Discovery Research Grants 2017

Request for Letters of Intent for EvansMDS Strategic Funding Initiative in Myelodysplastic Syndromes

Letter of Intent Application Deadline:
Jan. 31, 2017
EvansMDS 2017 Strategic Funding Initiative

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 endeavor to enable the generation of new knowledge that will lead to the development of effective disease therapies that lead to better patient outcomes. EvansMDS is conducting this competitive grant program to identify and fund collaborative, transformative, high impact research into the etiology, pathogenesis, and treatment of MDS. Priority will be given to projects that directly examine key features of MDS rather than general concepts in leukemia, hematopoiesis, aging or immunology.

**Discovery Research Grants (DRGs)** - EvansMDS will offer several individual research grants of up to $200,000 for one year, renewable for a second year, to fund highly innovative and novel research. The focus of these awards will be on transformational basic, translational or aspects of clinical research that are directly applicable to the etiology, pathogenesis or treatment of MDS.

The following topics are of specific interest to EvansMDS. Please note that these are only suggestions - we are most interested in whatever your most exciting ideas might be. A complete list of previously funded projects is available on [evandsmds.org](http://evandsmds.org).

- How can we improve MDS patient outcomes through the optimization of therapy to best address clonal evolution and outgrowth?
- When and where in the disease pathogenesis are the best opportunities and targets for therapeutic intervention?
- What might be specific cellular strategies to eliminate the MDS Stem Cell?

**Application process:**

Applicants for **Discovery Research Grants** must submit a letter of intent (LOI) that will be reviewed to determine suitability for full application. EvansMDS will issue a request for a full proposal to those investigators submitting LOIs found to be of interest.

The LOI shall consist of the following items, which will be shared with the reviewing committee:

1. **Cover Letter** (limited to one page) – The cover letter should include a description of the specific aims of that will be addressed by the project and how achievement of these will advance the treatment of MDS patients.
2. **Description of the Project** (limited to one page). The description should describe the experimental strategy that will be used to achieve the specific aims described in the cover letter.
3. **Cited References** (optional, limited to one page, may be included on the Description of the Project page, if desired)
4. NIH-style Bio sketch for the PI

Applicants must be established independent investigators with a tenure-track or tenured appointment at the Assistant Professor level (or equivalent), or higher, at a Not-For-Profit institution in the United States.

Letters of intent are due **January 31, 2017** 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](mailto:grants@epefoundation.org).

Applications selected for a full proposal will be notified in early March. The deadline for submission of the full proposals will be in early April. Funding is intended to initiate **September 1, 2017**.

*Investigators currently funded by the Edward P. Evans Foundation are welcome to apply.*