2017 Rising Stars in Urology Research Award

IMPORTANT DATES AND TIMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Application Deadline</td>
<td>5:00 p.m. Eastern time, May 25, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Submission Deadline</td>
<td>5:00 p.m. Eastern time, June 8, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer Review</td>
<td>July 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding Notification</td>
<td>August 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award Period</td>
<td>Determined after awardee selection</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. Funding Opportunity Description ........................................................................................................... 3
   A. Urology Care Foundation Mentored Research Awards ........................................................................... 3
   B. Award Information ................................................................................................................................... 3
   C. Eligibility Information .............................................................................................................................. 3
   D. Funding Information .................................................................................................................................. 4
       1. Awards Available ................................................................................................................................. 4
       2. Distribution of Funds ............................................................................................................................ 4

II. Preparation and Submission of Application Materials ............................................................................... 4
   A. General Information ................................................................................................................................. 4
   B. Letter of Intent ......................................................................................................................................... 5
   C. Preparation and Submission of the Application Package ........................................................................ 5
   D. Checklists for Applicant and Mentor ..................................................................................................... 7
       1. Applicant Checklist .............................................................................................................................. 7
       2. Mentor Checklist .................................................................................................................................. 8

III. Application Review Information ............................................................................................................. 9
   A. Application Review and Selection Process ............................................................................................ 9
   B. Review Criteria ........................................................................................................................................ 9
   C. Notification of Application Review Results ........................................................................................... 10

IV. Award Requirements .............................................................................................................................. 10
   A. Publication Acknowledgements ............................................................................................................ 11
   B. Urology Care Foundation Research-Related Activities ....................................................................... 11
   C. Reporting ................................................................................................................................................ 13
       1. Progress Reports and Personal Statements ....................................................................................... 13
       2. Post-award Reporting (NEW) ........................................................................................................... 13
       3. Other Requirements ............................................................................................................................ 14
   D. Changes to Project, Personnel, Institution, or Funding ........................................................................ 14

V. Contact Information .................................................................................................................................. 14
I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

A. UROLOGY CARE FOUNDATION MENTORED RESEARCH AWARDS

The Urology Care Foundation, the official foundation of the American Urological Association (AUA), works to ensure the future of urologic health by supporting and improving the prevention, detection, and treatment of urologic diseases through research and education. The Urology Care Foundation has recognized a major need to encourage bright, young physician-scientists and researchers to dedicate their careers to improving patients’ lives through better understanding of the development and management of urologic diseases and conditions.

The AUA Office of Research, created in 2001, works toward its mission to advance urologic research through funding, education, and advocacy. The Office of Research administers all aspects of Urology Care Foundation mentored research awards, including application receipt and review, as well as grant management. For any questions related to administration of awards or applications, see Section V. Contact Information of this Program Announcement.

B. AWARD INFORMATION

The Urology Care Foundation recognizes the need to enable physician-scientists with the training, tools, and resources to succeed as independent researchers in urology. A major need identified in the community of physician-scientists is protected time to conduct research, which is typically difficult to establish when balancing with urology practice needs. Therefore, to encourage physician-scientists who have shown significant promise by successfully competing for career development awards from federal and other funding sources, and to promote their pursuit of additional education and training in urologic research, the Urology Care Foundation developed the Rising Stars in Urology Research Award program. This program provides supplemental salary support to physician-scientist career development award recipients to ensure that their protected time for research remains stable and that their salary compensation is more competitive with their non-research urology faculty peers. Salary supplements will be awarded for a period of up to five years, with an escalating payment each year.

Rising Stars in Urology Research awards are made possible through endowed funds generously established by Astellas, Inc. and the Frank and Marion Hinman Urology Research Fund.

C. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

To be eligible to compete for a 2017 Urology Care Foundation Rising Stars in Urology Research Award, the applicant must, by July 1, 2017:

- Be a board-certified or -eligible urologist, or participating in a training program to obtain board certification in urology;
- Have successfully competed for a new externally-funded, peer-reviewed, career development award1 (i.e., K07/K08/K23 awards from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), or career development-type grants from the Veterans Administration (VA), Department of Defense (DoD), American Cancer Society or others); and

1 Questions regarding whether or not awards qualify as career development awards should be directed to the Office of Research, see Section V. Contact Information of this Program Announcement.
- Have at least two full years remaining on the period of performance for the career development award.

