

ACG Clinical Research Awards

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Listed below are some commonly asked questions for the following ACG Clinical Research Awards:

- Junior Faculty Development Awards
- Established Investigator Bridge Funding Awards
- Health Equity Research Award
- ACG/ASGE Endoscopy ACG/ASGE Epidemiologic Research Award in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
- Clinical Research Awards
- Clinical Research Pilot Awards
- Medical Resident Clinical Research Awards (see separate section)
- Medical Student Research Awards (see separate section)

The questions are **organized by category:**

- [Membership / Eligibility Requirements \(pages 2-8\)](#)
- [Formatting and Grant Requirements \(pages 9-11\)](#)
- [Letters of Support \(page 13\)](#)
- [Budget \(page 14-15\)](#)
- [Junior Faculty Development Award Questions \(page 16-17\)](#)
- [Established Investigator Bridge Funding Questions \(page 18-19\)](#)
- [ACG/ASGE Epidemiologic Research Award in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy \(page 20\)](#)
- [Health Equity Research Award \(page 21\)](#)
- [Medical Resident & Medical Student Research Award Questions \(pages 22-23\)](#)

For Technical Assistance Questions (login/grant site, etc.), please contact Cadmium directly by phone or email.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. EDT, Mon - Fri

Phone: (Direct) (410) 638-9239

Phone: (Toll Free) (877) 426-6323

Email: support@cadmiumcd.com

For Grant Content or Requirement Questions: Please refer first to the Grant Announcements and FAQs, as the information found there will answer the majority of questions.

If you need further clarification after you have reviewed the Grant Announcements and FAQs, please email your question to research@gi.org.

MEMBERSHIP/ ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

Membership:

Full ACG membership at time of application is required. Principal Investigator must be an ACG member in good standing. New [applications for membership](#) must be submitted by the September 16, 2022, deadline and must be active no later than the October 2022 review. Applicants awaiting final approval of their applications and members that have not paid their current membership fees are ineligible.

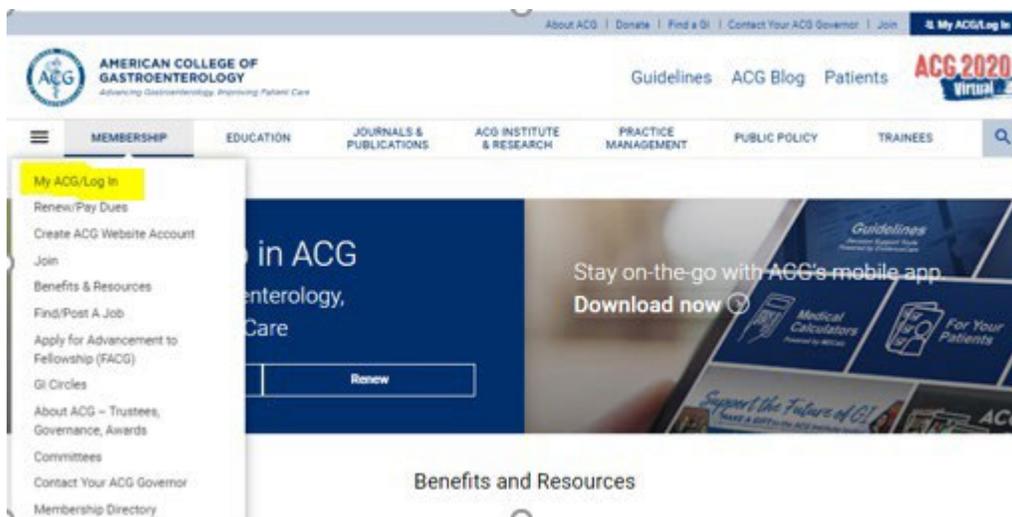
The grant application system requires your ACG member ID. To look up your member ID number, log into gi.org/membership then then click “My ACG” from the menu on the top right. Enter your email and password to sign in. Select from the Menu **My ACG Membership** to see your membership information. Your Member ID is listed below Date of Birth. Enter the membership number into the grant application system.

Q: How do I find my ACG Member ID?

A: Follow steps listed below:

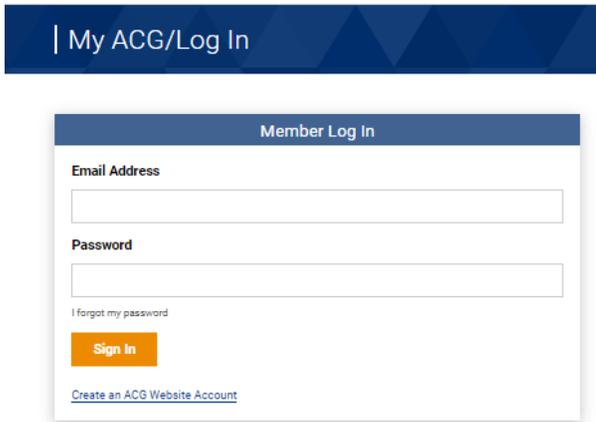
To Find ACG Member ID:

1. GO TO www.gi.org/membership
2. Click on ‘My ACG/ Log In’ under Membership, on the left side of the menu.

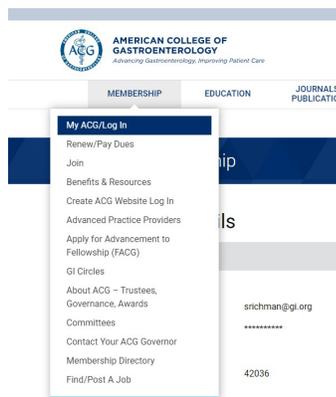


3. Enter your email and password and click Sign In.

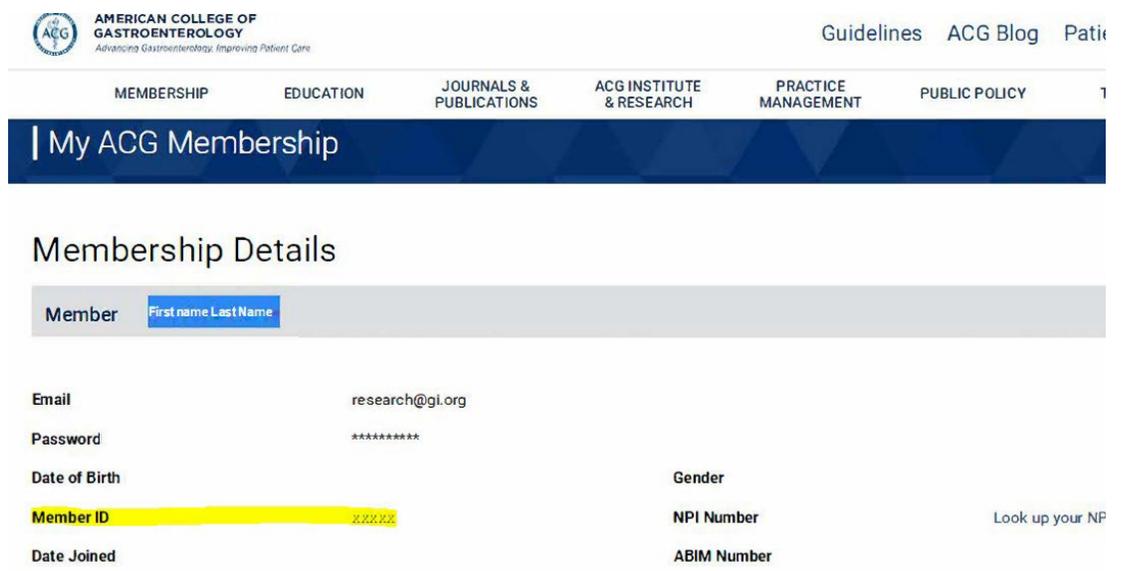
GI.org / Membership / My ACG/Log In



4. Select **My ACG Membership** from the menu on the left



5. Find **Member ID**



6. Enter **Member ID** into the online application.



MEMBERSHIP VERIFICATION

Continue

Please answer the field below to continue

Q: I am interested in becoming an ACG member. What are the deadlines for submitting membership applications?

A: For regular ACG membership (not a trainee), the deadline to submit an application is **September 16, 2022**, in order to be considered for the October 2022 review by the Credentials Committee. (NOTE: The next membership review is held in January, after the December 5, 2022, grant deadline and will be too late for a 2023 grant submission).

Trainee Member applications are due no later than **November 18, 2022**, to be eligible for the 2023 grant submission deadline.

For more information: gi.org/join-acg

Q: I just applied for ACG membership. Am I eligible to apply for the ACG research awards?

A: Principal Investigator must be an ACG member in good standing. New [applications for membership](#) must be submitted by the September 16, 2022, deadline and must be active no later than the October 2022 review.

For the ACG/ASGE Epidemiologic Research Award in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, the principal investigator must be either an ACG or ASGE member at the time of the grant application. To look up your ASGE ID number, visit, www.asge.org click the Member/Account Log in to enter username/password. Once logged in, click on “Welcome, [name]” to go to your account information. The member ID is listed under your name on the landing page.

Q: My ACG membership has lapsed. Can I re-apply for membership?

A: The Principal Investigator must be an ACG member in good standing by the submission deadline. Please contact ACG’s Membership Department to discuss your options. ACG phone: 301-263- 9000 or email: membership@gi.org.

Q: I am not an ACG member. Can I apply for the Clinical Research Award?

A: No, you must be an ACG member at the time of the grant application. The Principal Investigator must be an ACG member in good standing. Applicants awaiting final approval of their applications are ineligible. ACG membership must be active no later than October 2022.

Q: I am applying for the ACG/ASGE Epidemiologic Research Award in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy can you clarify the membership requirements?

A: For this award type only, the principal investigator must be either a member of ACG or a member of ASGE at the time of application (this is different than applying for membership). The principal investigator may have membership with ACG, ASGE or both societies. The grant application will ask for confirmation of Membership and Member ID. NOTE: Indicate the

society for which you are providing your membership ID.

Q: For the Clinical Research Award or Pilot Award, does the PI have to be an ACG member?

A: Yes. The PI must be an ACG member in good standing by the application deadline.

Q: I am in residency. Am I required to be an ACG member?

A: No, membership is not required for Medical Resident applications for the Medical Resident Clinical Research Award. However, your mentor must be an ACG member at the time of application.

Q: I am a medical student. Am I required to be an ACG member?

A: No, membership is not required for Medical School or Doctor of Osteopathy student applications for the Medical Student Research Award. However, your mentor must be an ACG member at the time of application.

Eligibility for Specific Grant Types:

Junior Faculty Development Award

Q: If I have received a Career Development Award, am I eligible for the Junior Faculty Award?

A: No, ACG's Junior Faculty Development Award is not intended for established investigators; rather, it is for junior faculty who are seeking to develop careers in clinical gastroenterology or hepatology research. While certain NIH and career grants are specified in the grant announcement, other career awards do preclude you from applying.

Q: I received an NIH loan re-payment grant. Am I eligible for the Junior Faculty Development Award?

A: Yes, you are eligible to apply. Loan repayment does not compete with this award.

Established Investigator Bridge Funding Award

Q: Am I eligible for the ACG Bridge Funding Award?

A: ACG has created a pre-qualification webform to help you assess your eligibility: bit.ly/33guW6k. This webform is due by November 7, 2022.

Specific eligibility criteria are listed below, in addition to what is requested in the RFA:

1. Are you an ACG member at the time of submission?

Full ACG membership at time of application is required. Principal Investigator must be an ACG member in good standing. New applications for membership must be submitted by the September 16, 2022, deadline and must be active no later than the October 2022 review. Applicants awaiting final approval of their applications and members that have not paid their current membership fees are ineligible.

2. Are you a U.S. or Canadian physician with a faculty appointment and more than 8 years out of fellowship?

This award is not intended for fellows-in-training or early career faculty.

3. Do you have 50% protected time guaranteed by the Division Director?

This is required for all applicants.

4. Do you have a faculty position (60% or more academic appointment) at a university, medical school, or other healthcare institution primarily in the department of gastroenterology or hepatology at the time of appointment?
Faculty appointment is required for this award type.
5. Do you have evidence of a recently concluded federal clinical or translational research award within the last two years, in gastroenterology or hepatology, such as NIH R01 or VA Merit Award? National Science Awards, DoD, CIHR multi-year project grant awards of equivalency (minimum direct costs of 400k/year) will be considered.
Please NOTE: Career Development Awards are not considered qualifying awards for eligibility.
6. Applicants **must** also demonstrate one of the following
 - a. Evidence of ongoing application for renewal for federal funding (provide institutional evidence of application to federal agency [i.e., eRA commons routing information] or letter of intent from Institutional grants award office) OR
 - b. Evidence of new federal application (scored but not funded research grant) to be re-submitted (provide summary sheets and scores)*

Health Equity Research Awards

Q: For the Health Equity Research Awards, do projects which are studying gastrointestinal conditions, such as IBD, meet the eligibility requirements for this RFA?

A: The project must have a principal focus that seeks to accelerate clinical knowledge and further the management of unique GI and hepatology healthcare concerns of the underrepresented, such as racial/ethnic minorities, women and LGBTQ+ populations. For example, how will the proposed study further the knowledge and management of a specific disease state as it relates to health equity? What changes to the delivery of clinical care / education / the healthcare system will the proposed study provide actionable and meaningful data? Research related solely to understanding of a disease state would not qualify.

International & non-U.S. applicants:

Q: Does ACG consider proposals based overseas, for non-U.S. applicants?

A: Yes, overseas projects or collaborations are eligible to apply for the ACG Clinical Research Award (including Pilot Awards). However, the Principal Investigator must be an ACG member at the time of the grant application.

PhD eligibility

Q: Are non-medical doctors (PhDs) eligible to apply for this award?

A: Non-medical doctors (PhDs) are eligible to apply for the ACG Clinical Research Award or ACG Clinical Research Pilot Award grant categories if they are an ACG Member at the time of application.

Fellows-in-training eligibility for grants

Q: If I am a GI fellow-in-training, is there a specific grant type I am eligible to apply for?

A: For gastroenterology or hepatology fellows, the Clinical Research Award or the Clinical Research Pilot Award are the best fits.

Medical Student Research Award

Q: If I am an international medical student, am I eligible for the new Medical Student or Medical Resident Awards?

A: No, these award types are limited to U.S. and Canadian applicants.

Animal Studies:

Q: Do the grants allow animal studies?

A: The purpose of the clinical research awards is to have direct applicability to clinical care. Animal studies are only considered, if the work cannot be performed in humans, and must be translational. See the following language from the grant announcement:

“For the purposes of these awards, patient-oriented research is defined as:

1. Research conducted with human subjects
2. Research on new diagnostic and therapeutic interventions
3. Research on material of human origin such as tissues and specimens
4. Research that is translational in nature, i.e., has direct applicability to clinical care.

Note: Studies involving animals will not be considered unless the work cannot be done in humans.”

Submitting to multiple grant categories

Q: I am submitting the same Junior Faculty Development Award project to another grant-making entity. Is this allowed?

A: An investigator should not submit the same project with minor budget modifications as an ACG Clinical Research Award **AND** a Junior Faculty Development Award. However, there is not any restriction on submitting the same project to ANOTHER grant-making entity, i.e., other foundations, K-Awards, etc. However, be advised ACG will not provide duplicate funding.

Q: May I submit the same grant (science) to multiple ACG grant categories?

A: Applications utilizing the same science may not be submitted for two different ACG grant categories (for example the same project/science is submitted for both a Junior Faculty Development Award and a Clinical Research Award with minor budget modifications) and if this occurs, they will not be evaluated by the Research Committee.

Q: May I submit the same grant (science) to both an ACG grant and another society/foundation/NIH grant category?

A: Applicants are welcome to submit the same grant to different funding mechanisms (another funder), however please note the ACG will not provide duplicate funding. If your application for the same science is selected by both funders, you will have to choose one.

Q: My application is part of a larger study, is this allowed?

A: If the application is part of a larger study (for example a pilot research award application or a medical resident research award application) the applicant must explain how the funds requested from ACG are not duplicated.

Q: May I submit more than one grant application (different science) to the American College of Gastroenterology?

A: If an individual submits more than one grant proposal, only one award can be made for a given Principal Investigator. If a given investigator submits both a pilot and a larger clinical research grant application deemed worthy of funding, the Research Committee will make the determination of which grant will be funded.

FORMATTING & GRANT REQUIREMENTS:

Q: What is the duration of the funding for each type of Clinical Research Award?

A: The Junior Faculty Development Awards are funded for three years. Funding begins July 1st, 2023, and runs until June 30th, 2026.

The Bridge Funding Awards are funding for two years. Funding begins July 1st, 2023, and runs until June 30, 2025.

The ACG/ASGE ACG/ASGE Epidemiologic Research Award in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy is funded over one or two years. Funding begins July 1st, 2023, and runs until June 30, 2024 (for a one-year award) or June 30, 2025 (for a two-year award).

The Health Equity Research Award is funded for up to two years. The second year is dependent on the progress of the first year (submission of a progress and financial report for review). Funding begins July 1, 2023, and runs until June 30, 2024 (for a one-year award) or June 30, 2025 (for a two-year award).

The Clinical Research Awards (and Pilot Research Awards) are funded for one year. Funding begins on July 1st, 2023, and runs until June 30th, 2024.

The Medical Resident Awards are also funded for one year, with funding beginning on July 1st, 2022.

The Medical Student Research Award is a summer award, with funding beginning any time after May 1st, 2023, for the 6-10-week project. Funding must be used during the summer.

Q: Is an institutional signature or cover letter required?

A: No, the grant submissions do not require an institutional signature. Additional documentation is required for applications selected for funding.

Q: Where should I include the Application Checklist?

A: The Application Checklist should be included as the first page of the single PDF upload.

Q: I am re-submitting an application, where should I include the re-submission letter responding to the reviewer's feedback?

A: Include this as the second page of your application, after the Application Checklist.

Q: What is the pre-qualification application for the Bridge funding award?

A: This is to check your eligibility for this award type. It is a form completed online (separate from the grant system). It is strongly recommended to submit by November 7, 2022, to allow the reviewers time to respond before the application deadline for your full application (December 5, 2022).

To submit a pre-qualification application (for Bridge funding only): <https://bit.ly/33guW6k>

Q: Should the entire proposal be compiled into a single pdf?

A: Yes, all documents should be compiled into a single PDF, with the Application Checklist included as the first page. Review the individual grant announcements for specific requirements for the PDF upload, including required elements and order. Listed below is an example of the documents required for the Clinical Research Award:

Applicants are required to submit a single Adobe PDF document comprising (but not limited to): application checklist (include the list located at the end of this document as the first page of the submitted PDF), research proposal (limited to 5 pages), budget, biosketches for principal investigator and others involved in the proposed research, other funding support details, IRB forms, COI statement (if applicable), and any letters of support from Responsible Investigator, or collaborators.

Q: Does the ½" margin include the applicant name/award type/ page numbers?

A: No, the applicant name/award type/ page numbers should be included in the header and is not part of the ½" margin. The additional instructions below are listed in the grant announcement:

Format all pages with ½" margins and use a font no smaller than 11 point. Eliminate or minimize the use of abbreviations. Define each abbreviation the first time utilized, and/or provide a glossary of terms if needed to assist reviewers and strengthen your submission. All pages must include a page number in the left header. All pages must include the PI name and grant type in the right header, in the following format:

Last name, First name
Award Type

Q: What if the letterhead for my letter of support doesn't adhere to the ½" margin guideline?

A: Letterhead is not included in this requirement, as it is considered part of the page header or footer of the document. However, letters of support do need to adhere to any page limits listed in the grant announcement.

Q: For the recommended headers, how should these be listed in the document?

A: Bold the header – these are the required sections for your submission – and make sure to start each section on its own page (for example, the resubmission letter, grant proposal, references, budget, budget justification, IRB status, COI, and biosketches, should all start on their own page, and have a header at the top of the page, indicating what section is described below). Please note that staff will no longer follow up on formatting issues so grants submitted with poor formatting may be judged on poor grantsmanship.

Q: Does the page limit for the proposal include references, budget, biographical sketches or research support?

A: No, the page limit for the proposal does not include references, budget, biographical sketches or research support. However, all of the sections of the grant proposal must be included in a single PDF document to upload to the grant system.

Q: If we are resubmitting an application, should we include a cover letter to address the changes made based on comments from last year's reviewers? Is there a place in the electronic submission process to identify that this is a resubmission?

A: Yes, this is a requirement for resubmissions. You must include a cover letter at the beginning of your proposal, responding to critiques from reviewers and outlining how you have revised your application. This letter should be included in the first section of your PDF upload to the grant system. The cover letter should be limited to 2 pages, except for Medical Student Research Award applications which have a 1-page limit. This is separate from the proposal page limit.

For the online submission process, there is a drop-down menu under the section on Research Proposal Abstract, which asks whether this is a resubmission.

Q: Is the budget included in the proposal page limit?

A: No, the budget is not included in the page limit. It is a separate section.

Q: Is there a standard format or template for the budget?

A: Yes, new this year for the 2023 Clinical Research Awards, use the standard budget template provided, except if applying for the Medical Student Research Award Category.

It should be clear whether other costs are being covered from another source.

Include a budget justification for each cost requested, after the budget table.

Q: Is IRB approval required?

A: No, IRB approval is not required at the time of submission. You may include any available information on the IRB status in the grant application. The College understands that IRB approval requires time, and there are different requirements based on the research proposal.

If your grant is selected for funding, you must then submit either an IRB approval letter or a letter of IRB exemption to the College before funding will be released.

Q: Is a Conflict of Interest (COI) Statement required? Can you explain this requirement?

A: If you or any of the investigators participating in the proposed research have a COI, this information must be included in the grant system and as part of your single PDF upload. A COI is defined as:

A potential conflict of interest (COI) exists when research involves a device from which any investigator(s) or a company may benefit. It also exists when research involves a pharmaceutical agent that is not FDA-approved for any indication. A conflict of interest exists if any investigator holds or has submitted a patent on a device or pharmaceutical agent or is a major shareholder in a company involved in the research.

If applicable, select “Yes” in the grant system, and include a detailed explanation, including names of each investigator and their potential COIs.

Q: For the Biosketch, is there a page limit or specific format?

A: Yes, you should follow the NIH format, which has a 5-page limit:
grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm

Q: I am currently in “trainee status” as an advanced fellow. However, I will be starting on staff at the university by July 2023. When submitting the proposal, should I indicate “trainee” or “faculty” status?

A: Recommendation: Because you have a faculty appointment in 2023, you should declare that you are “faculty,” when applying for the 2023 ACG Clinical Research Award. If you select “trainee,” the grant submission system will prompt an approval process from a Responsible Investigator.

The reason for this requirement is that trainees funded by the College need a “Responsible Investigator” who commits to oversee the work, ensure the final reports are made, and sees that funds are spent according to grant agreement, etc.

Since you will be full-time faculty at the time of the award, you can apply independently. In effect, you will be your own “Responsible Investigator” as Principal Investigator (PI).

LETTERS OF SUPPORT:

Q: Can the Institutional Commitment Letter (for the Junior Faculty Award) come from the Chair of the Department of Medicine (my department) instead of my Division Chief?

A: Yes, Division Chief and Division Director are interchangeable for the purposes of the grant application.

Q: For the ACG/ASGE Epidemiologic Research Award in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, how should applicants request a letter of support?

A: Contact GIQuIC directly by emailing research@giquic.org

Responsible Investigator

Q: I would like to apply for the ACG Clinical Research Award. I am currently a GI Fellow. However, I will be an Assistant Professor in March 2023. Will I need a responsible investigator?

A: No, as you will be an Assistant Professor during the grant period, you do not need a Responsible Investigator. For your letters of support, please provide a letter from your GI division confirming that you will have a faculty position in 2023 and make this clear in any supporting documentation/ letters of support.

Q: I am a gastroenterology fellow applying for a pilot grant as the PI. I have obtained letters of support from my Program Director and co-investigators/collaborators. Do I need a letter from the Responsible Investigator as well?

A: The Responsible Investigator is required to provide certification in the grant system. If you have a Responsible Investigator, it is recommended to include a letter of support for the reviewers.

Q: I am applying for the Medical Resident Clinical Research Award. How should my Program Director submit the letter of support, and to whom should it be addressed?

A: The Program Director's letter of support should be included in your application, which is uploaded as a single PDF document within the grant system. This includes the sections listed in the RFA. The letter should be addressed to the ACG Research Committee, which will be considering the applications.

Q: For the Medical Resident Clinical Research Award, what is the purpose of the Program Director's letter?

A: The purpose of this letter is to confirm there will be time within the program to complete the research, the capacity for residents to do a research project, and that the individual is supported by the institution.

BUDGET QUESTIONS:

Q: Is there a budget template?

A: Yes, new this year, ACG provides a budget template for all expenses. Please complete this template, and if you are applying for a multi-year grant, for each line item, indicate for which year of the award, funding is requested. You must provide a separate written budget justification in the section immediately following your budget template.

Q: Is the budget included in the proposal page limit?

A: No, the budget is not included in the page limit. It is a separate section.

Q: Do the ACG Research Awards provide funding for indirect/overhead costs?

A: No, the ACG Clinical Research Awards do not provide funding for indirect/overhead costs. See the individual RFA for allowable costs for each grant category.

Q: Are manuscript preparation costs allowed?

A: No

Q: Please explain the travel costs for the Junior Faculty Development Award.

A: For the Junior Faculty Development Award, the grantee is required to travel to the ACG Annual Scientific Meeting to present their research project during the second year of their award funding. The College designates \$1,500 of the budget to be allocated for this travel, as it is a grant requirement. However, please note the \$1,500 comes out of the total budget for that year.

The PI's travel will only be supported once, during year two, to report to the Research Committee. No other travel costs are supported by this grant.

Q: Are lab costs allowed for the Junior Faculty Development Awards?

A: Yes

Q: For the Junior Faculty Development Award, can you clarify the leadership course component? How much should be allocated for this requirement?

A: This requirement can be met in a number of ways – including applying for the ACG Young Physician Leadership Scholars program (deadline June 2023 – must be 1-5 years out of fellowship), taking a leadership course offered by GI societies, institutional resources (leadership training programs in medicine), or another

institution. The intention is to gain further leadership experience which will help you progress in your career. Up to \$1,600 of your budget may be allocated for this cost.

Examples of courses include:

<https://womensleadership.hmscme.com/>

<https://gi.org/acg-institute/young-physicians/>

Q: For the ACG/ASGE Epidemiologic Research Award in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, how are the costs for data extraction, cleaning, and analysis for GIQuIC calculated?

A: Contact the GIQuIC staff to discuss your scope of work and to receive information on the cost for your project: research@giquic.org

Q: For the ACG Clinical Research Award is the award limited to the full \$50,000 or can applicants request funds as needed (\$40,000-45,000 etc.)?

A: When requesting Research Award support for the Clinical Research Award category, you may request a maximum of \$50,000. You should request as much as you need, up to that amount. The same guidance applies to the other grant categories.

Q: For the Medical Student Research Awards, do the funds go to the medical student or to the university?

A: The funds go to the medical student, as they are meant to defray living costs while completing a summer research experience.

JUNIOR FACULTY DEVELOPMENT AWARD QUESTIONS:

50% Protected Research Time

Q: Is the entire 50% protected research time to be devoted to the specific Junior Faculty Development Award research project?

A: Yes

Budget (lab costs, leadership course, and travel)

Q: Are lab costs allowed for the Junior Faculty Development Awards?

A: Yes

Q: Please explain the travel costs for the Junior Faculty Development Award.

A: For the Junior Faculty Development Award, the grantee is required to travel to the ACG Annual Scientific Meeting to present on the progress of their research project during the second year of their award funding. The College designates \$1,500 of the budget to be allocated for this travel, as it is a grant requirement. However, please note the \$1,500 comes out of the total budget for that year.

The PI's travel will only be supported once, during year two, to report to the Research Committee. No other travel costs are supported by this grant.

Q: For the Junior Faculty Development Award, can you clarify the leadership course component? How much should be allocated for this requirement?

A: This requirement can be met in a number of ways – including applying for the ACG Young Physician Leadership Scholars program (deadline June 2023), taking a leadership course offered by GI societies, institutional resources (leadership training programs in medicine), or another institution. The intention is to gain further leadership experience which will help you progress in your career. Up to \$1,600 of your budget may be allocated for this cost.

Examples of courses include:

<https://womensleadership.hmscme.com/>

<https://gi.org/acg-institute/young-physicians/>

Membership:

Q: I just applied for ACG membership. Am I eligible to apply for the Junior Faculty Development Award?

A: For the Junior Faculty Development Awards, you must be an ACG member at the time of application. To meet this requirement, ACG recommends submitting a new application for ACG membership be submitted by September 16, 2022, in order to receive membership prior to the grant deadlines. To learn more about how to become a members go to: <https://gi.org/join-acg/>

Eligibility:

Q: If I have received a Career Award, am I eligible for the Junior Faculty Award?

A: No, ACG's Junior Faculty Development Award is not intended for established investigators. Rather, it is for junior faculty who are seeking to develop careers in clinical GI research. While certain NIH and career grants are specified in the grant announcement, other career awards preclude you from applying.

Q: I completed my Advanced/Transplant Hepatology Fellowship in June 2022 and signed on as an instructor at a university with the intention of pursuing an academic research career. Unfortunately, the university classifies instructors as "exempt staff" and not faculty, and so will not proceed with my application without an exemption or clarification. Can you clarify whether I am eligible for this award?

A: Yes, this award is designed for early-stage investigators, and instructor level applicants can apply. The written criteria were meant to exclude advanced fellows who also sometimes have "instructor" titles (such as advanced IBD fellows or advanced endoscopy fellows). As some institutions appoint junior faculty as instructors, these applicants are appropriate, and this candidate meets the eligibility requirements to apply.

Q: I am submitting the same Junior Faculty Development Award project to another grant-making entity. Is this allowed?

A: An investigator should not submit the same project with minor budget modifications as an ACG Clinical Research Award AND a Junior Faculty Development Award. However, there is not a restriction on submitting the same project to ANOTHER grant-making entity, i.e., other foundations, K-Awards, etc. Please note, ACG does not provide duplicate funding, should you receive more than one research award.

Requirements

Q: Can the Institutional Commitment Letter (for the Junior Faculty Award) come from the Chair of the Department of Medicine (my department) instead of my Division Chief?

A: Yes, Division Chief and Division Director are interchangeable for the purposes of the grant application.

Established Investigator Bridge Funding Award Questions

Q: Am I eligible for the ACG Bridge Funding Award?

A: A: ACG has created a pre-qualification webform to help you assess your eligibility: bit.ly/33guW6k.

This webform is due by November 7, 2022.

Specific eligibility criteria are listed below, in addition to what is requested in the RFA:

1. **Are you an ACG member at the time of submission?** If you have just applied for membership but have not yet received confirmation that it has been approved, you are **not** eligible. It typically takes one month to receive membership confirmation, which is separate from the confirmation that your membership application has been received. If your membership has expired/lapsed, contact ACG's Membership Coordinator at 301-263-9000 or at membership@gi.org.
2. **Are you a U.S. or Canadian physician with a faculty appointment and more than 8 years out of fellowship?** This award is **not** intended for fellows-in-training or early career faculty.
3. **Do you have 50% protected time guaranteed by the Division Director?** This is required for all applicants.
4. **Do you have a faculty position (60% or more academic appointment) at a university, medical school, or other healthcare institution primarily in the department of gastroenterology or hepatology at the time of appointment?** Faculty appointment is required for this award type.
5. **Do you have evidence of a recently concluded federal clinical or translational research award within the last two years, in gastroenterology or hepatology, such as NIH R01 or VA Merit Award? National Science Awards, DoD, CIHR multi-year project grant awards of equivalency (minimum direct costs of 400k/year) will be considered.** Please NOTE: Career Development Awards are not considered qualifying awards for eligibility.
6. **Applicants must also demonstrate one of the following**
 - c. Evidence of ongoing application for renewal for federal funding (provide institutional evidence of application to federal agency [i.e., eRA commons routing information] or letter of intent from Institutional grants award office) OR
 - d. Evidence of new federal application (scored but not funded research grant) to be re-submitted (provide summary sheets and scores)

Q: I received Career Development funding from my institution, a federal agency or another organization, am I eligible for Bridge funding?

A: No, you must have other funding large (400k for direct costs) grant funding to be eligible for the Bridge funding award. This grant is intended for established investigators, not for those who have only received Career Development funding.

Q: How do I complete the pre-qualification application? Can you explain this requirement?

A: The pre-qualification application must be completed and is accessible at:

<https://bit.ly/33guW6k>. The application is required and confirms that grant seekers possess the unique qualifications for this award type. Similar to a Letter of Intent, this separate pre-qualification is submitted separately from the regular grant system. This will assist the Research Committee with the review of your application, and the Committee will provide a letter of approval that must be included as part of your grant submission. The inclusion of the letter of approval with your online grant submission affirms the eligibility of your application.

ACG/ASGE Epidemiologic Research Award in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

Q: I just applied for ACG membership. Am I eligible to apply for the ACG research awards?

A: For the ACG/ASGE Epidemiologic Research Award in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, the principal investigator must be either an ACG or ASGE member at the time of the grant application. To look up your ACG member ID number, log into gi.org/membership then click “My ACG/ Log In” from the menu. Enter your email and password to sign in. Select from the Menu **My ACG Membership** to see your membership information. Your Member ID is listed below Date of Birth. To look up your ASGE ID number, visit, www.asge.org click the Member/Account Log in to enter username/password. Once logged in, click on “Welcome, [name]” to go to your account information. The member ID is listed under your name on the landing page.

Q: I am applying for the ACG/ASGE Epidemiologic Research Award in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy can you clarify the membership requirements?

A: For this award type only, the principal investigator must be either a member of ACG or a member of ASGE at the time of application (this is different than applying for membership). The principal investigator may have membership with ACG, ASGE or both. The grant system will ask for confirmation of Membership and Member ID. NOTE: Indicate the society for which you are providing your membership ID.

Q: For the ACG/ASGE Epidemiologic Research Award in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, how should applicants request a letter of support from GIQuIC?

A: Contact GIQuIC directly by emailing research@giquic.org

Q: For the cost to utilize GIQuIC for the ACG/ASGE Epidemiologic Research Award in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, how is this information calculated?

A: Contact the GIQuIC staff to discuss your scope of work and to receive information on the cost for your project.

Health Equity Research Award

Q: What are the eligibility criteria for this award?

A: For the full eligibility criteria – review the grant announcement. You must be a physician who has a faculty appointment at the time of appointment, or is practicing in a community gastroenterology or hepatology setting (not for fellows-in-training or earlier career physicians). Additionally, you must be an ACG member and practicing in the U.S. or Canada. This award is intended to support projects expanding our understanding of health equity in gastroenterology or hepatology.

Q: For the Health Equity Research Award, do projects which are studying gastrointestinal conditions, such as IBD, meet the eligibility requirements for this RFA?

A: The project must have a principal focus that seeks to accelerate clinical knowledge and further the management of unique GI and hepatology healthcare concerns of the underrepresented, such as racial/ethnic minorities, women and LGBTQ+ populations. For example, how will the proposed study further the knowledge and management of a specific disease state as it relates to health equity? What changes to the delivery of clinical care / education / the healthcare system will the proposed study provide actionable and meaningful data? Research related solely to understanding of a disease state would not qualify.

Medical Resident & Medical Student Research Award Questions

Medical Resident Clinical Research Awards

Q: I am in residency – am I required to be an ACG member?

A: No, membership is not required for Medical Resident applications for this award type. However, your mentor must be an ACG member.

Q: I am applying for the Medical Resident Clinical Research Award. How should my Program Director submit the letter of support, and to whom should it be addressed?

A: The Program Director's letter of support should be included in your application, which is uploaded as a single PDF document within the grant system. This includes the sections listed in the RFA. The letter should be addressed to the ACG Research Committee, which will be considering the applications.

Q: For the Medical Resident Clinical Research Award, what is the purpose of the Program Director's letter?

A: The purpose of this letter is to confirm there will be time within the program to complete the research, the capacity for residents to do a research project, and that the individual is supported by the institution.

Q: For the Medical Resident Clinical Research Award, can two residents apply jointly and split the grant and travel?

A: No, only one Resident PI is allowed per grant.

Medical Student Research Awards

Q: I am a medical student. Am I required to be an ACG member?

A: No, membership is not required for medical students for this award type. ACG does not currently offer medical student membership category. However, your mentor must be an ACG member.

Q: I am an international medical student. Am I eligible for the new Medical Student or Medical Resident Awards?

A: No, these award types are limited to U.S. and Canadian applicants.

Q: I will be a third-year medical student in rotations during the 6 to 10 weeks of the research. Will I need to solely dedicate 6 to 10 weeks to research, or am I able to complete both my required rotations as well as the research?

A: No, this time needs to be fully protected for research, and if awarded, we will need a confirmation letter from the Dean's office. This funding is designed for medical students between their first and second years who have a summer experience of research, or potentially a medical student who could take a research elective block and have fully protected time (such as the summer after their third year for a research block). This cannot be combined with rotational work.

Q: During what months is the medical student research going to occur in 2022?

A: As this is designed for a summer experience for medical students, the project time frame should be during the May through August time period.

Q: At the end of the 6 to 10 weeks, what are you looking for the students to accomplish?

A: Ideally, a student would complete a research project, generate a summary report, and have the ability to present this work at the ACG Annual Meeting. The student would also ideally conclude their project with a submitted manuscript to a scientific journal.

Q: I am a medical student currently in a gap year between my third and fourth years of medical school in a Master of Clinical Research program. Am I eligible for this award based on my gap year status?

A: Yes, you are eligible to apply.