



American  
Urological  
Association

*Urology Care*  
FOUNDATION™  
*The Official Foundation of the  
American Urological Association*

Advancing Urology  
through Research

# UROLOGY CARE FOUNDATION PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

## 2025 Boston Scientific Medical Student Innovation Fellowship

### IMPORTANT DATES

**Proposal Opening Date:** 5:00 pm EST, Friday January 3, 2025

**Proposal Submission Deadline:** 5:00 pm EST, March 10, 2025

**Peer Review:** March – May 2025

**Funding Notification:** June 2025

**Award Period:** July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>I. Funding Opportunity Description</b> .....	<b>3</b>
A. Urology Care Foundation Mentored Research Awards .....	3
B. Award Information .....	3
C. Eligibility Information .....	3
1. Applicant .....	3
2. Mentor .....	4
3. Institution .....	4
D. Funding Information .....	5
1. Awards Available .....	5
2. Concurrent Funding .....	5
3. Distribution of Funds .....	5
<b>II. Proposal Requirements</b> .....	<b>5</b>
A. General Information .....	5
B. Exclusion Criteria .....	5
C. Proposal submission instructions .....	8
D. Proposal Sections .....	8
<b>III. Proposal Review Information</b> .....	<b>11</b>
A. Proposal Review and Selection Process .....	11
B. Review Criteria .....	11
C. Notification of Proposal Review Results .....	12
D. Notice of Award .....	12
<b>IV. Award Requirements</b> .....	<b>12</b>
A. Regulatory Approvals and Exemptions .....	12
1. Institutional Review Board (IRB) .....	12
2. Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) .....	13
B. Reporting .....	13
1. Public Access Publishing and Sharing of Grant Information .....	13
2. Awardee progress Reports .....	13
3. Primary Mentor Reports .....	13
4. Institutional Accountability Report (IAR) .....	14
5. Outcomes Reporting .....	14
6. Changes to Contact Information, Project, Personnel, Institution, or Funding .....	14
7. Publication Acknowledgements .....	15
C. AUA and Urology Care Foundation Research-Related Activities .....	15
<b>V. Contact Information</b> .....	<b>15</b>

## I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

### A. UROLOGY CARE FOUNDATION MENTORED RESEARCH AWARDS

The mission of the Urology Care Foundation, the official foundation of the American Urological Association (AUA), is to support the improvement of urological care by funding research, developing patient education, advancing humanitarian initiatives and pursuing philanthropic support. Having recognized a major need to support the future of the urologic research workforce, the Urology Care Foundation offers a portfolio of mentored research training awards designed to recruit promising young physicians and investigators into urologic research and foster their career success.

These awards are administered by the AUA Office of Research, with funding provided by the Urology Care Foundation and partner organizations and sponsors. The AUA Office of Research was created in 2001 with a mission to increase and maintain the workforce of urology physician-scientists and researchers to catalyze the advancement of clinical practice and reduce the burden of urologic disease through impactful research. All proposals are evaluated by an independent peer review panel of expert physician-scientists and researchers who assess the scientific merit of each project as well as the applicant's potential to become a future research leader.

The AUA and its Urology Care Foundation are committed to promoting diversity in its many forms to promote excellence in research and leadership within the urologic research workforce. The AUA and its Urology Care Foundation are supportive of efforts to analyze and address the ways in which social and economic inequalities impact the urology community, and the ability to achieve health equity for patients with urologic conditions. Information related to the applicant's race/ethnicity and sex is collected during the proposal process to assess these efforts but is de-identified for all reporting purposes. In the event that an available research award is restricted to applicants of a particular race/ethnicity or sex, this information may be taken into consideration during the award selection process. 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 selection of participants in Urology Care Foundation grant programs.

### B. AWARD INFORMATION

Established in 2022, the Boston Scientific Medical Student Innovation Fellowship program supports current or matriculating medical students interested in translating urology research into innovation by engaging them in a fellowship mentored by world-class urologic scientists.

The fellowship provides the recipient a \$20,000 stipend for a 12-month mentored research experience. Further, the fellowship provides recipients the unique opportunity to interact with the research and development operations of the award sponsor via an organized site visit and continuing education sessions specific to the awardee project.

