

INVESTIGATORS IN THE PATHOGENESIS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (PATH)

Pre-proposal deadline:

July 15, 2019

Invited full proposal deadline:

November 15, 2019

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KEY DATES

Pre-proposal applications due	July 15, 2019, 12:00 pm Eastern Time
Invitation to submit a full proposal	By October 1, 2019, 12:00 pm Eastern Time
Full proposal due	November 15, 2019, 12:00 pm Eastern Time
Finalist in-person interviews	April 21-22, 2020
Notice of award	May 18, 2020
Award start date	July 1, 2020
Award end date	June 30, 2025

PROGRAM BACKGROUND

The Investigators in the Pathogenesis of Infectious Disease program provides opportunities for assistant professors to bring multidisciplinary approaches to the study of human infectious diseases. The goal of the program is to provide opportunities for accomplished investigators still early in their careers to study what happens at the points where the systems of humans and potentially infectious agents connect. The program supports research that sheds light on the fundamentals that affect the outcomes of these encounters: how colonization, infection, commensalism and other relationships play out at levels ranging from molecular interactions to systemic ones.

Investigators in the Pathogenesis of Infectious Disease (PATH)

PATH is a highly competitive award program that provides \$500,000 over a period of five years to support accomplished investigators at the assistant professor level to study pathogenesis, with a focus on the interplay between infectious agents and their hosts, shedding light on how both are affected by their encounters. The awards are intended to give recipients the freedom and flexibility to pursue new avenues of inquiry, stimulating higher-risk research projects that hold potential for significantly advancing understanding of how infectious diseases work and how health is maintained.

Program Cycle

PATH has moved from an institutional nomination to a self-nomination process. There is no longer a limit on the number of applicants from any institution. Proposals must be submitted through accredited, degree-granting institutions in the U.S. or Canada.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The ideal candidate is an accomplished investigator at the mid-to-late assistant professor level with an established record of independent research in a tenure-track position or its well-supported equivalent in non-tenure offering departments.

Applications must be approved and signed by an official responsible for sponsored programs (generally from the grants office, office of research, or office of sponsored programs) at a degree-granting institution. Candidates will generally have a Ph.D. and/or a clinical doctorate (M.D., D.V.M., etc.)

- Candidates must have an established record of independent research.
- Citizens and non-citizen permanent and temporary residents of the U.S. and Canada who are legally qualified to work in the U.S. or Canada are eligible. Candidates who are temporary U.S. residents must hold a valid U.S. visa (J-1, H1B, F-1 or O-1 visas). Temporary Canadian residents must hold a valid Canadian visa (Study Permit, C-43, C44, C-10, or C-20 work permits/visas).
- Candidates who will be promoted to Associate Professor by November 15, 2019 are not eligible to apply.
- Candidates who have completed a Burroughs Wellcome Fund career development award (CAMS or CASI) are encouraged to apply but must contact BWF before writing the pre-proposal. Having had BWF travel, career guidance for trainees, preterm birth, regulatory science, or PDEP grants does not impact PATH support.
- Microbiome-related proposals must be infectious disease-focused to compete well in this program.

Important Notes

- BWF strongly encourages applications from women and underrepresented minorities.
- BWF encourages submissions from those working in protozoan and metazoan parasites, protists, and fungi. Viral, bacterial, immune, and multi-species work is likewise encouraged. Work related to malaria, tuberculosis, and AIDs is appropriate for this program. BWF particularly encourages human health-relevant applications from veterinary scientists.
- The PATH award can only be made to accredited, degree-granting institutions in the U.S. or Canada. An Internal Revenue Service determination letter of the institution's non-profit status may be requested by BWF staff if one is not on file in our office.
- BWF encourages submissions focusing on climate change and its impact on the pathogenesis of infectious disease and human health.

SELECTION PROCESS

The [PATH Advisory Committee](#) will review pre-proposals and full proposals, interview finalists, and make recommendations to BWF's [Board of Directors](#) for funding.

See Key Dates on Page 3 for important grant deadline dates.

BWF does not provide critiques of unfunded proposals.

TERMS OF GRANT/ USE OF FUNDS

Indirect costs may not be charged against BWF grants.

PATH is a career development award made to a degree-granting institution on behalf of an awardee. Institutions are responsible for disbursing the funds and for maintaining adequate supporting records and receipts of expenditures.

Award recipients are required to devote at least 75 percent of their overall time to research-related activities. There is no explicit minimum percent effort that must be dedicated to the PATH award.

Awardees must provide BWF with an annual report detailing scientific progress. Institutions must provide an annual financial report. Both reports must be submitted (on forms that will be provided) by August 1 of each award year. Continued funding will depend on both the timely submission of these reports and their favorable review by BWF and its program advisory committee.

Award recipients may obtain funds from other sources for research in areas similar to that conducted under these grants, so long as there is no conflict with meeting the BWF award's specific aims. Award recipients may not hold concurrent BWF career development awards.

The support allocated for research is under the control of the awardee and may be used flexibly for items such as equipment, consumable supplies, travel to scientific meetings, and salaries for laboratory personnel working with the awardee. Prior approval by BWF is required when, within an award year, purchases of equipment exceed \$20,000 or travel costs exceed \$8,000. The PATH award may not be used to pay student tuition.