Previous applicants for Rising Stars Awards are eligible to reapply. However, previous applicants must describe in their new applications any steps they have taken to address the criticisms from the peer review of the previous application. If criticisms were not previously provided, this requirement will be waived. (See Section C.4.).

To be eligible for this award, the application must be focused on a research project that aligns with one or more of the research priorities described in the AUA’s National Urology Research Agenda (NURA), available at http://www.auanet.org/research/national-urology-research-agenda.cfm. In addition, the research project must be conducted within the boundaries of the eight sections of the AUA.

NEW FOR 2017: All applicants who are not AUA members at the time of application must commit to applying for AUA membership in the event of being selected to receive a Rising Stars in Urology Research Award. Membership applications must be submitted within 1 week of accepting the Rising Stars in Urology Research Award and proof of AUA membership must be provided to the Office of Research prior to funds being dispersed.

Neither the Urology Care Foundation nor the AUA Office of Research discriminate as to age, race, color, gender, religion, sexual orientation, disability, citizenship or national origin in the employment and promotion of staff or in the selection of participants in the Rising Stars in Urology Research Award.

D. FUNDING INFORMATION

1. AWARDS AVAILABLE

Two awards are available for the 2017 Rising Stars in Urology Research Award competition. The award has a maximum duration of five years. The length of the award period is determined by the length of time remaining on the awardee’s externally-funded career development award. Applicants must have at least two full years remaining on the career development award by July 1, 2017.

2. DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

In each award year, the Rising Stars in Urology Research Award funds will be paid directly to the awardee. The Urology Care Foundation does not withhold taxes from awards (i.e., federal withholding, social security, local or state taxes, etc.). Awards are solely for the purpose of salary supplementation and cannot be used for fringe benefits.

The period of salary supplementation will be commensurate with the period of performance of the career development award. Funding starts at $28,000 in year 1 and increases each award year based on the following schedule: year 2, $33,000; year 3, $40,000; year 4, $46,000; and year 5, $52,000. To qualify for subsequent years’ funding, each awardee will be required to meet specific milestones detailed in the Reporting Requirements. The awardee’s eligibility for maintaining the award is also contingent on the awardee maintaining an externally-funded career development award. The Urology Care Foundation does not allow indirect costs in association with any of its awards.
II. PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION MATERIALS

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

Applicants are responsible for composing, compiling, and submitting a complete application. Each applicant must have a primary mentor for the project. More than one mentor per project is both permitted and recommended if the project is highly translational or multidisciplinary. *Each mentor must provide a letter of support and complete the required mentor sections within the Application Agreement form.* Listing of consultants or co-investigators on the project is acceptable; the applicant should clearly describe the role of each member of the personnel on the project.

**Electronic Registration:** Applicants must go to the 2017 Urology Care Foundation Rising Stars in Urology Research Award program site at [http://www.auanet.org/research/rising-star-in-urology-research-awards-84.cfm](http://www.auanet.org/research/rising-star-in-urology-research-awards-84.cfm) to view the Program Announcement and all pertinent information regarding the program. Applicants must submit all documents electronically via the application submission system at [https://aua.versaic.com](https://aua.versaic.com). To prevent emails from the submission system from being identified as spam, it is strongly recommended to add noreply@system.versaic.com to your address book or safe sender list (to learn more, go to [www.versaic.com/spamhelp](http://www.versaic.com/spamhelp)).