### C. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

#### 1. APPLICANT

To be eligible to compete for a 2025 fellowship, applicants must be either a current or matriculating medical student at an accredited institution within the boundaries of the AUA Sections. Information about AUA Sections can be found at <https://www.auanet.org/membership/who-we-are/aua-sections-and-demographics>. Applicants who are not AUA members at the time of submission must commit to applying for membership in the event of receiving an award offer.

Applicants must be able to dedicate **100%** of their efforts to the fellowship (i.e., may not hold other concurrent academic or clinical commitments), which must last 12 months during the anticipated award period of July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2025. Applicants unable to dedicate 100% time or less than the required months for the fellowship duration will not be considered eligible.

Applicants from groups underrepresented in the scientific and medical workforce including women and racial/ethnic minorities<sup>1</sup> will receive priority consideration for available fellowships.

Applicants who have completed or are enrolled in a dual-degree MD/PhD program in a biomedical research-related field are ineligible. Applicants who have completed all training and coursework for a MD degree are ineligible. Applicants who are enrolled in medical school and holding a PhD unrelated to biomedical research are eligible to apply.

Applicants are not required to be U.S. citizens but must have valid Social Security numbers for Internal Revenue Service purposes. Applicants that previously received and completed a Urology Care Foundation Summer Medical Fellowship in good standing and meet all remaining eligibility criteria are permitted to apply. However, such proposals will be considered after qualified proposals for first-time awardees have been funded.

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## 2. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

All applicants who are not AUA members at the time of submission must apply for AUA membership in the event of receiving a fellowship offer; see C. Eligibility Information 1. Applicant.

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## 3. MENTOR

Applicants must have at least one mentor supervising the proposed research project.

Mentor(s) must possess a strong track record of achievement in urologic research (i.e., must be a currently funded, established physician-scientist or researcher with a strong track record of securing research funding and publishing academic papers in urologic research). Mentors must also demonstrate experience in mentoring of research trainees. The Mentor must be able to expose the Fellow to basic, translational, or clinical research in an area of urology research. Mentors must be based at an accredited institution within AUA Section boundaries.

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## 4. INSTITUTION

To be eligible, the fellowship may occur at any institution, provided the host institution is accredited and resides within the boundaries of the AUA Sections. Information about AUA Sections can be found at <https://www.aunet.org/membership/who-we-are/aua-sections-and-demographics>.

Host institutions must sponsor the candidate by guaranteeing adequate support, including a suitable research environment, laboratory equipment, and supplies needed to conduct the research. **Further, host institutions must demonstrate support of the candidate by matching \$20,000 in funding toward the candidate's research project, living expenses, or other costs directly necessary to facilitate the 12-month fellowship.** Institutional indirect costs and/or costs for any personnel other than the applicant are not allowed.

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<sup>1</sup> The following racial and ethnic groups are considered underrepresented in biomedical research: Blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, American Indians or Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders. *National Institutes of Health, Office of the Director, Scientific Workforce Diversity Populations Underrepresented in the Extramural Scientific Workforce*  
<https://diversity.nih.gov/about-us/population-underrepresented>

## D. FUNDING INFORMATION

### 1. AWARDS AVAILABLE

One award is available for the 2025 Boston Scientific Medical Student Innovation Fellowship competition. Availability of all Urology Care Foundation awards is contingent on funding and subject to change.

While applicants may propose any type of research on any urologic disease or condition, the Urology Care Foundation encourages consideration of key gaps in research that have been identified in the AUA clinical guidelines and, if addressed, could have a significant impact on improving urology patient care. Projects conducting innovative research that address issues related to healthcare disparities among minority populations will receive priority consideration.

### 2. CONCURRENT FUNDING

Applicants may not simultaneously hold other grants, awards, or obligations requiring a time commitment during the proposed fellowship period. Recipients are required to maintain 100% effort devoted to the fellowship during the award period. If such awards and/or grants are accepted after applying, applications must contact the AUA Office of Research at [grantsmanager@auanet.org](mailto:grantsmanager@auanet.org) as soon as possible to determine next steps. If such grants/awards are accepted after being awarded a fellowship, awardees must contact the AUA Office of Research at [grantsmanager@auanet.org](mailto:grantsmanager@auanet.org) as soon as possible to determine next steps.

