

About the American Lung Association Catalyst Award

Since 1915, the American Lung Association Research Team has made significant contributions to the fight against lung disease by revolutionizing treatment and unlocking secrets of the body's immune system. We have funded breakthroughs in the fight against tuberculosis, identified genes that cause the development of lung cancer and cystic fibrosis, and developed innovative ways to treat respiratory distress syndrome. The American Lung Association nationwide research program is building on over a century of success as we continue to invest in the brightest, pioneering minds with immense potential to drive innovation, discover the unknown, and improve the lives of those living with lung disease.

About the Funding Opportunity

The American Lung Association Catalyst Award is a mentored award meant to support outstanding investigators on the path to independence for research into the mechanisms of lung disease and general lung biology. Preference is given to projects that are novel; innovative in design/approach; utilize modern technologies; and incorporate a multidisciplinary collaborative training plan.

The Catalyst Grant is for \$50,000 per year, for up to two years. Grants are subject to annual review; the second year of support is based upon demonstration of satisfactory progress.

Successful applicants are early career faculty, on-track to pursue a career in lung health research with a mentor who has a demonstrated history of lung disease research and mentorship.

Key Dates

July 12, 2018	Applications accepted through proposalCENTRAL
December 13, 2018	Deadline to submit an application is Thursday, December 13, 2018 (11:59 PM, Eastern Time)
February- April	Peer Review Period
June 2019	Funding notifications are sent to all applicants

Important Notes

Applicants are limited to submitting only one application per annual cycle.

It is recommended that applicants submit projects to the appropriate Institutional Animal Care and Use of Committee (IACUC) and human subjects Institutional Review Board (IRB) at the time of application or before. Copies of the approvals must be provided to the American Lung Association prior to the start of an award; otherwise the award may be administratively withdrawn. Award payments will not be issued until these approvals are forwarded to the Lung Association.

Eligibility Requirements

Citizenship

At the time of application, candidates must be United States citizens or foreign nationals holding one of the following visa immigration statuses: permanent resident (**Green Card**), exchange visitor (**J-1**), temporary worker in a specialty occupation (**H-1B**), Canadian or Mexican citizen engaging in

professional activities (TN), Australians in Specialty Occupation (E-3) or temporary worker with extraordinary abilities in the sciences (O-1). At the time of application and throughout the award, an applicant must be employed by a U.S. institution.

Mentor Requirement

Applicants should be on-track to pursue a career in lung disease research with a mentor who has a demonstrated history of research experience and mentorship.

Education and Experience

At the time of application, the applicant must hold a doctoral degree and have a faculty appointment or equivalent with demonstrated institutional commitment (salary support, research space) in a recognized academic or other not-for-profit institution. This award is intended to support investigators prior to receipt of career-development awards, like K08, K23, K99 or similar career-development award.

Fellows and PhD post-docs are eligible to apply only if their Department Chair can assure a promotion to faculty status by the start of the award.

MD applicants must have completed two years of post-doctoral research training by the start of the award.

Medical residents, those presently enrolled in a degree program (e.g., graduate students), and established investigators are not eligible to apply. Factors that are considered indicative of an established investigator include, but are not limited to, academic rank of professor or associate professor; awards of established investigatorship (e.g., NIH-R01 Awards, Veterans Administration Merit Review Awards), an extensive bibliography, or a national reputation as an investigator in their field.

Peer Review

Applications determined by administrative review to be eligible for funding will go through a rigorous external peer review process. Factors considered when reviewing applications include:

- Scientific merit, technical feasibility, innovation in approach, design and methodology
- Applicant's education, experience, productivity and recommendation letters
- Research environment and mentorship plan
- Likelihood that the applicant will engage in an ongoing career in lung health research
- Department Chair (or equivalent) letter clearly assuring faculty appointment and demonstrating institutional commitment before the start of the award