B. PRE-APPLICATION

To facilitate planning for peer review, applicants are required to complete a pre-application electronically via the application submission system at [https://aua.versaic.com](https://aua.versaic.com) no later than Thursday, May 25, 2017. The pre-application will include applicant and project information (e.g., project title, research type, etc.), mentor(s) contact information, urology department chairperson contact information, career development award information (e.g., NIH K01 Mentored Career Development Award name, funding amount and performance period dates, and a brief project description). **The pre-application also requires the Institution Federal Tax Identification Number (EIN).** Please remember to have any mentor to add noreply@system.versaic.com to his or her address book or safe sender list (to learn more, go to [www.versaic.com/spamhelp](http://www.versaic.com/spamhelp)) to receive emails from the submission system. There is no approval process for the pre-application, and applicants should assume that they have permission to apply but are not bound to apply; however, after administrative review of the pre-application, the AUA Office of Research will release the application submission system for full application submission by each applicant deemed eligible.

C. PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION PACKAGE

Prepare and submit the application package to include all documents as shown below. The application package should be uploaded as instructed via the portal system, with each component adhering to its specific page limitation as indicated below.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Any components that exceed their respective page limits will be removed from the application or administratively truncated.

1. Application Agreement Form

The applicant must download and complete the Application Agreement Form found on the AUA website at [http://www.auanet.org/research/funding-opportunities/rising-stars-in-urologic-research-](http://www.auanet.org/research/funding-opportunities/rising-stars-in-urologic-research-)
award. This form must be completed in its entirety, including all necessary signatures and Grant Administrator contact information. Please type information into the Application Agreement Form where solicited (illegible information will not be accepted).

2. **Career Development Award Notification Letter** (no page limit)

Provide a copy of the award notification letter you received for your career development-type award. This will serve as documentation of the receipt of the required award and should indicate the award period of performance.

3. **Career Development Award Application** (no page limit)

Provide a copy of the application submitted for your career development-type award. This should be the entire application as originally submitted, including all components (e.g., project description, biosketches, budget, etc.)

4. **Career Development Award (and Previous Rising Stars Application, if applicable) Peer Review Summary Statement (including Scores)**

Provide a copy of the peer review summary statements (including scores) that you received for your career development-type award (no page limit).

**PLEASE NOTE:** For previous Rising Stars applicants, on clearly titled separate pages (two page limit), include a detailed statement of steps that you have taken to address the summary critiques of the previous review. If criticisms were not previously provided, this requirement will be waived.

5. **Abstract (one-page limit)**

Briefly summarize the following elements of the proposed research project and training:

- Problem to Be Addressed
- Specific Aims and Experimental Design
- Mentoring Plan
- Potential Impact of Project on Urologic Research and on the Applicant’s Career Development

6. **Relevance Statement (one-page limit)**

Provide a statement from the applicant explaining relevance of the research project to the NURA research priorities. The NURA can be accessed at [http://www.auanet.org/research/national-urology-research-agenda.cfm](http://www.auanet.org/research/national-urology-research-agenda.cfm).

7. **Applicant Biosketch (five-page limit)**

Include the applicant’s updated biosketch (five pages, NIH-style required).

8. **Applicant Career Plan (one-page limit)**

The statement of career goals and plans may include description of any coursework, conferences, seminars, teaching or clinical responsibilities, grant writing, or other activities that the applicant plans

---

2 Career development award notifications, applications, and summary statements and scores are confidential documents that the applicant must choose to disclose. However, these items are required for this competition and will be kept confidential by the AUA Office of Research and Urology Care Foundation.

3 OMB No. 0925-0046
to use in his or her career development. In addition, applicants should describe longer-term goals (10-15 years post-award) for their careers.

9. Mentor Biosketch(es) (five-page limit per person)

Include a biosketch for each mentor (five pages each, NIH-style required). These should be versions updated from those submitted for the original career development award.

10. Mentor Letter(s) of Support (two-page limit per individual mentor letter; four-page limit for combined letter)

The application must contain one letter of support from each mentor or a combined letter from all mentors.

The letter(s) of support should describe the applicant’s career development program and the mentor’s specific involvement in and commitment to providing career development and mentorship in urologic research. Specifically, the letter(s) should address the following:

- Applicant’s characteristics and accomplishments to date, potential for an independent career in urologic research, and estimated timeline for career development;
- Mentor’s history of developing early-career investigators;
- Research environment, including ongoing urologic disease research and how it will promote the development of the applicant; and
- Mentor’s plan to support the research project and guide the applicant.