### 3. DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

Urology Care Foundation funds will be paid to the host institution via wire transfer in one installment in July 2025 or within 30 days of a fully executed Notice of Award agreement. The Urology Care Foundation does not withhold taxes from awards (i.e., federal withholding, social security, local or state taxes). It is the awardee's responsibility to ensure appropriate accounting for federal and local taxes.

## II. PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

### A. GENERAL INFORMATION

Applicants are responsible for composing, compiling, and submitting a complete proposal. Applicants should review this Program Announcement in its entirety to understand and begin preparing the required components. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that all required items are submitted electronically via the proposal submission system, including those requested from the mentor(s), additional letters of support, and letters from collaborators if applicable, prior to the proposal deadline. Applicants assume all responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of materials, and that materials are received in full in advance of submission deadlines.

**Applicants are required to submit the full proposal by Monday, March 10, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern time.** Partial proposals and/or proposals received after the deadline will not be accepted. Requests for exemptions to this policy will not be considered.

### B. EXCLUSION CRITERIA

Applications violating any of the following conditions are deemed noncompliant and thus will not be advanced for review and are ineligible for award consideration. Attempts to appeal noncompliance decisions will not be considered, and final determination is at the sole discretion of the AUA Office of Research.

- Noncompliance with formatting guidelines
- Any materials in excess of the prescribed page limits
- Applicant biosketch not included in submission materials
- Primary mentor biosketch not included in submission materials
- Primary mentor letter of support not included in submission materials

- Missing or incomplete Proposal Agreement Form

## C. PROPOSAL AGREEMENT FORM

The Proposal Agreement Form may be downloaded from the Download Templates & Instructions section in Proposal Central. All information should be typed into the Proposal Agreement Form: illegible information will not be accepted. This form must be completed in its entirety, including all necessary signatures from every identified mentor as well as a representative from the host institution, and submitted prior to the proposal deadline.

Proposals omitting the Proposal Agreement Form and/or forms not fully executed will be deemed noncompliant and will not advance to review or receive consideration for an award.

## D. APPLICANT BIOSKETCH

Applicants must submit an NIH-style biosketch, strictly limited to two pages, including descriptions of any research experience as well as research interests and career goals. A template is provided in the Download Templates section. Submissions that do not include the applicant's biosketch and/or documents that exceed the page limitations will be deemed noncompliant and will not advance to review or receive consideration for an award.

## E. CONFIDENTIAL LETTER(S) OF SUPPORT

Applicants are responsible for assigning letter writers to their proposals immediately after access is granted to the full proposal. It is critical for applicants to assign their letter writers as soon as possible to allow them ample time to submit their required letters by the proposal deadline. Once the applicant assigns a letter writer to their proposal, ProposalCentral will send an automated email to the letter writer with an upload link that will enable them to submit their letter confidentially. Applicants can log into their proposals at any time to check the submission status of their letters of support, and may resend notification emails as needed. Applicants are highly encouraged to contact their respective letter writers prior to the letter of intent deadline and should instruct them to add [pcsupport@altum.com](mailto:pcsupport@altum.com) to their address books or safe sender lists. Letters must be received by the proposal submission deadline, **March 10, 2025**, for consideration.

### 1. PRIMARY MENTOR LETTER OF SUPPORT

The proposal must contain one letter of support on institutional letterhead from the project primary mentor, limited to two pages. Letters that exceed the page limitations will be deemed noncompliant and will not advance to review or receive consideration for an award. If the primary mentor letter of support is not received by the proposal deadline, the proposal will be deemed noncompliant and will not advance to review or receive consideration for an award. In instances where two individuals are equally sharing primary mentorship responsibilities, a jointly written and co-signed letter may be provided; for joint letters, the page limit is three pages. If two separately written letters from different individuals, then each is limited to two pages.

Letters must be received by the proposal submission deadline, **March 10, 2025**, for consideration.

