

DPAF Physician Assistant Research Grant Application Instructions



2020 DPAF Physician Assistant Research Grant Program

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2020 DPAF Physician Assistant Research Grant Program Applicant Instructions

Introduction

The Dermatology PA Foundation (DPAF) invites dermatology PAs and PA faculty to submit proposals to the DPAF Physician Assistant Research Grant Program, a new grant program made possible by a generous contribution from Sun Pharmaceutical Industries. The program is intended to support patient-focused research and increase scholarly activity among dermatology PAs and PA educators.

For the 2020 application cycle, funding will be prioritized for research projects that address novel research questions that aim to evaluate the impact of dermatology PAs on patient outcomes and are consistent with at least one of DPAF's seven priority goals:

1. The impact of the Dermatology PA on patient outcomes and patient care for skin, hair and nail diseases and disorders (e.g. access to care, decreased wait times, patient education, etc.).
2. The Dermatology PA impact, involvement, and accuracy of: skin cancer and melanoma detection, treatment and prevention.
3. Skin cancer prevention through the training of non-healthcare skin professionals.
4. The efficiency and efficacy of photodynamic therapy vs alternatives methods of care (e.g. topical field treatment and liquid nitrogen) on skin cancer treatment and prevention.
5. The screening, diagnosis, and treatment of psoriasis and associated comorbidities; the screening, diagnosis, treatment of other inflammatory skin conditions and associated comorbidities.

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6. The role of the Dermatology PA in the diagnosis, treatment, and education of atopic dermatitis patients to reduce their comorbidities and the impact to their families.

7. The development and implementation of a practical and useful mental health screening in patients with chronic skin, hair, nail diseases and disorders.

In 2020, DPAF will award approximately four (4) one year grants in amounts of up to \$10,000 per award. The 2020 application cycle opens February 17, 2020 and closes June 1, 2020. All funds must be spent by the end of the project year (September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021); exceptions regarding spending beyond the project year will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

About the Dermatology PA Foundation

The DPAF was established in 2015 in order to help dermatology PAs expand their leadership and contribution to the field of dermatology. The DPAF is led by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Society of Dermatology Physician Assistants (SDPA) Board of Directors. In addition, the Immediate Past President of the SDPA is required to serve as a DPAF Trustee.

Established exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, the DPAF is a 501(c)(3) corporation. The purpose of the DPAF is to engage in research, scholarships, educational activities, and philanthropy designed to improve the practice of dermatologic patient care by PAs and other medical professionals.

Award Description

a. Description

The 2020 DPAF Physician Assistant Research Grant Program is intended to increase research and scholarly activity among dermatology PAs and PA faculty. Applicants are encouraged to develop innovative research projects that aim to examine the impact of dermatology PAs on patient outcomes. Funding will be prioritized for projects that address one of DFPA's seven priority goals. Additionally, projects that involve collaboration and mentorship among senior and junior researchers will also be given special consideration.

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b. Amount and Effective Date

The 2020 DPAF Physician Assistant Research Grant Program will provide a maximum of \$10,000 in support per grantee. DPAF recommends allocating no more than 30% of budget for personnel costs and a minimum of 70% for program implementation. Indirect costs may not exceed 5% of total award. Maximum indirect cost rates and limitations apply to the primary applicant organization and any sub-grantees. Funding for year one of the award will be effective September 1, 2020.

c. Award Eligibility Requirements

This award is designed to increase research and scholarly activity among dermatology PAs. The specific principal investigator eligibility requirements are as follows:

- Be a dermatology physician assistant or PA faculty member
- Be employed for a minimum of 10 hours per week
- Agree submit a 6-month progress report to DPAF administrators
- Agree to complete the research portion of the project within 12 months of receiving the award
- Agree to submit a final project report to DPAF administrator within 30 days of the end of the study
- Have at least 10% of time and effort committed to research
- Have proof of Institutional Review Board (IRB) submission, approval, or exemption
- Submit the research findings for presentation at the SDPA 19th Annual Fall Dermatology Conference
- Agree to submit results for publication in the Journal of the Society of Dermatology Physician Assistants of the end of the study
- Acknowledge SDPA, DPAF, Sun Pharmaceutical, and the DPAF Physician Assistant Research Grant Program in all scholarly work resulting from the funded project (e.g., presentations, publications, or posters)

Special consideration will be given to projects that demonstrate collaboration between practicing dermatology PAs from different practices/institutions or between practicing dermatology PAs and more experienced researcher/PA faculty member.