11. Letter of Support from Urology Department Chair (two-page limit)

Provide a letter from the Urology Department Chair documenting support for the applicant, with emphasis on the amount of, and commitment to, protected time for research.

The application package must be submitted ELECTRONICALLY at http://aua.versaic.com no later than Thursday, June 8, 2017 at 5:00 pm EASTERN TIME. Applicants should allow ample time for composing, compiling, and submitting materials. Late or non-electronic submissions will NOT be considered.

D. CHECKLISTS FOR APPLICANT AND MENTOR

To complete the application package, ensure the submission of the following.

1. APPLICANT CHECKLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Item</th>
<th>Completed?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Item 1: Application Agreement Form</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 2: Career Development Award Notification Letter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Item 3:</td>
<td>Career Development Award Application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 4:</td>
<td>Career Development Award (and Previous Rising Stars Application, if applicable) Peer Review Summary Statement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 5:</td>
<td>Abstract (one-page limit)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 6:</td>
<td>Relevance Statement (one-page limit)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 7:</td>
<td>Applicant Biosketch (five-page limit)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 8:</td>
<td>Applicant Career Plan (one-page limit)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 9:</td>
<td>Mentor Biosketch(es) (five-page limit per person)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 11:</td>
<td>Letter of Support from Urology Department Chair (two-page limit)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplement:</td>
<td>Lay Statement and Photographs (described below; submit separately from application)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. MENTOR CHECKLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Item</th>
<th>Completed?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Item 10:</td>
<td>Mentor Letters of Support (two-page limit per mentor; four-page limit for combined letters)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lay Statement and Photographs for UrologyHealth.org and AUAnet.org

The applicant must submit two separate items via the application submission system under the Supplemental Information section:

1) A short paragraph (3-4 sentences), in language that can be understood by individuals without backgrounds in science or medicine, about the research project.

2) A headshot photograph as a jpeg file (save the file as, “Last name, First name_Photo” i.e., “Smith, John_Photo”). The photograph should be a **high-quality headshot** (high resolution ≥ 3 megapixels) with either professional dress or a laboratory/white coat. Please do not compress the photograph after it is taken.

The applicant thus gives permission for the information and his/her photo to be posted at www.UrologyHealth.org and www.AUAnet.org and used in press releases and other promotional materials for the program. The statement and photograph should be submitted via the application submission system at https://aua.versaic.com no later than **Thursday, June 8, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern time**. These items will not be shared with reviewers and will not impact the review process or funding decisions.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The AUA Office of Research strongly recommends that, prior to submission, all applicants send their applications through both institutional scientific review (where available) and appropriate institutional grant administration review at their home institutions to optimize grant quality and ensure consistency with institutional policies.
III. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

A. APPLICATION REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

All applications are evaluated by a peer review panel of expert physician-scientists and researchers. Each application is considered according to established criteria for determining merit as described below.

Following the completion of peer review and from the pool of applications deemed fundable, the most highly meritorious applications will be matched to the available awards. All funding decisions must be approved by the AUA Director of Research and Research Council Chair.

All review processes are conducted confidentially to maintain the integrity of the selection process. Panel members sign a nondisclosure statement that all application and evaluation information will not be disclosed outside the panel. Violations of confidentiality can result in the voiding of peer review results and other corrective actions. In addition, the applicant, mentor(s), and other individuals involved in or otherwise standing to benefit from the application’s funding are prohibited from contacting persons involved in the review process to gain protected evaluation information or to influence the evaluation process. Violations of these prohibitions will result in the disqualification of the application.

B. REVIEW CRITERIA

Applicant

- To what degree the applicant’s achievements (as reflected by awards, honors, publications, promotions, regional/national presentations, etc.) indicate his or her potential to make significant contributions to the chosen field of research and build a successful career as a urologic research leader.

- To what degree the applicant’s stated career goals and letters of support indicate a strong commitment to pursuing urologic disease research throughout his or her career.