Primary mentor letters should clearly demonstrate the mentor's support of both the applicant and research project. Letters should demonstrate the mentor has the expertise required to provide sufficient scientific guidance and oversight for the respective portions of the research project and training. Descriptions of the research project and plans for student development (e.g., participation in seminars, courses, grant writing, manuscript preparation, or other research related activities) must be included. Additionally, primary mentor letters of support must outline mentor's financial resources, specifically resources available to support the applicant's research project. Mentors must have sufficient independent research support to cover the costs of the proposed research project.

The primary mentor letter must include a justification for the proposed project timeline and detail the percent effort the student will allocate at each stage of the project. The primary mentor letter must detail how they will ensure the student adheres to the proposed and subsequently approved project and percent effort plan.

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## 2. ADDITIONAL LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Additional letters from other mentors, research collaborators, and/or relevant professional sources should only be included when necessary. If included, additional letters of support are limited to one page each. Proposals that include additional letters that exceed the page limitation will be deemed noncompliant and will not advance to review or receive consideration for an award.

## F. MENTOR BIOSKETCH

An NIH-style biosketch is required for all identified mentors, limited to five pages each. Applications that exceed the page limitation and/or do not include the primary mentor's biosketch will be deemed noncompliant and will not advance to review or receive consideration for an award.

## G. RESEARCH PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The research project description is limited to two pages. Applications that exceed the page limitation will be deemed noncompliant and will not advance to review or receive consideration for an award. Research descriptions should include a reference cited section after the project description, which will not count toward page limits. It is recommended that no more than three to four figures be used.

The research project description should include all sections detailed below, in the order provided, using clear headers.

### **Section 1. Specific Aims**

State the problem or question the project seeks to address and the approach(es) to be used to answer the problem or address the question. A brief timeline for the project is recommended.

### **Section 2. Background**

Describe the scientific literature that documents or provides the research context for the problem the project will address, all sources referenced should be included in Section 4. References. Introduce the subject area of the research, including sufficient information to place the project in perspective (i.e., not an exhaustive, all-encompassing review of studies relevant to the problem).

### **Section 3. Impact**

Describe the project's potential to advance urologic research and/or patient care. Detail how the project will encourage the applicant to ultimately pursue a career as a urology physician-scientist.

Note: The description should clearly state how the applicant will allocate their time (indicate 100% level of effort, plus individual activities to be conducted) for the duration of the award period.

### **Section 4. References**

A bibliography, references cited, and/or abbreviations page must be included at the end of the Research project Description. Reference pages do not count towards the three-page limit.

## H. RESEARCH FACILITIES AND ENVIRONMENT DESCRIPTION

Limited to one page, the research facilities and environment document should describe the laboratory facilities, faculty, and technical assistance available to conduct the proposed fellowship project, as well as its relation to mentor's ongoing research program. Applications that exceed the page limitation will be deemed noncompliant and will not advance to review or receive consideration for an award.

## I. DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION STATEMENT

The applicant Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) Statement is limited to one page. Please briefly share your views on diversifying the field of urologic research, and the field of urology more broadly. Describe your interests in contributing to this effort. What are some of the ways you have considered or worked toward greater diversity, equity, inclusion as it relates to your research? If you have not had direct experience in this area, please share your aspirations." If applicable to your proposed research plan, describe how your project addresses issues related to DEI in urology or inequity in urologic healthcare delivery.

## J. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

### **Formatting Guidelines:**

The following guidelines are applicable to all documents submitted for the proposal. Applications that do not abide the formatting guidelines will be deemed noncompliant and will not advance to review or receive consideration for a fellowship.

Documents should use Times New Roman font in 12-point format with 1 to ½ inch margins. Paragraphs should be single-spaced, and figure/image legends/axes must be present and clearly visible. Documents from letter of reference writers, institution administrators, etc. must be submitted on official institution letterhead, include full credential lines, signed, and dated.

### **Electronic Registration**

Applicants must submit all required documents electronically via ProposalCentral at <https://proposalcentral.com/>. Submission of materials via email, fax, or postal mail will not be accepted.

