

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Funding Opportunity Title

Research Innovation Career Development Award (RICDA)

Funding Opportunity Purpose

Critical support (especially increase in research protected time) for promising early career clinician scientists to maintain momentum of scientific investigation.

Award Sponsor

The Ohio State University College of Medicine

Award Administration

[Office of Physician Scientist Education & Training](#)

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Applicant Eligibility

- Assistant or Associate Professor
- Early career clinician scientist
- Primary clinical appointment at Ohio State Wexner Medical Center
- No more than 9 years from first faculty position
- Actively engaged in research with existing $\geq 20\%$ research protected time

Other Considerations

Eligible applicants who are pursuing their first K or R award are encouraged to apply

Award Amount

\$75,000

Allowable Funds Use

- Up to 20% additional research protected time
- Research personnel support
- Research core use
- Supplies and other expenses
- Publication fees
- *Conference/travel support not permitted*

Application

[RICDA '26 Application Link](#)

2026 KEY DATES

Posted Date

Monday, March 2

Information Sessions

Friday, March 13, 12:00 – 12:30 PM EST ([register here](#))

Tuesday, March 17, 4:30 – 5:00 PM EST ([register here](#))

Letter of Intent Due Date

Monday, March 30, 11:59 PM EST ([submit here](#))

Full Application Due Date

Friday, April 24, 11:59 PM EST ([submit here](#))

(deadline is firm; no applications will be received after 4/24/26)

Notice of Award

Early July 2026

Earliest Funding Start Date

July 1, 2026

Section I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

PURPOSE

The Ohio State University College of Medicine **Research Innovation Career Development Award (RICDA)** opportunity is designed to provide critical support (especially research protected time) for promising early career clinician scientists to maintain momentum of their scientific investigation toward a proximate research goal.

SELECTION

Awardees will be selected based on a competitive application process in which the following will be key review considerations:

- Applicant research education & training qualifications
- Applicant research track record
- Applicant research program innovation, quality, and significance
- Applicant research plan
 - Research plan and preliminary data
 - Identification of a feasible and proximate research goal
- Applicant's plan for award use

- Applicant’s research career development support and commitment from the division, department and/or center director
- Award Impact: Likelihood of the award to impact the momentum of the clinician scientist’s research career trajectory

AWARDEE REQUIREMENTS

- Meet with Administrative Director to discuss the Award initiation and expectations
- Prepare an Individual Development Plan (IDP)
- Meet biannually with program leadership
- Completion of REDCap 6 and 12-month progress reports to monitor awardee progress towards individual research and career milestones
- Engagement with fellow RICDA awardees and within activities that promote the Ohio State physician/clinician scientist community
- Completion of a written Final Report and an oral presentation to program leadership summarizing research and career development outcomes during the support period
- *All publications and presentations supported by this award must acknowledge:*
 - ***Ohio State College of Medicine Research Innovation Career Development Award and the Office of Physician Scientist Education & Training.***

NUMBER OF AWARDS

Up to 5 awardees will be selected

Section II. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

The **Research Innovation Career Development Award (RICDA)** is a research grant designed to provide critical support (especially research protected time) for Early and Mid-career clinician scientists who meet the following criteria:

- Full time Assistant or Associate Professor in the College of Medicine with a primary clinical appointment at OSUWMC
- Early to Mid-Career: No more than 9 years from first faculty position
- Education: A professional doctoral degree such as the MD, DO, or foreign equivalent medical degree; A clinical doctorate degree such as the DPT, DOT, PsyD, etc.
- Must have existing ≥20% committed research effort

Section III. APPLICATION & SUBMISSION INFORMATION

LETTER OF INTENT

A letter of intent (LOI) is required for all applicants and is due no later than date listed at the beginning of the RFA. Be prepared to submit the following information when submitting your LOI:

- Name, email, and faculty/department title
- Department and department chair name
- Division and division chief name (when applicable)

- Application/Research project title
- Summary of research and/or disease area(s)
- *Optional*: Names of 3-5 Ohio State faculty at the associate or full professor rank who would be considered to have expertise or a good working knowledge related to the focus of your research (excluding faculty in your department/division, with whom you are currently working as a PI/co-PI, or in a capacity that would be viewed as a conflict of interest)

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

This funding announcement will serve as the instructions and guidelines for full application submissions. Applications and supporting materials are to be submitted **by the deadlines noted in this document. No late applications will be accepted.**

Please read these instructions carefully before applying. The application must be completed and submitted online via the RedCap link on page 2 of this document.

