

University of California, Davis

Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (BIRCWH) K12

Call for Applications

Deadline for Applications: December 3, 2018 at 10:00 am

All applications must be **submitted electronically in a single PDF file** to dlvandolah@ucdavis.edu

OVERVIEW

Funding from the NIH-sponsored Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (BIRCWH) Program supports career development of junior Ph.D. and M.D faculty researchers interested in women's health research. The program provides multidisciplinary training and mentoring to help such faculty establish independent biomedical research careers in areas relevant to women's health and creates an environment that nurtures interdisciplinary collaborations in focused and interactive research areas that are essential to improving the health of women.

Established researchers will mentor junior faculty in one of four interacting areas of women's health: (1) neurosciences/behavioral with attention to gender-specific aspects of neurodevelopmental and neurodegenerative diseases, (2) gender-specific aspects of musculoskeletal/aging; (3) nutrition-related and metabolic/ inflammatory syndromes and their special impacts on women, and (4) cancer, including gender-related differences in risks, outcomes and education-related interventions. Faculty conducting research in other areas of women's health and/or gender differences are also encouraged to apply. UC Davis BIRCWH Scholars will address the NIH/ORWH crosscutting BIRCWH themes of lifespan, sex/gender determinants, health disparities/differences and diversity, and interdisciplinary research and employ one or more of the special emphasis areas of prevention, treatment, and biological and/or behavioral basis of sex and gender determinants.

Scholars in the BIRCWH program must devote a minimum of 75% of their professional time to their BIRCWH research project with the hope that scholars will develop independent, federally-funded or externally funded research programs.

The grant will provide 75% of salary support up to \$100,000 plus benefits at the UC Davis composite rate, per year through July 31, 2020, which is the end of the current BIRCWH grant funding period. Additional funding is possible pending successful renewal of the UC Davis BIRCWH grant, at the requested funding level, and satisfactory scholar progress. The scholar's department is responsible for supplementing salary if 75% of salary is greater than \$100,000. In addition, scholars will receive \$25,000 in research and career development funds (e.g., supplies, research assistant, courses, etc.) and funds to travel to the mandatory annual BIRCWH meeting in Washington, DC, and another meeting of the scholar's choice. The amount of these funds will vary annually depending upon available BIRCWH grant funds.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. A junior faculty member in the tenure-track, in-residence, clinical or adjunct faculty appointment at UC Davis (any School or College), with less than **six** years of postdoctoral research experience (applicants cannot have more than six years of research or research training experience beyond their last doctoral degree at the time of application).
2. Evidence of interest, experience, and/or training in women's health and demonstrated potential for development as a successful independent researcher.
3. Commitment of laboratory space and 75% protected time for women's health research from appropriate department, college, or school.
4. Commitment of funds from scholar's department, college, or school to supplement BIRCWH salary commitment to ensure total salary consistent with UC Davis standards.
5. Scholar cannot be receiving concomitant salary support from any other federal grant.
6. Scholar cannot be or have been a Principal Investigator on an R01 or subproject of a Program Project (P01), Center (P50, P60, U54) grant, or mentored career development (K-series) grant. R03 and R21 awards are permitted, even if the scholar is the PI, if no salary is provided from these awards to the scholar.
7. Scholar must be a United States Citizen or non-citizen national, or have legal admission into the United States as a permanent citizen.

APPLICATION

Candidates must submit a written application electronically in a single PDF file to dlvandolah@ucdavis.edu by December 3, 2018 at 10:00 am. The application should conform to the standard NIH organizational structure and NIH guidelines with respect to the details of formatting (e.g. font size, margins) and include the following components:

- Completed application cover sheet and demographics information (see attached)
- One-page cover letter detailing the candidate's career goals and describing how the BIRCWH program will contribute to those goals
- **Two-page** research proposal (plus references):
 - Objectives (one paragraph)
 - Rationale (one paragraph)
 - Methods
 - Significance to and potential impact on women's health (one paragraph)
 - Interdisciplinary nature of the project (one paragraph)
 - Innovation of the project (one paragraph)
- Proposed timeline for project
- Proposed interdisciplinary research and career mentors