To prevent emails from ProposalCentral from being identified as spam, it is strongly recommended that applicants, individuals providing letters of support for the proposal, and institutional representatives add [pcsupport@altum.com](mailto:pcsupport@altum.com) to their address books or safe sender lists. Applicants requiring technical support related to the grant submission portal should contact ProposalCentral directly.

After creating a ProposalCentral account and logging into the system, the applicant can locate the 2025 Boston Science Medical Student Innovation Fellowship by clicking on the "Grant Opportunities" tab and searching for the American Urological Association as the Grant Maker. The proposal can be accessed by clicking the "Apply Now" button. **The proposal sections are listed below with additional guidance on how to complete each section.**

## K. PROPOSAL SECTIONS

### **1. Title Page**

- Provide a title for your proposal (do not use all capital letters), list the year you anticipate graduating medical school, and include the start and end dates of the proposed research.

### **2. Download Templates**

- **Proposal Agreement Form** – This form must be completed in its entirety, including all necessary signatures and contact information, and submitted with the full proposal.



- **Biosketch Template** – This is a reference document to assist applicants in completing a biosketch. Applicants may also visit <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm> for current NIH biosketch guidelines.

### 3. Enable Other Users to Access this Proposal

- This section allows the applicant to give other users access to the grant proposal, but it is not required.

### 4. Applicant/PI

- Applicants will need to toggle between their “Professional Profile” in ProposalCentral and sections of the application in order to reference and complete the required information.
- ORCID Identifier- In concurrence with the National Institutes of Health policy requiring ORCID iDs from all applicants beginning October 2020 “to simplify applicant reporting and improve the tracking of career outcomes” (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-19-109.html>), all Urology Care Foundation award mechanisms will also require applicants to provide ORCID iDs. Applicants may register for ORCID iDs at <https://orcid.org/>.
- NPI (National Provider Identifier), if applicable.

### 5. Eligibility

- Applicants should select the AUA Section in which the proposed research will be conducted. Membership is not required to apply but is required to accept any Urology Care Foundation research award. Applicants who intend to conduct their research at an institution within the state of New York, New Jersey, or Pennsylvania should reference the institution’s zip code to select the appropriate Section (see <https://www.auanet.org/membership/who-we-are/aua-sections-and-demographics>).

### 6. Institution & Contacts

- This information is automatically populated from the applicant’s institution selected in the Professional Profile. Applicants should confirm that the Lead Institution is correct.

### 7. Key Personnel

- Each applicant must have a primary mentor. More than one mentor is permitted and recommended if the project is highly translational or multidisciplinary.
- Applicants are required to identify their mentor(s) and any additional letter of support writers for the proposed project. These individuals should be the same as those who will be writing the required confidential letters of support described below; however, this section does not prompt them to submit their required letters of support.
- Each mentor must complete the required mentor sections within the Proposal Agreement Form.

### 8. Confidential Letters of Support

- This section enables the applicants to invite their mentor(s) to complete and submit their required letters of support through ProposalCentral. Applicants should complete this immediately upon gaining access to the full proposal.
- Once the applicant assigns a letter writer to their proposal, ProposalCentral will send an automated e-mail to the letter writer with an upload link that will enable them to submit their letter confidentially. Applicants have the ability to log into their proposals at any time to check the submission status of their letters of support.
- Applicants may resend the invitation to individual letter writers and track whether the letters have been received. All letters of support must be received before the proposal deadline for the proposal to be considered for funding.
- Letters of support must be on institutional letterhead.

## 9. Project Information

- Applicants are required to provide a lay and technical abstract for the proposed project. By submitting the full proposal, the applicant gives consent for the use of the abstracts in Urology Care Foundation or AUA publications, advertising, fundraising, or other media activities.
- By submitting the full proposal, the applicant gives consent for the use of the abstracts in Urology Care Foundation or AUA publications, advertising, fundraising, or other media activities.

## 10. Budget Detail

- Please provide estimated costs for the research project and/or other anticipated expenses in this section. Urology Care Foundation funds cannot be used for institution indirect costs, nor for expenses related to any personnel (e.g., mentor, lab technician, etc.) other than the applicant.

