



Child Health Research Awards Program Information Session – July 2019 Funding Cycle

February 15, 2019

Good afternoon, and thank you for joining us for this information session.

My name is Charlene Mancusi, and I am the Program Officer for the Charles H. Hood Foundation. With me today is our Senior Scientific Advisor, Dr. Robert Sege.

During this session we will provide a high-level overview of the Hood Foundation and delve into specific information regarding its flagship program, the Child Health Research Awards. We welcome your questions during and following today's presentation. Please note, this session is being recorded and will be posted to our website as a resource.

ABOUT THE CHARLES H. HOOD FOUNDATION

❑ Overview of History & Mission

❑ Programs & Operations

❑ Ways to Connect & Engage

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- The Charles H. Hood Foundation is a family foundation, incorporated in 1942 by Harvey P. Hood, in honor of his father, Charles H. Hood, a pioneer of the 1800s dairy industry whose drive to improve sanitary production and distribution of the milk he sold revolutionized the industry and dramatically increased the survival rate for infants in the region.
- Managed by a Board of Trustees who are descended from Charles H. Hood, the Foundation seeks to fund groundbreaking and innovative pediatric research in and around the New England area, making meaningful change possible by filling the gaps in the medical research and innovation funding marketplace that springboard the next generation of cutting-edge scientific leaders and advancements in pediatric health.
- The Foundation offers three primary mechanisms for support:
 1. Child Health Research Award Program, designed to support early-career investigators. This funding opportunity is posted via an open RFA, and of course is the focus of today's information session.
 2. Major Grants Initiative to Advance Child Health, which aims to support outstanding senior investigators, and is posted via a closed RFA process.
 3. Program-Related Investments, (PRIs), fill the gap between translational research and clinical development and application of pediatric-related

initiatives. Start-up companies are selected for PRI funding through an internal vetting process.

- In addition to providing funding, the Foundation is dedicated to finding ways to meaningfully engage and connect with partners in child health, and supporting collaborations wherever possible. 2019 brings a series of exciting developments, including incorporation of an annual networking event and the launch of new social media platforms – all intended to support our shared goal of improving the care and well-being of children. Please visit our website, www.CharlesHoodFoundation.org to learn more about the Foundation and all of its programs and initiatives.

THE CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH AWARDS PROGRAM

<u>WHO:</u>	Junior faculty leading independent research programs
<u>WHERE:</u>	Nonprofit academic, medical or research institutions in New England
<u>WHAT:</u>	\$165,000 over two years
	<u>RESEARCH PROJECTS:</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Relevance to child health• Hypothesis-driven• Basic, clinical, translational science, public health & health services research
<u>WHEN:</u>	Two application cycles annually - current application deadline: Thursday, March 28th, for funding to begin July 1st

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Now, moving into our main topic for this hour, The Child Health Research Awards Program. This program targets junior faculty leading independent research programs at nonprofit academic, medical or research institutions in the New England states (Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut). *Applicants must be working in their reported institution by the application deadline.*

The award totals \$165,000 over two years, for hypothesis-driven projects relevant to child health. The minimum percent effort required to be dedicated to a funded project is 20%. The Trustees welcome proposals from all disciplines and research angles: basic, clinical and translational science, public health and health services research projects. *As noted in the application guidelines, research projects that focus on pregnant women and their fetuses will not be considered responsive to this RFA.*

There are two application cycles offered annually, one in the spring for funding to begin in July, and the other in the fall, for funding to begin the following January. *Resubmissions are accepted, though only once during the next two semi-annual grant cycles following the original submission.*

The deadline for submitting an application for the current cycle will be March 28th, by noon EST.

THE CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH AWARDS PROGRAM

Researcher Eligibility:

- PhD-Scientists within five years of employment following conclusion of training
- OR
- MD-Scientists within seven years of employment following conclusion of training



*Eligibility window now extended by **six months** for each child born or adopted by the applicant, provided that they are the primary caretaker for the child.*

NOTE: This is in addition to any family or medical leave taken.