- Whether the applicant’s proposed level of effort is appropriate for successful career development, completion of the proposed work, and time to build the necessary aspects of an early independent research program.

Mentor(s)

- To what degree the mentor or mentoring team demonstrates a strong commitment to the applicant’s career development, with a well-developed mentoring plan.

- To what degree the mentor or mentoring team has the required expertise and track record, in relation to urologic disease research, to provide sufficient scientific guidance and oversight for the research project and career development.

- To what degree the mentor or mentoring team has a training record that includes past/current trainees that have successfully transitioned to career independence.
Research Project

- To what degree the project is highly meritorious, i.e., innovative, significant, and timely as demonstrated by the career development award application and previous peer review critiques and scores.
- To what degree the project addresses a priority area of research according to the NURA.
- To what degree the proposed research will be driven by the applicant with guidance only as needed from the mentor or mentoring team.
- To what degree the proposed research will help the applicant transition into a more advanced academic position.
- To what degree the proposed project is likely to interface with different scientific disciplines and significantly influence and advance the field of urologic research.

Institution

- To what degree the institution provides a supportive, well-resourced environment with adequate protected time for research to promote the development of the applicant.

C. NOTIFICATION OF APPLICATION REVIEW RESULTS

Awardees will be notified of funding decisions in writing via the application submission system and/or in writing via email no later than August 2017. To prevent emails from the submission system from being identified as spam, it is strongly recommended to add noreply@system.versaic.com to your address book or safe sender list (to learn more, go to www.versaic.com/spamhelp). Please note that results will not be given over the phone.

D. NOTICE OF AWARD

For applicants selected for funding, a Notice of Award letter will be issued to notify the grantee that an award has been made and to specify the terms and conditions of the award.

IV. AWARD REQUIREMENTS

Each Rising Stars Award recipient is required to develop a grant application for funding as an independent investigator (e.g., NIH R01 or R21, DoD Idea Development Award, etc.), no later than the fourth or penultimate funding year of the Rising Stars Award, to be submitted to the NIH, DoD, VA, or other funding agency, no later than the first quarter of the fifth or final funding year.

Awardees understand and acknowledge that payments for the Rising Stars in Urology Research Award will be made directly to them and they may be personally responsible for repayment of funds provided by the award in the case that they relinquish the award or fail to meet the obligations of the award described in this Program Announcement. The Urology Care Foundation does not withhold taxes from award payments (i.e., federal withholding, social security, local or state taxes, etc.). It is the responsibility of the awardee to ensure that appropriate federal and local taxes are accounted for.

Milestones have been developed to assess progress over the period of performance. Progress to milestones will be evaluated annually. If annual milestones are not reached, the awardee risks
becoming ineligible for further support, may be withdrawn from the program, and may risk having to repay the support provided in the previous year. The milestones are:

- **Years 1–5:**
  
  - Submit progress reports on July 31 of each funding year after the first six months of Urology Care Foundation funding.
  
  - Attend the annual interview (typically conducted during the AUA Annual Meeting) and provide requested information including an annual interview questionnaire in a timely manner.
  
  - Attain timely achievement of career development objectives and research specific aims described in the career development grant, or provide justification for any variances.

- **Penultimate Year:** To be eligible for the final year of funding, the awardee must develop an application for funding as an independent investigator (e.g., NIH R01 or R21, DoD Idea Development Award, etc.) no later than the fourth or penultimate funding year. The expectation is that the application developed for funding as an independent investigator would be submitted to the funding agency no later than the first quarter of the fifth or final funding year.

- **Remain in academic practice for a minimum of the number of years equal to the number of years of support provided. If this obligation is not met, repayment of the award, in an amount to be determined at the exclusive discretion of the Urology Care Foundation, may be required.

In addition, all Rising Stars in Urology Research Award recipients must adhere to the requirements described below.

### A. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Awardees are required to send the AUA Office of Research electronic copies of articles published based on their Rising Stars in Urology Research/Career Development Award-funded research. Any publication or presentation arising from work supported in whole or in part by the Urology Care Foundation should include the following acknowledgment:

“This work was supported in part by the Urology Care Foundation Rising Stars in Urology Research Award Program and [SPONSOR NAME].”