## 11. Budget Summary

- Please review budget expense entries to ensure accuracy. Note that total expenses across all categories cannot exceed the \$20,000 provided by the Urology Care Foundation.

## 12. Upload Proposal Attachments Here

The components previously detailed and summarized below must be uploaded as PDF files and adhere to the specific page limitations indicated. Pages in excess of the limitation for any component and/or any missing section may result in the proposal being removed from consideration.

- **Proposal Agreement Form**
- **Applicant Biosketch / Resume** (two pages, NIH-style)
- **Mentor Biosketch(es)** (five pages per mentor, NIH-style)
- **Mentor Letter(s) of Support** (two pages per letter)
  - The proposal must contain **one letter of support from each project mentor** on institutional letterhead. **Per section II, subsection C, item 8**, mentors will upload letters anonymously via link that is auto generated and distributed after the mentor e-mail is added to ProposalCentral. If the primary mentor letter of support is not received by the proposal deadline, the proposal will not be reviewed.

- **Research Facilities and Environment Description** (one page)
- **Research Project Description** (two pages)

All figures and tables must be included within the two-page limit for the Research Project Description. **It is recommended that no more than three to four figures be used.**

- **Innovation Statement** (one page)

Describe the nature of the innovation gained from the proposed research project, specifically outlining how the project stands to forward the current standards of research, clinical practice, and/or patient outcomes.
- **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement** (one page)
- **Applicant Career Plan** (one page)

The applicant will also be expected to address how this award has helped further his or her educational and career goals, which may include presentation or publication opportunities related to their research.

### 13. Validate

- This section will check for any required information or files missing from the proposal.

### 14. Print Full Proposal with Uploads

- This enables the applicant to download the entire proposal package for their records.

### 15. Submit

- Please note that once submitted, additional changes cannot be made to the proposal unless released by the Office of Research. To contact the AUA Office of Research regarding your proposal please refer to section V.

## III. PROPOSAL REVIEW INFORMATION

### A. PROPOSAL REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

All proposals are evaluated by a peer review panel of established physician-scientists and researchers. The review panel will be diverse in terms of gender, race/ethnicity, and scientific expertise. Each proposal is considered according to established criteria for determining merit as described below.

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

**All review processes are conducted confidentially to maintain the integrity of the selection process.** Peer reviewers agree to a nondisclosure policy that proposal and evaluation information will not be disclosed outside the peer review 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 proposal'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 proposal.

### B. REVIEW CRITERIA

All proposals will be evaluated against the following review criteria:

#### **Applicant**

- To what degree the applicant's achievements to date, stated career goals, and mentor Letter(s) of Support indicate his or her potential for a successful career in academic urology.
- Applicants from groups underrepresented in the scientific and medical workforce including women and racial/ethnic minorities will receive priority consideration for available fellowships.

#### **Mentor(s)**

- To what degree the mentor(s) has/have demonstrated strong support for both the research project and the applicant as evidenced by a strong mentor Letter(s) of Support, apparent guidance in preparation of the proposal, and design (appropriate objectives, methods, timeframe) of the proposed research project.
- To what degree the mentor(s) has the required expertise and track record, especially in relation to urologic research, to provide sufficient scientific guidance and oversight for the research project and training.

#### **Institution**

- To what degree the institution provides a training environment with ongoing urologic disease research that will promote the development of the applicant.

#### **Research Project**

- To what degree the proposed project is focused on a significant problem in urologic research.
- To what degree is the project innovative.
- To what degree the research project and training are appropriately designed and will provide the applicant with an experience to promote the development of a successful career in urologic research.
- To what degree the proposal is well organized, clearly presented, and suggests the applicant's ability to think clearly and to present an argument in a logical, compelling way.
- Proposals addressing issues related to healthcare disparities among minority populations will receive priority consideration.

### Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Statement

- Reviewers will be asked to evaluate the extent to which the applicant's DEI statement adequately reflects the intent of the AUA's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- This review criterion will not affect the overall impact score of an application but may be considered when determining appropriate alignment of the grant portfolio with DEI goals as outlined by the AUA and UCF.