- Recent NIH Bio-sketches for applicant and his/her mentoring team, including all sources of current extramural funding (**must include applicant's/mentor's role, dates of support, % effort and % salary support**)
- Letter from department chair with commitment to: (1) protect 75% of scholar's time for BIRCWH, (2) supplement scholar's salary if 75% of salary is greater than \$100,000 and benefit rate is above the UC Davis composite rate, and (3) indicate provision of space needed to complete project. This letter should also:
 - Explain how applicant's effort will be adjusted to comply with the 75% BIRCWH research effort requirement (i.e., detail % effort on other grants, as well as clinical and teaching time).
 - Assess applicant's potential.
 - Be co-signed by division chief, if applicable.
- Letter from mentors: Because this is a program of mentored multidisciplinary clinical research, the letter should convey the mentors' enthusiasm for the candidate and describe the proposed meetings and interactions between the mentors and the mentee. Therefore, considerable attention should be paid to the requirements for the mentors' letter as described here:
 - The candidate will need to identify at least two mentors from distinctly different disciplines, each of whom will contribute to the applicant's program of research and training.
 - The mentors' letter is to be jointly authored and cosigned by the two mentors. This letter must make clear how the disciplinary expertise of each mentor will contribute to the candidate's research and training plans. It should describe how the mentors' plan to work together with the applicant and what each will contribute to the applicant's research and training.
 - The mentors' letter must provide evidence of familiarity with the candidate's research and educational/training program. Ideally, the mentors will guide the candidate in the development of the research proposal to be submitted as part of this application. The mentors' letter should describe their degree of involvement in the preparation of the application.
 - The mentors' letter should also describe specific plans for the frequency of contact between the mentors and the applicant, and identify expectations for candidate productivity (i.e., expectations regarding manuscripts, submission of applications for extramural funding, etc.) The mentors should indicate a willingness to complete the required semi-annual documentation of the scholar's progress and participate in seminars with the other scholars and their mentors.
 - Finally, each mentor should describe their experience with mentoring and provide a table identifying prior mentees, their current positions, and any evidence of their mentees' research productivity.

All proposals must be sent electronically **in a single PDF file** to BIRCWH Program Manager Donna Van Dolah at dlvandolah@sbcglobal.net

Deadline for Applications: December 3, 2018 at 10:00 am

Anticipated funding start date: February 1, 2019

REVIEW CRITERIA

1. Potential of the applicant for a successful research career in women's health:
 - a) quality and feasibility of the proposed research
 - b) likelihood of benefiting from the BIRCWH program
 - c) likelihood of obtaining subsequent funding
2. Evidence of research experience and productivity including having applied for peer-reviewed funding and having written and published manuscripts with data obtained and analyzed by the applicant
3. Impact of BIRCWH program on career goals
4. Additional considerations to ensure a diverse pool of BIRCWH Scholars:
 - a) broad recruitment of candidates with emphasis on minorities
 - b) attempts to achieve diversity (in research areas, received degrees, disciplines, gender, ethnicity) in the scholar pool
5. Relevance of proposed project to women's health and incorporation of inter-disciplinary approach

For more information about the BIRCWH program, please contact the Program Manager
Donna Van Dolah, dlvandolah@ucdavis.edu

**Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (BIRCWH)
Application Cover Sheet**

Deadline: December 3, 2018 by 10:00 am

Name (Last, First, Middle Initial): _____ Degree(s): _____

Department(s): _____

Professional title(s): _____

Work #: _____ Home/Cell #: _____

Pager #: _____

Preferred email address: _____

Permanent mailing address: _____

Title of Project: _____

Letters of support: Please provide name, degree(s), title, department/affiliation, phone # and email address for each contact. Although they jointly sign a single letter of support, please list each mentor separately.

DEPARTMENT CHAIR - Name & Degree(s):

Title:	Phone #:
Dept./Affiliation:	Email address:

DIVISION CHIEF (if applicable) - Name & Degree(s):

Title:	Phone #:
Dept./Affiliation:	Email address:

MENTOR #1 - Name & Degree(s):

Title:	Phone #:
Dept./Affiliation:	Email address:

MENTOR #2 - Name & Degree(s):

Title:	Phone #:
Dept./Affiliation:	Email address:

Demographics Information form
(for grant-reporting purposes only)

Age: _____ years

Gender: Male Female

Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin or descent?

Yes

No

What is your race? Please mark all that apply:

Asian White Black or African American

Native American or Alaskan Native

Native Hawaiian or another Pacific Islander

Other (please specify) _____

Citizenship:

United States

Other (please specify) _____

Disabilities:

Yes (please specify) _____

No