In addition, it is suggested that all awardees add “2017 Rising Stars in Urology Research Award Recipient” to their email signature blocks.

### B. UROLOGY CARE FOUNDATION RESEARCH-RELATED ACTIVITIES

Each year, the AUA and the Urology Care Foundation coordinate several events designed to advance urologic research and provide educational venues, especially for early-career investigators. For all investigators funded by the Urology Care Foundation **Rising Stars in Urology Research Award**, attendance at the Urology Care Foundation Research Honors Program, AUA Research Forum, and the AUA Funding Opportunities and Grantwriting Workshop, all held at the AUA Annual Meeting, is required. Attendance at the Early-Career Investigators Workshop, typically held at the AUA Headquarters building in Linthicum, Maryland, is recommended but not required. In addition,
depending on eligibility or relevance of the topic to the awardee’s research, attendance at the AUA/SBUR Summer Research Conference, the Basic Sciences Symposium and Urologic Oncology Research Symposium may also be required. The AUA Office of Research also provides several opportunities for funded investigators to present posters at some of these events. Unless prior approval is given, failure to attend an event may disqualify the awardee from receiving a Urology Care Foundation award or payment. Travel awards or other means of travel support may be available for many events.

AUA Annual Meeting Events

- **Urology Care Foundation Research Honors Program**: This event is held annually to recognize all recently-awarded Urology Care Foundation grant recipients, present research Awards of Distinction, and provide a valuable opportunity for networking between early-career investigators supported by the Urology Care Foundation and leaders in urology and urologic research. Attending the program and presentation of a poster is required for all investigators funded by the Urology Care Foundation.

- **Basic Sciences Symposium**: This annual symposium is a premier research event attracting basic scientists, surgeon-scientists, and other urology investigators from various specialties. Past program topics include stem cells and nanotechnology, inflammation and fibrosis, new perspectives in pelvic health, aging and urologic manifestations, and the human microbiome. Travel awards for early-career investigators are often available. If the topic is associated with the research being conducted by the Urology Care Foundation awardee, he or she is required to attend the symposium.

- **Urologic Oncology Research Symposium**: This annual symposium encourages synergies and fosters collaboration in genitourinary oncology by bringing together scientists and clinicians at all career levels in a stimulating and interactive setting. The information discussed and shared during this meeting catalyzes the translation of laboratory-based cancer research to practical application. It is also intended to serve as a forum where early-career investigators can interact with leaders in a host of disciplines related to urologic cancers. Travel awards for early-career investigators are often available. If the topic is associated with the research being conducted by the awardee, he or she is required to attend the symposium.

- **Funding Opportunities and Grantwriting Workshop**: This is an educational workshop that assists researchers in identifying and understanding sources of funding and improving their grant writing skills. The workshop provides information on where to find grant opportunities, preparing an effective grant application, and peer review processes. Representatives from both public (federal) and private agencies and organizations are typically in attendance to provide information on current funding opportunities. All investigators currently funded by the Urology Care Foundation are required to attend the Grantwriting Workshop if it is offered.

- **AUA Research Forum – Early-Career Investigators Showcase**: This annual event provides a showcase for the research accomplishments of promising early-career investigators. The program will feature up to 10 oral presentations and up to 30 poster presentations on innovative, relevant, and potential impactful research projects that will be of great interest to the basic and clinical research communities. A judging panel scores the oral presentations and awards are provided to the top three presenters. All investigators funded by the Urology Care Foundation are required to attend the Research Forum.
• **Early-career Scientists Exchange:** This biennial event brings together Urology Care Foundation-funded early-career investigators for a focused, informal discussion with leaders in federal funding organizations to discuss current challenges and strategies for developing a successful research program in the ever-changing research climate.