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A bit more about researcher eligibility. As mentioned, the Hood Foundation wants to serve as a catalyst to help launch the careers of promising investigators, and this particular program is designed to support early-career researchers who might not yet qualify or be considered competitive for funding from other sources. We consider PhD scientists who are within 5 years of employment following conclusion of training, and physician-scientists within 7 years. We do not count time spent on family or medical leave toward this timeclock. In addition, new this cycle, the program will begin allowing an additional 6 months to be added to the clock for applicants who serve as the primary caregiver for a child born or adopted during their applicable window.

THE CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH AWARDS PROGRAM

About support from other funding sources...

(separate from start-up package, other intramural support or Hood award)



Eligible

- Combined federal and non-federal funding totaling < \$500,000
- Includes NIH K Award and R00 phase of K99/R00
- Notification of R01 funding *after* application deadline will not impact eligibility



Ineligible

- Combined federal and non-federal funding totaling ≥ \$500,000
- R01, P01, Pioneer Award, New Innovator or Early Independence Award
- Current or prior large multi-year awards over \$700,000 from other federal agencies or national foundations.

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Again, the Child Health program is intended to support newly independent faculty, to provide the opportunity to demonstrate creativity, and to assist in the transition to other sources of research funding. For this reason, we must carefully evaluate applicants' support from other funding sources.

Applicants may hold a K Award or be in the R00 phase of a K99/R00 as long as the award amount, combined with other funding, does not exceed the limits noted below.

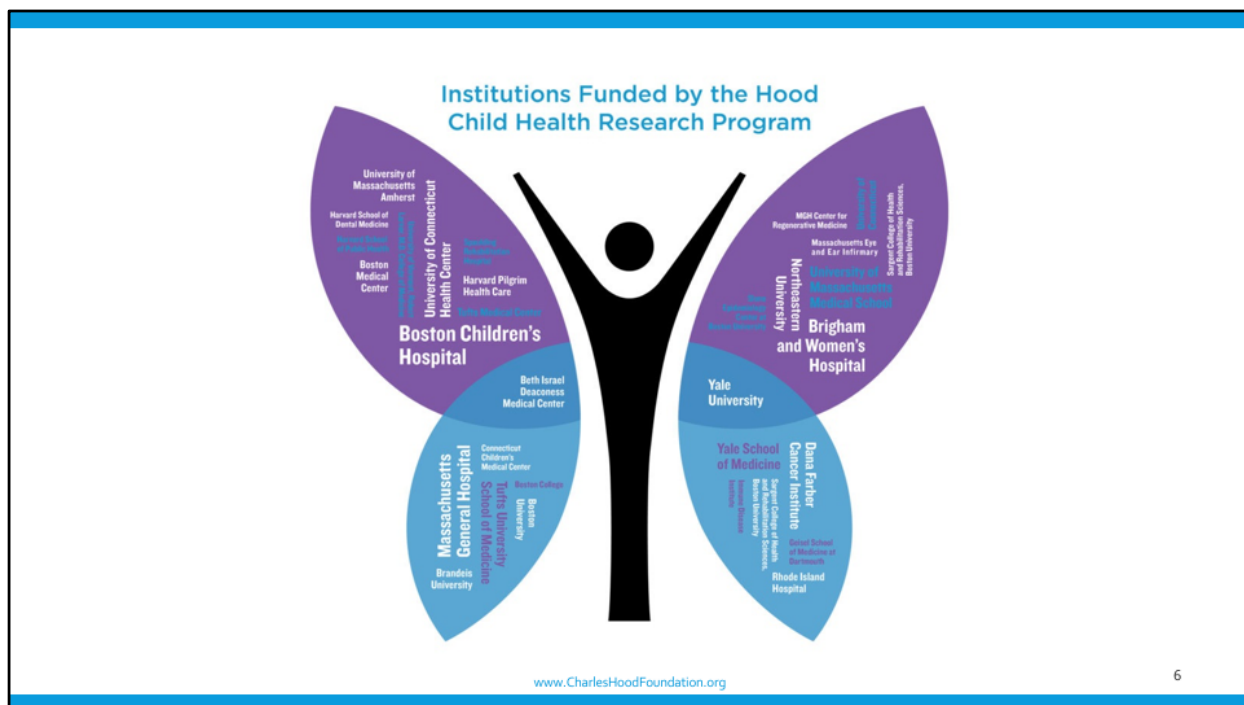
Applicants are ineligible if, at the time of application, they have **combined federal and non-federal funding** totaling \$500,000 or more in direct costs during the first year of the Hood Award. This figure refers to external funding only and not an Applicant's start-up package, other intramural support, or the Hood Award.