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d. Selection Criteria

Recipients will be selected by DPAF's Scholarship Review Committee. Members of the Scholarship Review Committee will evaluate each application based on defined proposal contents.

e. Formatting Details

Proposal and all attachments must be submitted as Microsoft Word documents, with the exception of IRB documentation. Proposals must be in 12-point Times New Roman font, left justified, with 1.5 line spacing, and 1-inch margins. A maximum of 10 pages will be accepted for the research proposal, excluding appendices. Content should be formatted as follows:

1) Award Application

a) Cover Page: Complete the form and obtain the required signatures. This will be page 1 of your application package.

b) Abstract (200-word limit)

c) Research Proposal

i) Background and brief review of literature

ii) Research question(s) and/or problem

iii) Specific aims

iv) Research methods, including information regarding sample size, data collection methods, analytic plan, projected timeline, and IRB approval

v) Dissemination plans and anticipated impact on PA education or the PA field

vi) References/Literature Cited in AMA format

d) Institutional Review Board (IRB) Documents: research involving human subjects must include approval by an accredited academic or private IRB as stated by the United States Department of Health and Human Services

e) Budget

i) Itemized budget line items and appropriate justification for each line item

ii) Time commitment of all individuals participating in the project

2) Appendices (no page limit)

a) Letter of support from the supervising physician and/or department chair

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- b) PI's complete and current CV
- c) Description of any collaborative efforts with other PAs and/or PA faculty including specific details regarding each member's roles and contributions to the present study
- d) Copy of survey instruments, if applicable.

Your complete application must be sent electronically by 11:59 p.m. ET, Monday, June 1, 2020 to DPAF at research.grants@dermpafoundation.org. The subject line of your email must contain the following: "DPAF Physician Assistant Research Grant Application: Last Name, First Name." DPAF will send a reply email to confirm receipt the by June 10, 2020.

Questions

Should you have any questions regarding the application process, please feel free to contact DPAF at research.grants@dermpafoundation.org.

Appendix A: Application Cover Page

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Please provide demographic information for all investigators affiliated with this proposal. Use the definitions below to identify each investigator's role and briefly describe their contributions to the proposed research project.

- **Principal Investigator (PI):** Primarily responsible for the preparation, conduct, and administration of the proposed research grant, and completion and reporting of the project if funded. This person will also serve as the primary point of contact and must have a major role in the conceptualization, design, and execution of the project. ***Each proposal may only have a single PI.***
- **Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI):** Shares the responsibilities detailed above with the PI. This person must also have a major role in every aspect of the project.
- **Co-Investigator (Co-I):** Should contribute to the development and execution of select portions of the project, but is not responsible for every aspect of the of the project.

Appendix A: Application Cover Page

Title of proposed project:

Principal Investigator

Name:

Credentials:

Email address:

Daytime telephone number:

Address for correspondence:

Practice affiliation name and address:

Are you a PA educator? Yes No

If yes, Institution affiliation: Department: Academic rank:

FTE: Years as a PA educator:

Years as a researcher:

Contributions to project:

Signature: _____ Date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

Co-Principal Investigators and Co-Investigators

Name:

Credentials:

Email address:

Daytime telephone number:

Address for correspondence:

Practice affiliation name and address:

Are you a PA educator? Yes No

If yes, Institution affiliation: Department: Academic rank:

FTE: Years as a PA educator:

Role (check one): Co-Principal Investigator Co-Investigator

Contributions to project:

Signature: _____ Date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

Name:

Credentials:

Email address:

Daytime telephone number:

Address for correspondence:

Appendix A: Application Cover Page

Practice affiliation name and address:

Are you a PA educator? Yes No

If yes, Institution affiliation: Department: Academic rank:

FTE: Years as a PA educator:

Role (check one): Co-Principal Investigator Co-Investigator

Contributions to project:

Signature: _____ Date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

Appendix B: Application Evaluation Criteria

DPAF Physician Assistant Research Grant Application Evaluation Criteria

Proposal Title: _____

Review Committee Member: _____

1) Background, Research Question, and Specific Aims (15 points)

- a. The research question(s) are adequately and clearly articulated, detailed, and testable.
- b. The research question(s) are aligned with DPAF's seven priority goals.
- c. The project addresses novel problems or research question(s) relevant to the impact of dermatology PAs on patient outcomes
- d. The background information was appropriately researched and referenced
- e. The background information demonstrates the significance of the research question(s)
- f. The application includes a clear statement of the specific aims(s) of the study

2) Research Methods (25 points)

- a. The research methods are appropriate to the objective
- b. The methods are likely to yield high-quality, meaningful data
- c. The analytic plan is outlined effectively and in detail
- d. The proposed analyses appropriately address the research question(s)
- e. The variables of interest and potential confounders are clearly defined

3) Analytic Plan (15 points)

- a. The analytic plan is outlined effectively and in detail & The proposed analyses appropriately address the research question(s).
- b. The proposal provide evidence that the applicant can effectively evaluate the outcomes

4) Anticipated Timeline and Dissemination (15 points)

- a. The project can be completed within 12 months of funding
- b. The investigators include detailed plan for dissemination of the project's results**
- c. The project is likely to result in a peer-reviewed publication or presentation to the scientific community**

5) Budget (15 points)

Appendix B: Application Evaluation Criteria

- a. The budget is appropriate for the proposed research methods and sufficiently detailed
- b. The budget line items are well-justified

6) Overall Quality (15 points)

- a. The proposed study likely to influence the field of dermatology and/or shed light on the role of PAs in dermatology?

7) Special Consideration/Bonus (15 points)

- a. The project demonstrates collaboration between a practicing dermatology PAs with limited research experience and more experienced researcher or between practicing dermatology PAs from different practices/institutions.
- b. The PI has been involved with PA-related research for fewer than five years