**Events at AUA Headquarters**

• **AUA/SBUR Summer Research Conference:** This biennial conference facilitates rigorous and in-depth discussion of an overarching topic area in urologic research and attracts leaders in the field including clinicians and both early-career and established investigators in urology and related fields. It provides a forum to promote not only scientific exchange critical to research advancements, but also the careers of early-career investigators through education, networking, mentoring, and encouragement. Each conference is typically held in July or August and has a different scientific theme and topics each year. If the topics are relevant to the research being conducted by the awardee, he or she is required to attend the conference.

• **Early-Career Investigators Workshop:** This annual workshop fosters career development in urologic research by providing participants with a solid foundation for successful grant writing. Activities include small group and individual grant review sessions with senior scientific advisors, mock peer review sessions, and presentations on key aspects of career development.

**C. REPORTING**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Failure to adhere to reporting requirements and/or provide appropriate documentation may result in a delay in payments, repayment of some or all Urology Care Foundation funds previously paid to the awardee, and/or termination of the award. Unless approved by the institution and the Urology Care Foundation, failure to complete the duration of the research period may result in repayment of funds to the Urology Care Foundation.

1. **PROGRESS REPORTS AND PERSONAL STATEMENTS**

By July 31 of each funding year after the first six months of Urology Care Foundation funding, awardees must submit an interim progress report and personal statement. The report must be submitted to the AUA Office of Research electronically at grantsmanager@auanet.org. The next year of funding is contingent upon satisfactory progress reports.

1) In addition, within 30 days of the end of the funding period, the awardee must submit a report electronically to the AUA Office of Research and follow the guidance given in the Notice of Award Interim and Final Progress Report sections.

**Mentor Report (approximately two pages)**

Under separate cover, the mentor must submit a confidential statement electronically at grantsmanager@auanet.org evaluating the awardee’s performance and detailing career development progress and include any other information as outlined in the Notice of Award Interim and Final Progress Report sections.

2. **POST-AWARD REPORTING**
At specified time points following the completion of the Urology Care Foundation award (approximately three, five, and 10 years post-award), the AUA Office of Research will contact previous awardees to collect additional award outcomes information including, but not limited to, publications, funding, invited speakerships and presentations, mentorship, and leadership positions within the AUA or affiliated organizations.

The Urology Care Foundation and the AUA Office of Research request that all past awardees provide updated contact information when appropriate and be responsive to requests for post-award information.

### 3. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

If activities involving human subjects are planned during the proposed research, **the applicant must provide a letter of approval from the local Institutional Review Board (IRB).** IRB letters of approval are not required at the time of application submission. Should the application be selected for funding, the award will be contingent upon receipt of a copy of the current IRB approval letter by the Urology Care Foundation. **If IRB approval for the project is not obtained within 90 days of the award performance period start date, the Urology Care Foundation reserves the right to terminate the award.**

If activities involving vertebrate animals are planned during the research, **the applicant must submit a letter of approval by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).** IACUC letters of approval are not required at the time of application submission. Should the application be selected for funding, the award will be contingent upon receipt of a copy of the current IACUC approval letter by the Urology Care Foundation. **If IACUC approval for the project is not obtained within 90 days of the award performance period start date, the Urology Care Foundation reserves the right to terminate the award.**

### D. CHANGES TO PROJECT, PERSONNEL, INSTITUTION, OR FUNDING

Any project, mentor, personnel, or location/contact information changes that occur after the application is selected for funding or during the award period must be reported to and approved by the Urology Care Foundation. Changes in PI (i.e., the Rising Stars Award recipient) will result in award termination.

**If the awardee is selected for any additional funding from organizations other than the Urology Care Foundation after being selected for a Urology Care Foundation award, the awardee MUST contact the AUA Office of Research to discuss appropriate courses of action.** If the awardee does not meet this requirement, return of any used or unused Urology Care Foundation funds may be required.

### V. CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions related to this Program Announcement and application content or submission requirements, should be directed to the AUA Office of Research. Assistance is typically available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern time. Response times may vary depending upon the volume of inquiries. The preferred method of communication is email to grantsmanager@auanet.org. Phone calls, when necessary, can be directed to 410-689-3762.