents and provide signatures as requested.
3. Put your name (last name, first name) and the name of the award in the upper right-hand corner of each page.
4. Use half-inch margins. Do not use lettering smaller than 10 point.
5. Assemble the application package in the order listed in the Required Documents section on the following page of this application.
6. Be sure to adhere to page limits and complete all sections. Applications that do not meet the requirements, in content or format, will not be reviewed.
7. The completed application, letters of support or commitment, and other documents as applicable must be combined into and submitted as one PDF document. Name the PDF file as follows: 2020 AdvHep – Last name, first name (*Example: 2020 AdvHep – Smith, John*)

Submission

The application deadline for this award is 11:59 pm Eastern time, December 4, 2019. Applications received after the deadline will not be reviewed.

Submit your application at www.liverresearchawards.org. You will be sent an email confirmation that the application was received. If an email confirmation is not received in 2 business days, please contact awards@aasld.org to confirm receipt.

Required Documents

Submit only the documents listed below using pages 4-5 as cover pages. Any additional documents (including letters of collaboration, additional letters of recommendation, or documents that exceed the stated page limitations) will be removed from consideration.

1. **Cover Pages and Required Signatures** – Complete all information on pages 4-5 and use as application cover pages.
2. **Abstract** – Provide your proposed project's abstract on page 6 of this application.
3. **Curriculum Vitae** – Provide a comprehensive CV including any publications, abstracts, or presentations.
4. **Biosketch of Mentor (Limit five pages)** – Provide a biographical sketch of the mentor using the current NIH SF424 Form (<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/424/index.htm>).
5. **Research Proposal (limit two pages, not including references)** – Proposals should include brief background, significance, statement of problem, hypothesis, and research approach, expected results and projected future directions. It is recommended applicants use the 1 page NIH-formatted specific aims page, and up to 1 page explanation how they plan to use research funds in their first faculty year. It is understood that submitted research plans may evolve during the awardee's fellowship year.
6. **Candidate's Statement (Limit one page)** – Statement of applicant's career plans including the significance of this award to the applicant's career development.
7. **Letter of Support from Primary Mentor** – A letter should be provided from the candidate's mentor confirming his/her sponsorship of the applicant as well as a statement confirming the information in the application is accurate. The letter should acknowledge that the mentor has reviewed the proposed research project.
8. **One additional letter of support** – One additional letter of recommendation should be provided attesting to the candidate's qualifications, commitment to research and quality of scientific work. This letter should not be provided by the applicant's mentor.

Funding notifications

Funding notifications for the 2020 awards cycle will be sent no later than **May 1, 2020**.



APPLICATION FOR THE
2020 ADVANCED/TRANSPLANT HEPATOLOGY AWARD

APPLICANT NAME:

SPONSORING INSTITUTION:

Please check all that apply:

- The applicant has been accepted to a U.S. ACGME approved (or Canadian/Mexican equivalent) transplant hepatology training program with a start date of July 1, 2020; or
- The applicant plans to apply for the pilot GI/Transplant Hepatology combined program with a start date of July 1, 2020. *Note: Prior to funding, successful applicants from 3rd year pilot programs must have confirmed acceptance into the pilot GI/Transplant Hepatology program.*
- The liver transplant program at the institution is a UNOS-approved program or Canadian/Mexican equivalent that is in good standing, has at least one full-time faculty with expertise in transplant hepatology and performs a minimum of 10 liver transplantations per year. The program provides training in living donor transplantation.
- The faculty mentor is active in hepatology at the sponsoring institution and is a member in good standing of AASLD. Member number: _____
- The applicant will not act as faculty during the fellowship period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

2020 ADVANCED/TRANSPLANT HEPATOLOGY AWARD APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant (last, first, middle initial)

AASLD Member Number

Degree(s) and year(s) granted

Current Position

Appointment Date (month & year)

Address

Telephone

Email

Sponsoring Institution

Mentor (last, first, middle initial)

AASLD Member Number

Address

Telephone

Email

Institution's Grants Administrator

Grants Administrator's Address

Grants Administrator's Phone

Grants Administrator's Email

Institution Fiscal Officer, if different (please print)

Required Signatures

NOTE: By signing below, you are certifying that the information in this application is accurate and that you understand that AASLDF guidelines do not allow for any indirect costs (e.g. facilities management and utilities; general-purpose or capital equipment; travel; memberships and dues; subscriptions/books/periodicals; etc.).

Signature of Applicant

Name

Date

Signature of Mentor

Name

Date

Signature of Program Director

Name

Date

Signature of Grants Administrator

Name

Date

Abstract of Proposed Research

In the box below, briefly describe the research project, technical approach and anticipated results. It is understood that this project may evolve during the fellowship year.