Applicants are ineligible if they are currently or have previously been designated as Principal Investigator or Co-P.I. on an R01, P01, Pioneer Award, New Innovator Award, or Early Independence Award. They are also ineligible if they are currently or have previously received similar large multi-year awards (total award amount over \$700,000 in direct costs) from other federal agencies or national foundations.

Applicants who have pending R01s or other large applications to the NIH and other agencies are encouraged to submit proposals to the Hood Foundation.

If **notified on or prior to the Child Health application deadline** (March 28) that they have been successful in securing federal or non-federal grant support that, combined with other support, totals \$500,000 or more in direct costs during the first year of the Hood Award, applications to the Program will be ineligible for review.

Notification of funding after the application deadline will not impact eligibility for a Hood Award.



Now, just a couple slides to clear up some potential misinformation floating out there.

As mentioned, the Hood Foundation supports researchers and institutions throughout New England. To date, over 30 institutions have been funded. Here we have a wordcloud showing the various institutions that received Child Health Awards between 2005-2017. If you are familiar with how wordclouds work, the more frequently a name shows up on a list, the larger it appears. You can see there are some minor variations here, most simply due to the nature of the research conducted at different places, but for the most part we observe a widespread and fairly equivalent distribution of funding over time.

CHILD HEALTH AWARDS INCLUDE THE ENTIRE TRANSLATIONAL SPECTRUM



Basic

Establishing the C1Q-like Protein Signaling Pathway as a Novel Target for ADHD Treatments

David Martinelli, PhD (University of Connecticut)

Translational

Assessment and Mechanisms of Blood Vessel Dysfunction in Critically Ill Children

Richard Pierce, MD, MS (Yale School of Medicine)

Efficacy and Effectiveness

PediCARE: Feasibility of Novel Poverty-Targeted Intervention to Reduce Childhood Cancer Disparities

Kira Bona, MD, MPH (Dana-Farber Cancer Institute)

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The Hood Child Health Awards cover topics across the translational spectrum. It seems that there may be some misconception about the types of projects funded by the Hood Foundation; please be aware that even the most well-intentioned and highly-educated people may be sharing outdated information. Never hesitate to reach out to us directly for the most current information. Here is a sample of current funded projects showing the spectrum of research types:

Dr. Martinelli – January 2019 awardee (T1)

- His project addresses attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), for which there is insufficient knowledge about which proteins in the brain can be targeted with drug treatments to alleviate ADHD symptoms.
- He is using Hood funds to run a mouse model study to demonstrate that a particular type of protein signaling (C1QL3-BAI3) is relevant to ADHD, which could open the door for future research to design drugs to target the C1QL3-BAI3 protein complex.
- If a drug is found to treat the ADHD-like symptoms in mice, it would be an ideal candidate for clinical trials in children with ADHD.

Dr. Pierce – January 2018 awardee (T3)

- Recognizes there are no current methods to directly assess the presence or severity

of capillary leak, severely complicating care in the sickest children, and also that the mechanisms by which capillaries become dysfunctional or recover function are unknown, leaving supportive care as the only treatment.

- His project involves using an established specialized bedside examination (retinal fluorescein angiography) and also a cutting-edge technique (single cell RNAseq) to detect capillary leak, assess severity, and characterize cell changes from critically ill children as compared to non-critically ill children.
- The goal of this project is to diagnose and identify the pathways involved in the endothelial response to critical illness in order to develop new interventions that would benefit critically ill children.

Dr. Bona – January 2018 awardee (T4)

- Her project involves interventions seeking to reduce the unmet basic needs of poverty during a child's cancer treatment—such as not having enough food—to improve childhood cancer survival.
- Her team had previously developed the Pediatric Cancer Resource Equity (PediCARE) intervention, designed to use nationally available commercial solutions so that long-term it can be used at centers across the United States.
- PediCARE aims to reduce food and transportation insecurity during a portion of chemotherapy treatment with pre-paid monthly grocery delivery (via AmazonFresh); and pre-paid weekly transportation from home to hospital/clinic (via Uber) - they are now using Hood funds to refine and pilot test.