## C. NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSAL REVIEW RESULTS

Applicants will be notified of funding decisions through ProposalCentral and/or in writing via email. **To prevent e-mails from the proposal submission system from being identified as spam, it is strongly recommended to add [pcsupport@altum.com](mailto:pcsupport@altum.com) to your address book or safe sender list.** Please note that results will not be given over the phone.

Applicants selected for funding must:

- Confirm or decline the funding within **48 hours by email** to [grantsmanager@AUAnet.org](mailto:grantsmanager@AUAnet.org).
- Submit a high-quality headshot (file size typically  $\geq 1$ MB) in professional dress or laboratory/white coat via ProposalCentral within a week of accepting the award. With the submission of this photo, the applicant thus gives consent for its use in Urology Care Foundation or AUA publications, advertising, fundraising, or other media activities.
- Confirm AUA membership **within a week** of being notified of funding:
  - Submit your AUA membership ID number into ProposalCentral.
  - If you are not already an AUA member, apply for membership and submit proof of application via ProposalCentral (screenshots of submitted/confirmed applications are acceptable).
- Ensure that the correct individuals (e.g., mentors and/or administrators) are listed to have access to the award in ProposalCentral, if applicable.

## D. NOTICE OF AWARD

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

## IV. AWARD REQUIREMENTS

### A. REGULATORY APPROVALS AND EXEMPTIONS

#### 1. INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD (IRB)

**Awardees must provide a letter of approval or exemption from the local IRB if activities involving human subjects are planned during the proposed research.** IRB letters of approval or exemption are not required at the time of proposal submission. Should the proposal be selected for funding, the award will be contingent upon receipt of a copy of the current IRB approval or exemption letter by the AUA Office of Research. Documentation should be submitted through the proposal submission system. **IRB approval or exemption documentation**

**must be obtained prior, to the award performance period start date. The Urology Care Foundation reserves the right to terminate the award if the above terms are not met.**

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## 2. INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE (IACUC)

Awardees must submit a letter of approval or exemption by the IACUC if activities involving vertebrate animals are planned during the research. IACUC letters of approval or exemption are not required at the time of proposal submission. Should the proposal be selected for funding, the award will be contingent upon receipt of a copy of the current IACUC approval or exemption letter by the AUA Office of Research. Documentation should be submitted through the proposal submission system. **IACUC approval or exemption documentation must be obtained prior, to the award performance period start date. The Urology Care Foundation reserves the right to terminate the award, if the above terms are not met.**

## B. REPORTING

**Failure to adhere to reporting requirements and/or provide appropriate documentation may result in a delay in payments of other awards to the institution or suspension of the awardee, mentor(s), or institution from eligibility for subsequent Urology Care Foundation funding opportunities.** Unless approved by the Urology Care Foundation, failure to complete the duration of the research period will result in repayment of unspent funds to the Urology Care Foundation.

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## 1. PUBLIC ACCESS PUBLISHING AND SHARING OF GRANT INFORMATION

All Urology Care Foundation awardees are subject to a public access policy. In addition, the AUA is a member of the Health Research Alliance (HRA)—a national consortium of non-governmental, nonprofit funders of biomedical research and training—and has agreed to deposit grant information in the HRA database of privately funded grants, HRA Reporter.

The AUA and its Urology Care Foundation reserve the right to include information relating to the grant (such as the grantee name and project title) in materials issued by or on behalf of the AUA and Urology Care Foundation, including periodic reports, newsletters or news releases, the website, or in any other materials issued by or on behalf of the AUA and the Urology Care Foundation. The following award information will be provided to the HRA Reporter database and **may be shared with the public**: investigator name, degrees, clinical specialty if applicable, institution, project title, abstract, grant start date and duration, grant amount and ORCID iD of the investigator if applicable. HRA aggregates these data for its member organizations and for periodic publication of findings (see <https://www.healthra.org/hra-platforms/hra-reporter-public/> for more information).

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## 2. AWARDEE PROGRESS REPORTS

### **Interim Report:**

Two-year awardees are required to submit an interim progress report and personal statement by **June 1**, 2025 of the first funding year to the AUA Office of Research via ProposalCentral. The second year of funding is contingent upon the receipt of a satisfactory progress report.

