

## **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** February 1, 2021

**TO:** Pediatric Fellows  
Division Fellowship Directors

**FROM:** Michele Kong, M.D.

**RE:** Dixon Fellowship Program

The Department of Pediatrics is now seeking applications for the Dixon Fellowship Training Program for the 2021 academic year. The Dixon Foundation endows this Pediatric fellowship training program to prepare, train, and support fellows who intend to pursue an academic career with research emphasis in approved Pediatric subspecialties. Proposals can range from basic and translational science to education or QI-centric research. As part of this prestigious award, recipients benefit from salary support and an additional \$5,000 per year discretionary funds to support research and continuing education activities.

Candidates are selected on a competitive basis, and selection is made upon a Review Committee's analysis of the written application. For the academic year starting in July 2021, we will select three candidates who will be starting their second or third year of training. The initial award is for a period of one year with continued support contingent upon annual review of the fellow's progress.

The application must be submitted as a complete packet and include the following items:

1. Completed title page.
2. The applicant's current curriculum vitae in the UAB Standard format.
3. A one page detailed description of the applicant's career plan. This should include short-range objectives while in training at UAB (e.g., MSPH training, additional course work, etc.) as applicable, as well as long-range objectives for academic career accomplishments. An explanation of how the Dixon award will facilitate the achievement of these objectives should be included.
4. A specific aim page (1 page) and a detailed research plan, including significance, innovation, approach (include preliminary work and statistical consideration if applicable) and the research environment. Applications will be scored using the standard NIH scoring criteria. Limit research plan to a maximum of 4 pages.
5. Budget: You do not need to include a detailed budget, but please indicate the source of research support. Also, indicate how the Dixon discretionary fund will be used.

6. Two letters of support from faculty members other than the division director and the research mentor(s).
7. A written statement from the applicant's division director in support of the application, including an evaluation of strengths that make the applicant an outstanding candidate.
8. Letter from the applicant's mentor(s) (two-page maximum) defining his/her commitment to prepare the applicant for an academic career and a description of the proposed training program with emphasis on the research plan. Information should be provided on how the fellow's research will be differentiated from that of the mentor(s) (e.g., "ownership" of the project by the fellow). If more than one research mentor is cited in the application, letters from all mentors should be included.
9. Copy of Mentor(s) Biosketch

Applications should be emailed to [rhandler@peds.uab.edu](mailto:rhandler@peds.uab.edu), or delivered to Ronda Chandler in the Sergio Stagno Center, 3rd Floor West McWane Building, no later than April 16th. We would like to announce the new Dixon Fellows by the end of May 2021.

MK/rsc