

Clafin Career Development Award FAQ

Q: I am unsure which track to apply under.

Track 1: Mentored Career Stage

- Early career research **faculty**, including those who are entering their K award stage.
- The applicant should be in the “mentored” phase of their career, **moving towards an independent research career**.

Track 2: Early Independent Scientists

- Early career faculty who recently established independent research groups and have secured or are applying for their first extramural independent funding (NIH R funding or equivalent).
- The applicant should have a robust publication record.

Clinical researchers in the first two years of their K years should select track 1, and applicants in mid-late stages of their K, years 3-5, should select track 2

Fundamental researchers still working solely on their mentor’s research should select track 1, while researchers who have their own area of research and assigned research space should select track 2.

Q: I have been on the faculty for eleven years now, and believe this award would be very helpful now that I have had my first child. Can I apply?

A: You must be within ten years of your first academic appointment, cumulative of all academic institutions.

Q: I am a research fellow, but anticipate that I will be an Instructor next summer. Can I apply?

A: Candidates must have an academic appointment at the level of Instructor or Assistant Professor at Harvard Medical School at the time of application. If the applicant's academic appointment or promotion is pending, a signed letter from the applicant's Chief must be included with the application. The letter should explain the status of the applicant's academic appointment. The Instructor or Assistant Professor appointment must be finalized before the Clafin review committee meeting.

Q: I am pregnant and this will be my first child. Am I eligible to apply?

A: No. You must be caring for a dependent at the time you submit the application.

Q: Can I request salary support for myself as PI on the project?

A: We would prefer it if the applicant had salary support; however we can make exceptions. If you need to use part of the award for salary, you will need to provide a justification in the application. (ex. "I will use Claflin funds to buy out some of my clinic time.")

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Q: My research colleague is also my Chief, so may I submit one letter?

A: Two letters of support are required, so it is suggested that you submit a letter from a former mentor as well as your research colleague/Chief.

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

Q: Does the application need to go through Grants Management for pre-review

A: No, please submit your application directly to MGB ROC using the MGB Online Management Portal. You can access this by [clicking here](#).

Q: Do you have to apply online?

A: Yes. All applications must now be submitted online using the MGB Online Grant Management Portal.

Q: Can I have deadline extension for submitting my proposal?

A: No. We have a tight timeframe for reviewing these proposals and therefore we must enforce our deadlines and no extensions are granted.

AWARDS & NOTIFICATION

Q: How many awards are given each year?

A: The committee will select up to 18 awards this year.

Q: What is the indirect cost rate for this grant?

A: The indirect cost rate is 20%

Q: Will applicants receive feedback/critiques back from the Review Committee?

A: Due to the large numbers of applications, the committee is not able to provide applicants with feedback/critiques.