### **Final Report:**

Within 30 days after the end of the funding period, awardees must submit a final report via ProposalCentral and include all information outlined in the Notice of Award.

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## 3. PRIMARY MENTOR REPORTS

### **Interim Report:**

The mentor interim report should be approximately one page and evaluate the awardee's performance, progress on the funded research, and any other information outlined in the Notice of Award. The mentor should also note how the awardee will maintain the required 100% effort through the remaining six months of the award period.

Report materials are due via ProposalCentral by **December 31, 2025**, and include all information outlined in the Notice of Award.

**Final Report:**

The primary mentor final report should be approximately one page and evaluate the awardee's performance as well as detail the future career plan for the awardee. The mentor is responsible for uploading this report to ProposalCentral within 30 days after the funding period.

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#### 4. INSTITUTIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT (IAR)

**Interim Report:**

Interim IAR requirements are applicable to awardees with multiple years of funding. An interim IAR must be submitted by institutional grant administrators no later than **December 31** of each funding year via ProposalCentral. This report re-affirms that the institution is adhering to all terms of the award, especially the provisions of institutional support and level of effort requirements. Continued funding is contingent upon receipt of a satisfactory report.

**Final Report:**

A final IAR must be submitted by institutional grant administrators via ProposalCentral no later 30 days of the end of the award funding period.

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#### 5. OUTCOMES REPORTING

Following the completion of the project period, the AUA Office of Research may 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.

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#### 6. CHANGES TO CONTACT INFORMATION, PROJECT, PERSONNEL, INSTITUTION, OR FUNDING

Any changes impacting the research project (i.e., primary mentor, key personnel, host institution, available facilities, applicant contact information, etc.) that occur after the proposal submission deadline **MUST** be reported to the AUA Office of Research. The AUA Office of Research will review the situation and determine whether the submitted proposal may continue to peer review or must be withdrawn.

Urology Care Foundation mentored research awards are intended to support individual early-career urologic researchers showing significant promise. Requests to change the award applicant will result in automatic application withdrawal and/or award ineligibility. Requests for exemption will not be considered. All decisions made by the AUA Office of Research are final.

If the applicant accepts funding after applying to a Boston Scientific Medical Research Innovation Fellowship Award, the awardee **MUST** contact the AUA Office of Research to discuss appropriate courses of action. The AUA Office of Research will review the competing funding and determine whether the submitted proposal may continue to peer review or must be withdrawn. If the awardee does not meet this requirement, applicants may be ineligible to apply for future Urology Care Foundation funding opportunities.

If the awardee is selected for any additional funding from organizations other than the Urology Care Foundation after being selected for a Boston Scientific Medical Research Innovation Fellowship Award, the awardee **MUST** immediately 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 funds may be required.

## 7. PUBLICATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Awardees are required to send electronic copies of articles published based on Urology Care Foundation funded research to the AUA Office of Research at [grantsmanager@AUAnet.org](mailto:grantsmanager@AUAnet.org). Any publication or presentation arising from work supported in whole or in part by this award must include the following acknowledgment:

“This work was supported in part by the Urology Care Foundation Boston Scientific Medical Student Innovation Fellowship.”

## C. AUA AND 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. These events are held during the AUA Annual Meeting and at AUA Headquarters in Linthicum, Maryland. Award recipients are highly encouraged to attend the following events and should refer to the Notice of Award for additional information.

### **AUA Annual Meeting**

- Basic Sciences Symposium
- Challenges for Urologic Research Symposium
- Independent Practice Research Symposium
- Early-Career Investigators Showcase
- Urologic Oncology Research Symposium

### **AUA Headquarters**

- Early-Career Investigators Workshop
- Co-Sponsored Research Symposia

## V. CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions related to this Program Announcement and proposal content, or submission requirements should be directed to the AUA Office of Research at [grantsmanager@AUAnet.org](mailto:grantsmanager@AUAnet.org). Assistance is available 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time Monday through Friday. Please allow for a 48-hour response time.