



KARAT Catalytic Grant Application

PI Name: _____

Division/Institute: _____

Current Funding Mechanism (e.g., NHLBI K23, Foundation CDA, etc.): _____

Current Year of Support: _____

Email Address: _____

Title of Project: _____

Total Funds Requested: _____

IACUC or IRB Approval Numbers (if applicable): _____

Primary Mentor's Name: _____

Mentor's Division/Institute: _____

Additional Materials

In addition to this completed application form, please provide the following items:

1. Current NIH Biosketch
2. Specific Aims (1-page maximum). Outline in detail how this research will facilitate an independent line of research for a potential R-level application.
3. Research design and methods (1-page maximum)
4. Budget and budget justification (1-page maximum). Provide as much detail as necessary for reviewers to determine appropriate use of funds.
5. Statement of support from your primary mentor.

Email the completed application form and additional materials as a **single PDF** by **5pm** on **Monday, June 10, 2024**, to:

Natalie Schweningen
Executive Manager, Office of the Chair
Department of Medicine
University of Pittsburgh
Phone: 412-648-9965
schweningern@upmc.edu



University of
Pittsburgh

Department of Medicine
School of Medicine

KARAT Catalytic Grant Application

Call for Applications

Thank you for your interest in the KARAT Catalytic Grant Program. This funding mechanism provides Catalytic Grant support to K/CDA awardees to develop innovative lines of research that will lead to independent funding.

The Department of Medicine currently has an unprecedented number of talented K/CDA junior faculty, who are transitioning into our next generation of independent PI leaders. The transition from mentored junior faculty to independent researcher, however, is a precarious and difficult period of the academic career pathway. The K/CDA awardee must generate a novel line of research and body of supporting work that is clearly independent of their current mentor. The goal of this funding mechanism is to provide Catalytic Grants to K/CDA awardees to enable and develop innovative and exciting lines of research that will lead to independent funding.

K Awardee to R Advancement Training (KARAT) Program

The Department recently initiated a K Awardee to R Advancement Training (KARAT) Program under the leadership of Oliver Eickelberg, MD, the Vice Chair for Basic and Translational Research. The KARAT program provides a broad range of career development activities and academic support including grant writing workshops, grant reviews, academic skills training, networking, and peer support for our K/CDA awardees. Only participants in the KARAT program who have completed their first year of mentored training are eligible to apply for this mechanism of Catalytic Grant funding.

Award Information

The Department supports up to \$500k per year in funding for the Catalytic Grants this year. Dr. Eickelberg will oversee peer-review of applications, and awards will range from \$10-50k per year, depending on budget justification of the applicants (note: funding cannot support the salary of the Principal Investigator).

Due Date

Applications are due by **5pm** on **Monday, June 10, 2024**. The completed application should be sent as a single PDF to Ms. Natalie Schweninger (schweningern@upmc.edu).

Eligibility

Only participants in good standing of the KARAT program, who have completed their first year of mentored training, are eligible to apply for this mechanism of Catalytic Grant funding.

Review Process

Grants will be reviewed by the KARAT Leadership Council under direction of Dr. Oliver Eickelberg. Those applicants awarded KARAT Catalytic Grant support are expected to present at a Department-wide symposium after completion of their studies.

Please direct any inquiries to Ms. Natalie Schweninger (schweningern@upmc.edu)