



REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

2023 AASLD FOUNDATION BRIDGE AWARD

Application Deadline: January 23, 2023
Award Period: May 1, 2023 – April 30, 2024 (1 Year)
Award Amount: \$100,000

AASLD Foundation's Mission

To invest in innovative hepatology research and in the people who study and treat liver disease.

Award Description

The purpose of this award is to support investigators who have recently submitted an NIH R or other federally funded equivalent award and have received competitive scores on their proposal, but were not funded, as they strengthen their proposal for resubmission to the NIH or other federal agency.

Award Details

- Awards of \$100,000 will be provided over one (1) year.
- Funds may only be used for **PI salary support** and/or for **technical support/laboratory supplies** (excluding capital equipment) for the recipient. **No additional or indirect costs, registration fees, or travel expenses are allowed.**
 - PI salary support is limited to \$20,000.
- Unexpended funds at the end of the award term must be returned to AASLD Foundation.
- Awards cannot be transferred to another institution without prior written approval from AASLD Foundation.
- This grant is intended as bridge support. If the application is funded by the NIH/equivalent during the AASLD Foundation Bridge Award period, the applicant must notify the Foundation and any unspent funds at the start of the other award must be returned.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for this award, the applicant must adhere to the following guidelines:

1. The applicant must:
 - Have a faculty appointment at or below the rank of Associate Professor.
 - 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.
 - Be able to devote at least 20% effort to the research project on which this application is based.
 - Be sponsored by a public or private non-profit institution accredited in the United States, Canada or Mexico engaged in health care and health-related research. Individuals employed at the NIH, FDA, and CDC are not eligible to apply.
 - Have submitted their highly scored NIH R or other federal equivalent application within the last 18 months as of the application deadline (eligibility window starts on the date your application was reviewed by the NIH/federal equivalent study section). The applicant must be able to provide their Summary Statements and their submitted award materials on Standard Forms SF424 (R&R).
 - Not currently hold a federally funded non-mentored grant (e.g., R01, P01, VA Merit) and not hold such a grant during the award period.
 - Not hold other significant extramural mentored or non-mentored research funding (greater than \$50,000) during the award period. Institutional funding and/or pilot research funding may be held during the award term.

2. The proposed project must:
 - Be conducted at the sponsoring institution within the United States, Canada or Mexico.
3. Application limits:
 - **There is no restriction on the number of applicants an institution can sponsor each cycle, but only one applicant may be funded per distinct department within each institution in this award category.**
 - Applicants may only apply for one AASLD Foundation award per calendar year.

Selection Criteria

Applicants will be evaluated based upon their background, their priority score and summary statement critique, and their strategy to address comments in the critique/summary statement. Applications will be reviewed based on the written materials submitted.

Priority will be given to those seeking their first R01 award.

Incomplete applications and applications that fail to adhere strictly to the instructions (including the submission deadline and page limitations) will not be reviewed. All decisions are final.

Application Formatting Instructions

1. Use pages 4-5 of this application as cover pages. Type responses.
2. Include only the required documents and provide signatures as requested.
3. Include a header at the upper right corner of each page with your name (last name, first name) and award name.
4. Use half-inch margins. Do not use lettering smaller than 10 point.
5. Adhere to page limits and complete all sections. Applications that do not meet the requirements, in content or format, will not be reviewed.
6. The completed application, letters of support or commitment, and other documents as applicable must be combined in the order listed in the Required Documents section (page 3) and submitted as one PDF document. Name the PDF file as follows: 2023 BRIDGE_Last name, first name (Example: 2023 BRIDGE_Smith, Jane)

Application Submission

The application deadline for this award is **11:59 pm Eastern time, January 23, 2023**. 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 two (2) business days, please contact awards@asld.org to confirm receipt.

Application Resources

AASLD Foundation Research Award Glossary: www.aasldfoundation.org/glossary

Applicant FAQ: <http://www.aasldfoundation.org/awardsFAQ>

Previous Funding Programs Eligibility List: <http://www.aasldfoundation.org/eligibility>

NIH Biosketch Format: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>

NIH Other Support Format: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/othersupport.htm>

NIH PHS 398 Detailed Initial Budget Period Form: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>

Required Documents

Submit only the documents listed below. 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use pages 4-5 of this RFA as your application's cover pages. Complete all information and include all required signatures. Signatures may be digital, electronic, or "wet."
2	Copy of the Originally Submitted Proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include all components of the application, including the research and career plans, supporting documents, budget pages and other components.
3	NIH/Other Federal Entity Summary Sheets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Including critique and priority score.
4	Summary of Changes to Original Documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using page 6 of this application, verify if there have been any changes to the following since the submission of the original proposal: Biosketch, facilities, letters of collaboration. Include updated documentation, with changes highlighted or noted as appropriate.
5	Research Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide an accounting of all other institutional, federal and non-federal support using the NIH "Other Support" form (link goes to direct download). Include all funding available from collaborators and sponsors.
6	Candidate's Statement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit four pages The statement should outline the candidate's strategy and methods for responding to the NIH/equivalent critique that address concerns and will result in a resubmission during or immediately following AASLD Foundation Bridge funding. The statement should contain an expected timeline for resubmission and what impact receiving the award would have on the applicant's research program and career.
7	Budget and Budget Justification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using the NIH PHS 398 Detailed Initial Budget Period Form, show proposed budget for use of \$100,000 AASLD Foundation Bridge funding during the one-year award term. Provide a budget justification narrative to support the proposed budget. Note that no indirect costs are allowed, and PI salary support must be limited to no more than \$20,000.
8	Letter of Commitment from Department Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit one page The Department Chair's letter should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explicitly confirm the percent of available time that will be devoted to research activities on which this application is based during the award (minimum 20%). Confirm and describe the institution's support of the candidate and commitment to their research success.
9	Institutional Review Board (IRB) or IACUC Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use page 7 of this application to verify if IRB or IACUC approval is needed for this project. If human or animal subjects are to be used, verification of IRB or IACUC approval of the proposed research in the applicant's institution should be provided prior to the award being granted. IRB/IACUC approval (if necessary) must be applied for at the time of application.

