



Epigenetic Therapies SPORE Career Enhancement Program Call for Research Proposals

The Coriell Institute for Medical Research / Van Andel Institute Epigenetic Therapies SPORE (PIs: Drs. Jean-Pierre Issa, Stephen Baylin, Peter Jones) solicits applications for Career Enhancement projects from individuals interested in pursuing careers in epigenetic therapies for cancer. These awards are intended to provide salary support for the career enhancement of individuals who wish to receive the advanced research training that will prepare them to conduct independent research in this area. Awards will provide a portion of salary support for one year, and salaries may be supplemented with the approval of the program directors. Even if there is no salary requested, please note that time commitment in terms of personnel effort (calendar months) is required from the PI (applicant) for the successful conduct of the project. Additionally, for the CEP program, key personnel salary support is exclusively reserved only for the applicant PI (i.e. overseeing mentors can dedicate effort as in-kind contribution). If Year 1 funding is awarded, applicants are encouraged to apply for Year 2. The Career Enhancement grant mechanism is meant for a maximum of two years funding only. Applicants must hold either an M.D. or Ph.D. degree, or equivalent. Either senior trainees within 1-2 years of accepting an independent position, or established investigators who wish to initiate new research efforts in epigenetic therapies for cancer are encouraged to apply. Post-doctoral fellows are not qualified to apply for this award. The proposed research may be basic, translational, or clinical, but must be directly relevant to epigenetic therapies for cancer and have the potential for future clinical application. Qualified women, minority and other underserved investigators are strongly encouraged to apply.

Pre-Proposal

A pre-proposal is required prior to submission of a full proposal. Pre-Proposals will include a one half to 1 page (maximum) brief description of the proposed research training project addressing 1) the applicant's career goals in the area of epigenetic therapies for cancer, 2) how the proposed research training project will enable the applicant to meet their stated goals, 3) the names and contact information of individuals who may be asked for recommendations. Pre-proposals should be submitted electronically as a PDF attachment to SPORE Administrator, Sonata M. Stevenson, via email at sstevenson@coriell.org by **March 15th, 2024**. Applicants judged to be responsive would be notified shortly thereafter and asked to submit a full proposal. Finalists may be asked to give a brief presentation of their planned research program to the SPORE Executive Committee.

Full Proposal

Interested individuals should first contact prospective mentors to discuss potential projects and the mentor's willingness to sponsor an application. Initial applications should use Arial and a font size of 11 point, 1-inch margin, single-spaced and consist of:

1. Proposed research training project (2-page maximum, excluding references)
2. [Biosketch](#) in NIH format of both the applicant and proposed mentor
3. Letter of support from the applicant's current supervisor, and names and contact information of two additional individuals who may be contacted for recommendations, describing the applicant's potential for an independent research career.



4. A letter from the applicant describing their career interest in epigenetic therapies for cancer.
5. A letter from the mentor signifying their willingness to sponsor the trainee and indicating the relevance of the proposed training to epigenetic therapies for cancer (if mentor is also supervisor, only 1 letter is needed).
6. A Grants.gov [Research & Related Budget](#) (R&R) and budget justification for a total of \$50,000 (Direct + Indirect costs)
7. Other Support document (List all external and internal research support regardless of relevance to this application, including pending applications. Sample NIH OS template [linked](#).)

Full proposals should be submitted electronically as a PDF attachment to SPORE Administrator, Sonata M. Stevenson, via email at sstevenson@coriell.org by **May 1st, 2024**.

Please direct all questions to Sonata M. Stevenson, Epigenetic Therapies SPORE administrator at sstevenson@coriell.org or 856-668-2077.

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