EvansMDS Young Investigator Award

$125,000 per year for up to three years

Request for Applications

Submission Deadline:
Jan. 31, 2019
EvansMDS Young Investigator Award

Founded in 1984, The Edward P. Evans Foundation is a non-profit Charitable Trust dedicated to funding research on Myelodysplastic Syndromes (MDS) through its EvansMDS initiative. We fund and promote collaboration among leading investigators working on the most promising science so that we might find cures for MDS.

The Edward P. Evans Foundation is pleased to announce the continuation of our recently introduced EvansMDS Young Investigator Award to help develop the next generation of research leaders who will blaze a path toward finding these cures. We are targeting support for promising candidates committed to the study of the biology, pathogenesis, and treatment of MDS as they make their transition to independent investigators. We recognize that securing independent funding is often challenging during this period of career development.

Our goal is to facilitate this transition and promote the entry of new investigators into the MDS field. We are offering $125,000 per year for up to three years to defray the costs of salary and supplies. Renewal of this agreement is conditional upon satisfactory progress toward independence prior to year two. Renewal of this agreement for the third year is conditional upon the Young Investigator’s acquisition of a written offer of an independent investigator position from a 501(c)(3) research institution. Young Investigators successfully securing their first independent appointment will be eligible to submit applications without LOIs for an EvansMDS Discovery Research Grant (DRG) during the two years following their initial appointment. These DRG applications will be given special consideration.

As an additional incentive, we offer recipients flexibility to apply for, and receive additional awards from EvansMDS or other parties during the period of EvansMDS Young Investigator Award funding, subject to the conditions below.

**Candidate Investigators** – The candidate should be an early career (typically within 8 years of completing their graduate degree) physician or scientist (MD, PhD, or MD-PhD), currently in a non-tenure track (or equivalent) position with a university, hospital or other recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit institution. Eligible candidates include outstanding researchers conducting innovative research under the guidance of an established Mentor. Candidates should be able to demonstrate how this funding, for the limited period of the award, will help to advance their project, idea, or research laboratory to a point where they can secure their transition to an independent investigator.

Eligible candidates generally should not hold the title of Assistant Professor and cannot hold the title of Associate Professor or Professor, nor have been or be the principle investigator on any government or privately funded research grant with the exception of an NIH training grant or similar.
The Foundation welcomes direct engagement regarding the suitability of any promising candidates for which these guidelines may require further discussion or clarification.

**Candidate Mentors** - *Candidate Mentors* should be active investigators working at the cutting edge of basic, translational, or clinical research in MDS.
Details & Application process:

Applicants for an EvansMDS Young Investigator Award should submit an application in collaboration with their Mentor. The application will consist of the following documents, which the Foundation will share with an independent review panel comprised of MDS experts:

1. Application Form signed by an authorized representative of the Candidate Investigator's current institution.
2. Letter from the Candidate Investigator detailing how this funding will help to advance his/her career to a point where (s)he will be able to transition to an independent investigator. This should consist of the following:
   a. Introduction and career narrative (up to 2 pages)
   b. Research plan (up to 2 pages)
3. Letter from the Candidate Mentor recommending the Candidate Investigator for this award, describing a mentorship plan that would enable the Candidate Investigator to obtain an independent investigator position, and describing the contributions that the Candidate Mentor has made toward training successful independent investigators (up to 2 pages).
4. Two additional letters of recommendation for the Candidate Investigator, at least one of which must be from an institution other than the Candidate Investigator's current institution.
5. Proposed high-level budget for use of funds (e.g., salary, supplies, travel).
   a. Salary may not exceed NIH guidelines at 75% time allocation.
   b. Indirect expenses may be included up to 8% of the total direct costs ($9,259).
6. NIH Bio sketch for Candidate Mentor
7. NIH Bio sketch for the Candidate Investigator

Applications are due January 31, 2019 and will be reviewed by a panel of MDS experts and the Foundation. All documents must be submitted in electronic form, in a single pdf file, by email, to grants@epefoundation.org.

Candidate Investigators who are approved for this award will be notified around the end of March. Funds will be paid to the Candidate Investigator’s institution for use by the Investigator before July 1, 2019.