Eleanor and Miles Shore Faculty Development Awards Program

Frequently Asked Questions

PROGRAM Questions

What is the purpose of the Eleanor and Miles Shore Faculty Development Awards Program?

The Eleanor and Miles Shore Faculty Development Awards Program (Shore Program) are an overarching designation for HMS/HSDM awards that fund academic activities for Instructors and Assistant Professors at vulnerable times of their careers, namely while they are assuming increased family or other responsibilities that may inhibit academic advancement. The selection process culminates in a fall reception that honors recipients in the presence of deans, families, friends, mentors, and peers. To learn more about the program, including award opportunities, past award recipients and celebrations, or the history of the program, please visit our website at: http://fa.hms.harvard.edu/shore

What kind of award opportunities are included under the Shore Award designation?

Most of the awards that are considered Shore Awards are sponsored by departments at HMS affiliates and HSDM, rather than by HMS. Regardless of sponsor, they may utilize a centralized, single-stream application managed by the Office for Faculty Affairs. A subset of additional award opportunities also designated as Shore Awards are managed independently through an external application and review process managed by the sponsoring department or institution.

A complete list of Shore Awards including specific eligibility requirements, application process, deadlines and contact information, can be viewed on our website at: https://fa.hms.harvard.edu/shore-program-current-award-opportunities

What are the eligibility criteria for awards under the Shore Program?

Eligibility requirements vary by specific award, but the following applies to a majority of awards. For exceptions or detailed information, please reference our Request for Application (RFA) document.

To be eligible, applicants must:
- Have an appointment as instructor or assistant professor at the time of submission (to confirm your academic appointment, click here on Harvard Catalyst profiles)
- Hold an MD, DMD, PhD, or equivalent advanced degree
- Have a named Project Mentor
- Have a statement of support by a Project Mentor
- Provide information on IRB/IACUC status, if currently under review
- Not currently have an R01 (or similar mid-career grant)
- Past award recipients are ineligible

Given the competitiveness of these awards, priority is given to applicants who do not have early career development grants (e.g., K awards). An applicant who already has the majority of their time supported by one or more grants should provide a compelling rationale for the incremental benefit of a Shore award over applicants who do not.

How many awards are funded each year?

The number of awards offered varies each year at the discretion of the award sponsors. In a given year, the Shore Program typically includes >50 awards.

Who sponsors the Shore Awards?

Awards designated as Shore Awards are provided by HMS, HSDM, affiliated institutions, departments, divisions, centers and private donors.

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Questions? Please contact us at:
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www.fa.hms.harvard.edu

What amount is funded?
The minimum level of support of $30,000 (typically funded at $30,000-$50,000) per award.

What kind of projects are funded?
Projects may focus on any academic project including research, clinical or teaching programs. Funds can be used for additional laboratory assistance at a time when independent funding is not attainable. The award is not intended to offer total support and cannot provide for childcare costs or medical expenses. It is possible to support travel costs for dependents to a maximum of $1,000 if the faculty member would otherwise not be able to give professional presentations. Funds cannot be used for cost sharing of existing projects or to cover tuition expenses.

When does the funding period begin?
The majority of awards have a minimum 12-month funding period from July 1 – June 30. Some exceptions may apply.

Are indirect costs allowed?
Many awards offered as part of the Shore Program do not allow indirect costs (or facilities & administrative costs). However, some do allow indirect costs which will be noted in the award description.

The questions and answers below apply to current award opportunities utilizing our single-stream application process managed by the Office for Faculty Affairs.

APPLICATION Questions

What is the purpose of the Shore Program's centralized, single-stream application process?
The Office for Faculty Affairs manages the application process for most of the Shore Awards. This permits central oversight and consistent and equitable application of selection criteria across Shore Awards. It permits applicants to apply for multiple award opportunities for which they may be eligible.

What awards use the single-stream online application?
A complete list of awards utilizing the centralized, single-stream online application is included in the current Request for Application (RFA) or on our website, under current award opportunities, found here: https://fa.hms.harvard.edu/shore-program-current-award-opportunities

Do I have to apply to be considered for an HMS-wide award?
Yes; all applicants who submit an application are automatically considered for an HMS-wide award. If you are applying for an award not managed by the Office for Faculty Affairs, you will need to submit a separate application for consideration for the HMS-sponsored award.