You can find the full project descriptions for these and other Hood-funded projects on our website, www.CharlesHoodFoundation.org.

CURRENT APPLICATION, DECISION & FUNDING TIMELINE



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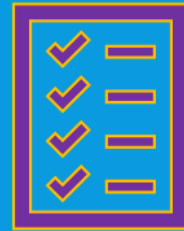
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Now, let's focus on the application process, starting with the current timeline.

1. If you haven't already, be sure to visit <https://hria.org/tmf/Hood> for full eligibility guidelines, terms of the award and application instructions
2. Submit proposals by noon on March 28, 2019
3. Funding determinations will be shared in June 2019
4. Funding may begin between July and October 2019 (awardees have the option to defer their project start date up to 3 months)

REDUCING APPLICATION STRESS

1. Carefully review the full eligibility guidelines and review criteria *before* starting your application
2. Line up recommenders – *applications CANNOT be submitted until AFTER confidential letters have been received*
3. Allow time to submit your application – entire process is online and there are multiple files to upload.
4. Complete submission by March 28th.



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The Child Health Awards follow a fairly standard model for grant proposal submissions, but as with all funders, it is important to know the specific steps and requirements needed before you dive into the process.

1. Review the full guidelines, terms and instructions provided online BEFORE starting your application
 - Submissions accepted only via online system, with a few different components:
 - 1) Electronic entry portion (includes an “eligibility quiz” and asks for your basic identifying information)
 - 2) Upload portion: a PDF combining the required Application Face Sheet, Project Summaries, an Applicant Independence / Institutional Commitment Form completed by your Department or Division Chair, your Biosketch, Budget Forms, and the Research Proposal itself (maximum of 6 pages, not counting bibliography)
 - 3) Two confidential Letters of Recommendation are required, to be submitted directly by the recommenders* via the online system, with an optional third letter allowed. The two required letters must be from 1) your Department or Division Chair and 2) your Postdoctoral

Mentor, Residency Director or equivalent. The third letter is optional from a person of your choosing.

2. Be sure to talk with potential recommenders early in the process and well ahead of the submission deadline; applications cannot be submitted until the required recommendations are uploaded, so you want to confirm that they are able to meet the 3/28 deadline. We all know they are probably very busy people, but your application will not be accepted by the online system until their confidential letters are received so you must be proactive. When you log into the application system, you won't be able to see the letters themselves, but you will see whether they have been submitted or not. Provide gentle, respectful reminders as needed in advance of the submission deadline.
3. Log into the online application system (you may be prompted to create new account or to access an existing one, if you've previously applied to any grant programs administered by TMF at HRiA). Complete the basic information and eligibility quiz questions listed.
4. Pull together your proposal and other required materials, upload as a combined PDF, verify all letters of recommendation are on file, and hit "submit" before noon on Thursday, March 28th. (You will receive an email confirming submission was successful.)

➤ Things to keep in mind:

- Please be aware that your proposal will be read by the Trustees themselves, in addition to multiple scientific review committee members - write so that readers from all backgrounds will understand what you are proposing and why.
- Successful applications most often have no typos, are easy to follow and avoid use of obscure acronyms.
- PRO TIP: have someone NOT from your field review your proposal before submitting; their input could mean all the difference for a project that would be fundable but is not funded.
- Don't be shy to ask for honest feedback on all components, from grammar to feasibility – ambition is admirable, but the Foundation wants to know that you are being set up to succeed, not fail. Talk with someone who has been around the block to determine if your proposal is truly realistic.

REVIEW CRITERIA

Research Proposal

- 1. A clearly stated hypothesis, based on sound precedents and supported by relevant literature;
- 2. Objectives that are technically feasible;
- 3. Personnel who are qualified to carry out the proposed research; and
- 4. Adequate project and institutional support.

