

Procter Scholar Program

Salary Support* Opportunity

*for 3 years

Due: First Monday in May or October, at 5:00 pm

The goal of the Procter Scholar Program is to support the development of highly skilled faculty members from the Departments of Pediatrics, Surgery, Radiology and Anesthesia with a strong commitment to pursuing a career in academic research.

- Applications should be submitted by MD or MD, PhD Pediatric Fellows who are transitioning to a faculty appointment or are within the first year of initial appointment at CCHMC .
- Successful Candidates will have a:
 - Strong commitment to pursuing a career in academic research
 - Record of accomplishment in research
 - Strong mentorship along with a clear path to independent research
 - Well defined scientific research plan
- The anticipated outcomes of the Award are the successful transition to a National Institute of Health (NIH) K-level award or K-level equivalent award from foundations and publications in peer-reviewed journals.

Applicants should not submit the same proposal to more than one internal funding program simultaneously.

Submission guidelines and forms are available on the [Procter Scholar Website](#).

The deadline for submission is **the first Monday in May or October, at 5:00 pm**. Send a single PDF file of the assembled application to **Cynthia Wetzel, PhD** (Program Manager) at cynthia.wetzel@cchmc.org.

Questions should be sent to either **Jorge Bezerra, MD** (TAPS Director) at jorge.bezerra@cchmc.org or **Cynthia Wetzel, PhD** (TAPS Program Manager) at cynthia.wetzel@cchmc.org.

Application Guidelines

- Only one Procter Scholar application will be accepted from a MD or MD, PhD fellow
- Up to two revisions can be submitted for any application

Format

The applications must contain the following*, in order (see Word file for forms):

1. Face page.
2. Project summary, relevance, list division, department or institute & personnel
3. Table of Contents
4. Biosketch for principal investigator and Mentor (must follow current NIH format)
5. Other Support for the principal investigator and mentor (must follow current NIH format).

Career Development Plan and Research Plan: **7-page limit** (below is the approximate length for each section)

6. Career Development Plan: **2-page limit**
 - a. Candidate's Background
 - b. Career Goals and Objectives
 - c. Career Development/Training Activities During Award Period

Note: Candidate must devote at **least 90% percent** of their time to independent research

7. If applicable Response to Previous Review (**1 page**)
8. Research Plan: **5-page limit** (below is the approximate length for each section)
 - a. **Specific Aims (1/2 page):** Remember this is a 3 year project.
 - b. **Research Strategy (4 ½ pages).** Organize the Research Strategy into three sections - *Significance, Innovation, and Approach* using the instructions provided below. Include a thorough, but concise description of the work leading up to your current hypothesis.
 - **Significance:** Explain how the proposal will address an important problem or a critical challenge in the field. Also indicate how this proposal will generate significant preliminary data needed for an NIH grant application.
 - **Innovation:** Explain how the proposal challenges existing paradigms or clinical practice; address an innovative hypothesis or critical challenge in the field.
 - **Approach:** Describe the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses used to accomplish the specific aims of the project. Include preliminary data, a rationale for experimental design and discuss any potential problems and solutions.
9. Human Subjects. Include all sections required for a NIH application. [See PHS 398 instructions.](#)
10. Vertebrate Animals. Include the 5 point narrative required for a NIH application – [See PHS 398 instructions.](#)
11. Literature cited.

*All forms are modified from current NIH forms with the goal to facilitate future preparation of NIH grant applications.

12. Division, Department, or Institute Commitment to Candidate's Research Career Development **(1 page)**
13. Statement by Mentor or Co-Mentors. **(1-2 pages)**
 - a. Provide information on Mentor's research qualifications and previous experience as a research supervisor.
 - b. Describe a plan for the supervision and mentoring that will occur during the proposed research period.
 - c. Describe a plan for career progression for the candidate to move from the mentored stage to a career as an independent researcher.
 - d. Describe a plan for monitoring the candidate's research, publications, and progression towards research independence.
 - e. Please include the Mentor or Co-Mentors' name in the statement.
14. Supplementary data will **NOT** be accepted.

2nd and 3rd Year of Funding Process

Funding for years 2 and 3 are dependent upon the progress made in the prior year.

Review Process

The main criteria for the review of the application are:

- Career Development and Scientific merit of the application. This will be assessed using the same criteria as used by NIH reviewers.
- Is the proposed work likely to position the applicant to a highly competitive NIH K-level or K-level equivalent application?
- Does the candidate have the potential to transition to an independent and productive researcher?
- Are the mentors appropriate?