What are the eligibility criteria for awards under the Shore Program?
Eligibility requirements vary but the following applies to a majority of awards. For exceptions or detailed information, please reference our Request for Application (RFA) document.

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- Have a named Project Mentor
- Have a statement of support by a Project Mentor
- Provide information on IRB/IACUC status, if currently under review
- Not currently have an R01 (or similar mid-career grant)

Given the competitiveness of these awards, priority is given to applicants who do not have early career development grants (e.g., K awards). An applicant who already has the majority of their time supported by one or more grants should provide a compelling rationale for the incremental benefit of a Shore award over applicants who do not.

Can I apply for multiple awards at once?
Yes. While faculty may not receive more than one award, through our single-stream application, applicants can apply for all award opportunities for which they are eligible.

What is required for the single-stream online application?
Applicants must complete the online application, including the questionnaire on Personal Need, and upload requested documents as a single PDF file; statement of support will be required. **PLEASE NOTE: The application form cannot be saved prior to submission. Please prepare and save your responses elsewhere prior to completing this application to prevent data loss.** See the full specifications on the Request for Application (RFA).

Application requirements include:
- Project Title
- Project Description (based on Academic Promise) (max 2-pages)
- Budget Narrative (max 1-page)
- Budget Proposal (max 1-page)
- Faculty of Medicine Curriculum Vitae (not an NIH Biosketch)
- IRB/IACUC approval or submission confirmation, if currently under review

Why does the single-stream application include questions on personal need?
Application scores are weighted with two thirds of the final score evaluating the project's academic promise and one third scoring the applicant's personal need. For this reason, we ask you to share information that is not generally required by most award programs.

Will my responses to the Personal Need Questionnaire be shared with my Department?
No. These questions are designed to understand your personal need for support. Questions will cover children and other dependents, personal and family health issues and financial challenges. The information is seen by only three reviewers, is kept confidential and will not be shared with your department.

Where can I find information on the Faculty of Medicine CV format?
Information on the Faculty of Medicine CV format may be found at https://fa.hms.harvard.edu/faculty-medicine-cv-guidelines.

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What is required for statements of support?

Please no letters. Each application must include a statement of support from the applicant's primary project mentor. Applicants will be prompted to include their project mentor's name and email address for the online request to be sent directly from the application system. We recommend that you notify your project mentor of this deadline well in advance. Deadline: Wednesday, January 31, 2024, 5:00 PM.

Mentors will be asked to answer several questions:
- Describe the anticipated impact this funding will have upon this applicant's career development. (100 words)
- Describe what enabling factors will help this applicant complete this project in the year of funding. What challenges do you anticipate and how will you and/or the institution be able to support the applicant in addressing them? (200 word maximum)
- What is the level of time commitment can you invest in mentoring this faculty member on this project. What type of resources do you and/or the institution have to support the applicant? (100 words maximum)
- Please share any additional information that would be helpful for the selection committee to consider in their prioritization of applications. (100 words maximum)

Please note that the project mentor will only see the applicant's name, project title and project summary. The full scope of your proposal, including your personal need responses will not be included.

Can a Project Mentor support more than one applicant?
Yes. Project Mentors can support multiple people.

Can I start the application and go back to make edits?
No. The application form cannot be saved prior to submission. Please prepare and save your responses elsewhere prior to completing this application to prevent data loss.

Do I have to have an active appointment?
Yes. [To confirm your active academic appointment, click here on Harvard Catalyst profiles.](#) If the information does not display or is incorrect, please contact us immediately to help resolve the issue prior to submission.

If I am a recipient of an award and accept a position at a different institution during the award period, do I have to relinquish the funding?
Yes.

Are there additional awards recognized under the Shore Program that conduct an external application and review process?
Yes. There are additional award opportunities included under the Shore Program designation that are managed independently through an external application and review process. Additional award opportunities and specific eligibility requirements, application process, deadlines and contact information, can be found on our website, under current award opportunities, found here: https://fa.hms.harvard.edu/shore-program-current-award-opportunities

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