The application process involves completing a survey with information about your job, education, and demographic information. You will also create a PDF document containing a **Personal Statement, Research Summary, Letters of Support**, and an **NIH Biosketch or SciENCv Biosketch for both you and your research mentor(s)**. You may also include an optional matching funds letter from a Center Director, Department Chair or Division Chief committing additional financial support to increase research protected time and/or support your research activities.

All required documentation must be uploaded into **one PDF file in the following order**:

1. Personal statement (limit to 1 page, must include career plans and goals)
2. Research summary (limit to 3 pages and include specific aims, hypothesis, innovation, preliminary data, research plan, expected outcomes, and alternative approaches)
3. NIH Biosketch
4. NIH Biosketch of primary research mentor(s)
5. Letter(s) of support (only 1 required, no more than 3)
6. Department/division matching funds letter of support - **optional**

Your application materials must be submitted in **PDF format** with the file named using the following guideline < lastname_firstname_RICDA_2026 >

APPLICATION COMPONENTS

Personal Statement

In no more than one page, provide a broad overview of your research, professional goals, and career trajectory. This section should include information about your career goals, research innovation, direction, and significance to your field. You should also include the need for this career development award/support, plan for award use, and identification of at least one proximate research goal that can be achieved within the next 1 to 2 years. Describe your

current clinical effort and responsibilities and how an increase in research protected time or financial support could help your research productivity and career progression.

Research Overview:

- Overall research program innovation, quality, and significance
- Identification of a feasible proximate research goal

Career Development and Trajectory:

- Current clinical effort/responsibilities at OSUWMC
- Plan for award use
- Critical timing of this research support
- Address short-term and long-term career goals
- Mentors/collaborators impacting your career development

Summary of Research (no more than 3 pages)

- Specific Aims
- Hypothesis
- Innovation
- Preliminary Data
- Research Plan
- Expected Outcomes & Alternative Approaches

NIH Biosketch

Submit a minimum of 2 NIH Biosketches: 1. Your Biosketch as the applicant and 2. The Biosketch of any primary research mentors. Biosketch forms and instructions can be found at the [NIH Grants and Funding Biosketch Forms page](#). Biosketches can be made using [SciENCv](#) or in Microsoft Word following the new (2026) or old (2025) format.

Applicant Biosketches should include the following measures of research productivity and engagement and identify which research accomplishments or activities occurred since hire at Ohio State COM/OSUWMC:

- Research Education & Training Qualifications
- Research Track Record
 - List publications
 - Identify high impact publications
 - List competitive research grant awards submitted, received, pending (list sponsor, research project title, funding time-period, funding amount).
 - List research recognition awards
 - List national leadership positions
 - Include other indicators of research impact or quality

Letter of Support

Upload a pdf letter signed by Department Chair and/or Division Chief describing the role of research in your academic career plans, the level of current department and/or divisional support for your research career, and your current effort for research protected time.

Optional Matching Funds Letter

Upload a PDF letter from Center Director, Department Chair, or Division Chief indicating provision of additional financial support to increase research protected time and/or support your research activities.

Section IV. DESIRED AWARD OUTCOMES

- Promote clinician scientist research productivity (grant funding, research dissemination, etc.)
- Promote clinician scientist transition to independence
- Promote clinician scientist research career success
- Advancement of faculty academic careers (promotion, advancement opportunities, etc.)
- Expansion of faculty network of research and peer support
- Enhancement of clinician scientist satisfaction with work-life integration
- Retention of clinician scientists in research careers

Section V. PROGRAM CONTACTS

CONTACTS & PROGRAM LEADERSHIP

This grant is administered by the Office of Physician Scientist Education & Training. Please direct inquiries to the contacts below.

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