Applicant Career Potential

- 1. Established an independent research career
- 2. Potential for a future career research relevant to child health.
- 3. Institutional support and commitment to the Applicant's research career

SCIENTIFIC REVIEW PROCESS

The Review Committee

- Scientific review includes investigators from many fields and from across New England
- Occasionally, *ad hoc* reviewer needed for technical help
- Two reviewers read and score each application
- Top half discussed at committee
- Five proposal plus 1-2 alternates sent to Trustees for final selection
- Written feedback sent to each applicant

Pro Tips

- Applicant will know more about the specific field than the reviewers: *write clearly and explain the context of the work*
- Reviewers are mentors: *pay attention to description of applicant independence and career trajectory, and to letters*
- Reviewers are investigators - *Don't promise more than can be done in two years*
- Selection process is competitive - *avoid typos, grammatical errors, and awkward cut and paste*

HAIL TO THE CHIEF(s)!		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nancy C. Andrews, MD, PhD <i>First female Dean of Medicine, Duke University</i> • Scott A. Armstrong, MD, PhD <i>Chair of Pediatric Oncology, DFCI Associate Chief of Hematology/Oncology, Boston Children's Hospital</i> • Diana W. Bianchi, MD <i>Director of the National Institute of Child Health & Human Development</i> • Jan L. Breslow, MD <i>Lab Chief at Rockefeller University & former President of the American Heart Association</i> • F. Sessions Cole, MD <i>Director of Newborn Medicine, Washington University & Chief Medical Officer, St. Louis Children's Hospital</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R. Alan Ezekowitz, MD, PhD <i>Former Chief of Pediatric Services, MGH</i> • Raif S. Geha, MD <i>Chief of Immunology, Boston Children's Hospital</i> • Robert J. Haggerty, MD <i>Former Chief of Pediatrics, University of Rochester Medical Center</i> • Margaret K. Hostetter, MD <i>Former Chief of Pediatrics, Yale School of Medicine</i> • Wayne I. Lencer, MD <i>Chief of Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Nutrition, Boston Children's Hospital</i> • Ellis J. Neufeld, MD, PhD <i>Clinical Director, Physician-in-Chief & Executive VP of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter E. Newburger, MD <i>Chief of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, UMass Medical School</i> • David H. Perlmutter, MD <i>Dean, Washington University School of Medicine & former Chair of Pediatrics, University of Pittsburgh</i> • Fred S. Rosen, MD <i>Former Chief of Immunology, Boston Children's Hospital</i> • Mitchell J. Weiss, MD, PhD <i>Chair of Hematology, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital</i> • David A. Williams, MD <i>Chief of Hematology/Oncology, Senior Vice President & Chief Scientific Officer at Boston Children's Hospital</i>
HOOD FOUNDATION FUNDING HELPS LAUNCH CAREERS!		
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Now a quick look at some of the impressive achievements of researchers who were supported by the Hood Foundation early on in their careers. Here is just a sampling of former Hood awardees who have gone on to serve in an impressive array of leadership positions, including Dr. Diana Bianchi, who was a 1990 Child Health awardee and is now Director of NICHD.

**HOOD FOUNDATION
AWARD BENEFITS
—
BEYOND JUST
DOLLARS!**

- ❖ Network of Leaders in Child Health
- ❖ National Recognition
- ❖ Mentorship Pairings
- ❖ Annual Meeting
- ❖ Social Media Engagement



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In addition to the network of leaders and national recognition demonstrated on the prior slide, beginning in 2019 we are working to even further increase the value of Hood awards by offering:

- Mentorship pairings between junior faculty and established researchers who have served on our Scientific Review Committee
- An annual meeting for our awardees
- Social Media engagement, on Twitter (@CHoodFoundation) and LinkedIn (Charles Hood Foundation)

NEXT STEPS

- Visit www.CharlesHoodFoundation.org
for more information about the Hood Foundation
- Go to <https://hria.org/tmf/Hood>
for full application guidelines and instructions
- Contact Charlene.Mancusi@CharlesHoodFoundation.org
with any specific application questions

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Again, please visit www.CharlesHoodFoundation.org for more information about the Foundation, hria.org/tmf/Hood for the Child Health application guidelines and other materials. And please, feel welcome to reach out to me directly at Charlene.Mancusi@CharlesHoodFoundation.org at any time.



QUESTIONS?

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Any questions?

Thank you again for joining us today, and we look forward to receiving your applications soon!