The following pages contain forms that must be included in **all** applications. Please refer to the list of required documents above when assembling your final application package

2023 AASLD FOUNDATION BRIDGE AWARD APPLICATION

Project Title	
Applicant Name (last, first, middle initial)	AASLD Member Number
Applicant Degrees(s)	Date of Terminal Degree (MM/YYYY)
Applicant Current Position Title	Appointment Date (MM/YYYY)
Applicant Telephone	Applicant Email
Sponsoring Institution	
Sponsoring Division or Department	
Institution's Grant Administrator Name (last, first, middle initial)	Institution Fiscal Officer Name, if different (last, first, middle initial)
Institution's Grant Administrator Telephone	Institution Fiscal Officer Telephone
Institution's Grant Administrator Email	Institution Fiscal Officer Email

Required Signatures

NOTE: By signing below, you are certifying that the information in this application is accurate and that you understand that Foundation 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.).

Applicant Signature	Name (Printed)	Date
Department / Division Chair Signature	Name (Printed)	Date
Institution's Grant Administrator Signature	Name (Printed)	Date

2023 AASLD FOUNDATION BRIDGE AWARD ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST

Complete the eligibility checklist below and include the completed page as page 2 of your application package.

1. The applicant:
 - Has a faculty appointment at or below the rank of Associate Professor

2. The applicant confirms that (select all that apply):
 - They are a member of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) at the time of award application and will maintain active membership for the duration of the award period.
 - They will be able to devote at least 20% effort to the research project on which this application is based.
 - They are sponsored by a public or private non-profit institution accredited in the United States, Canada or Mexico engaged in health care and health-related research.
 - The proposed project will be conducted at the sponsoring institution within the United States, Canada or Mexico.

3. Applicants are **not eligible** for this award if they:
 - Currently hold a federally funded non-mentored grant (e.g., R01, P01, VA Merit) or will hold such an award during the award period.
 - Will hold significant extramural mentored or non-mentored research funding (greater than \$50,000) during the award period.

The applicant confirms that (select one):

- They do not currently hold a federally funded non-mentored grant and will not hold a federally funded non-mentored grant or significant extramural mentored or non-mentored research funding (greater than \$50,000) during the award period.

- The applicant currently holds a federally funded non-mentored grant or will hold a federally funded non-mentored grant or significant extramural mentored or non-mentored research funding (greater than \$50,000) during the award period.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

In our efforts to fund more high-impact proposals, AASLD Foundation seeks partnerships with individual or private foundation donors that have expressed interest in supporting research projects in specific diseases or areas of focus.

Please indicate below if you give AASLD Foundation permission to share your de-identified application with potential individual or private (non-industry/corporate) foundation donors in the event your application is highly meritorious and matches with one of these opportunities.

- Yes, I agree to allow AASLD Foundation to share my de-identified application with potential individual donors or private (non-industry/corporate) foundations that have an interest in supporting research in my area of focus.
- No, I do not agree to allow AASLD Foundation to share my de-identified application with any potential private donors.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES TO ORIGINAL DOCUMENTATION

Complete this page and include it in your application following your NIH/other federal entity summary sheets, with appropriate supporting documentation.

BIOSKETCHES

- A. Are there any changes to the biosketches included in the original application? Yes No
- B. Are there new key personnel/collaborators not included in the original application? Yes No

If you have answered yes to either of the above, list the names of the Senior/Key Personnel you are providing updated or new biosketches for in the box below and attach the updated/new biosketches following this page.

- Biosketches should be limited to 5 pages each using the NIH format.
- For updated biosketches, highlight changes from original documentation.

FACILITIES DESCRIPTION

- A. Have there been any changes to the facilities description included in the original application? Yes No

If you have answered yes to this question, provide an updated facilities description after any updated/new biosketches.

- Limit 3 pages
- Note changes from original application.

LETTER(S) OF COLLABORATION/SUPPORT

- A. Are there any changes to collaborative/mentoring arrangements included in the original application? Yes No
- B. Are there new collaborative/mentoring arrangements not included in the original application? Yes No

If you have answered yes to either of the above, list the names of the Senior/Key Personnel you are providing updated or new letters of collaboration/support for in the box below and attach the updated/new letters following this page.

- Limit one page each

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD (IRB)/ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE (IACUC)

Complete this page and include it at the end of your application, with appropriate supporting documentation.

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD

- A. Does the proposed study require Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval? Yes No
- B. If the proposed study requires IRB approval, has the documentation verifying approval been obtained and included in the award application? Yes No

If the proposed study has been approved, please provide documentation of verification with your application (**limit 2 pages**).

If IRB approval is not necessary or not attached, please state why below:

ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION

- A. Does your proposed study involve the care and use of animals? Yes No
- B. If the proposed study involves the care and use of animals, has the proposed study been approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) of the applicant's institution and do they follow the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Guidelines on the care and use of laboratory animals? Yes No
- C. If the proposed study requires (IACUC) approval, has the documentation verifying approval been obtained and included in the award application? Yes No

If the proposed study involves the care and use of animals and has been approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, please provide documentation of verification with your application (**limit 2 pages**).

If approval by the Animal Care and Use Committee of the applicant's institution is not necessary or not attached, please state why below: