

## **ISMMS Distinguished Scholar Award – Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Is this opportunity for women only?**

No, this opportunity is open to all distinguished scholars who are also caregivers, regardless of gender, gender identity or gender expression. While we took inspiration for this award from other institutions that made funding available only to women, we understand that people of all genders may face the significant demands of caregiving.

### **Is this opportunity only available to people who are parenting?**

No, this opportunity is open to all caregivers. We recognize that all junior investigators work hard to maintain productivity during periods of significant extraprofessional responsibilities for parenting and other reasons, including elder care and family illness. For this opportunity, caregiving would typically be childcare, partner care, and/or eldercare, but prospective supplement recipients may make the case for other reasonable family caregiving responsibilities.

### **Which researchers are eligible?**

Early-career faculty researchers are defined as having a full-time Assistant Professor or Associate Professors, only if they have been at this position for one year or less. Instructors are not eligible to apply at this time. Candidates must have a minimum of 50% effort allocation to research at the time of application for the supplement and have an intra or extramural career development award or research project grant (e.g. NIH K or R awards or Foundation awards, typically as PI) in either clinical, basic, or translational science with annual direct costs sufficient to provide both research and salary support.

### **Why is it called a Distinguished Scholar Award?**

Through a highly competitive process, the award will be granted to those who have been recommended by and reviewed by scientific leaders using the rigorous criteria we have outlined.

### **Who should write letters of recommendation?**

One letter should come from a mentor, who could be an investigator at Mount Sinai or another institution. The second letter of recommendation may come from a former mentor, current Chief or Chair, or another established investigator in your field.

### **Does the budget cover office equipment?**

The award can cover equipment that would directly help Program Scholars reclaim their research time.

### **Does the budget include direct and indirect costs?**

The award will only fund direct costs. It cannot support candidate's or caregiver's salary – eligible applicants should have a funded research program.

## **SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION**

**How should the application be submitted?** The application should be submitted via RedCap ([here](#)) no later than 11:59 P.M. on Thursday, February 22, 2024. In RedCap, please answer all questions and upload the application components as PDF files titled “Last Name\_ComponentName\_DSA 24”

**Should letters of recommendation be sent separately by the letter writers?**

Letters of recommendation can be submitted with the rest of the application through the RedCap application.

Please contact [Timnit Berhane](#), Program Manager for the Office of Gender Equity in Science and Medicine, with any additional questions.