Burroughs Wellcome Fund allows for an institutional allowance of up to 10% of the total award to support the cost of fringe benefits, such as health insurance premiums, vacation, or retirement for the named investigator. When the cost of fringe benefits exceeds the institutional allowance, the institution is expected to cover these costs as an indication of support for the named investigator. Any portion of the institutional allowance which is not used to support the named investigator's benefits will be added to the named investigator's research allowance.

During the award period, unused research funds may be carried over to the succeeding year. Unused funds greater than \$500 held by institutions when awards expire or are terminated must be returned to BWF. Awardees may receive no-cost extensions per approval by the program officer.

Awards may be transferred only with written approval of BWF. Requests must be received at least three months prior to any move explaining why a transfer is requested. Awardees who change institutions may take with them any equipment or supplies purchased under the award, as well as the balance of any unused award funds. Awards, supplies and equipment cannot be transferred to government institutions, for-profits, and some non-profits.

Awardees who want to take a sabbatical year in order to acquire new research skills must submit to BWF a written request that includes appropriate justification.

Scientific publications or presentations that result from these awards must acknowledge the awardee's receipt of a Burroughs Wellcome Fund Investigator in the Pathogenesis of Infectious Disease Award. Copies of journal articles and other publications related to work supported by this award should be sent to BWF along with the annual progress report.

Awardees must adhere to all federal, state or provincial, and local regulations regarding the participation of human subjects, use of animals, radioactive or hazardous materials, and recombinant DNA in their research projects. BWF expects the appropriate federal, state, and local guidelines with regard to scientific misconduct are in place and enforced at all institutions with which BWF awardees are affiliated.

Awardees should share scientific findings in a timely manner via the standard means of scientific communication, including publications and/or presentations in scientific forums. Awardees should follow their institutions' patent, copyright, and intellectual property policies regarding discoveries that result from research conducted under these awards. BWF will not retain any rights to published results or patents that result from the research.

INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT A COMPLETE PROPOSAL

Application Process

Applying for this award is a two-stage process:

- 1. Pre-proposals.** Interested candidates who meet the eligibility criteria may submit one online pre-proposal through BWF's Internet Grant Application Module (IGAM) by **July 15, 2019 12:00 pm Eastern Time**. Though the pre-proposal is short, it should be well thought out and prepared with care: only a fraction of those submitting pre-proposals will be invited to submit a full proposal.
- 2. Full proposals.** Submission of full proposals will be by invitation only after review of pre-proposals. By October 1, 2019, those who make it to the next round will be invited to submit a full research proposal. Instructions on how to prepare a full research proposal (elements listed below) will be provided by email with the invitation to participate. Full proposals will be due **November 15, 2019 by 12:00 pm Eastern Time**.

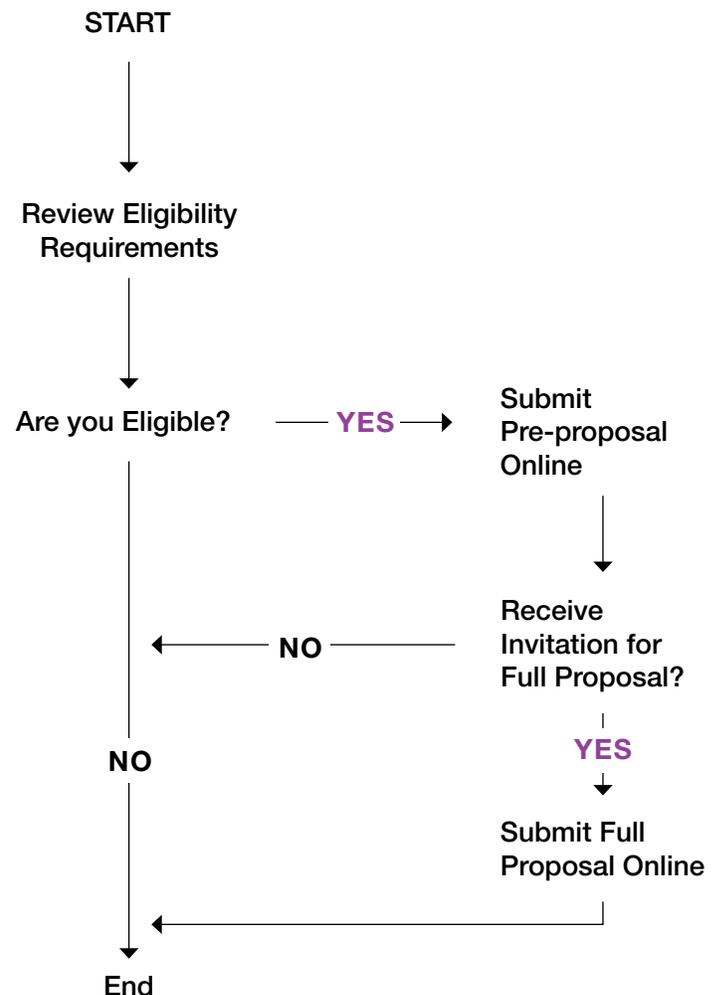
Invited Full Proposal Elements:

- Scientific Abstract
- Research Plan (5-page limit)
- Bibliography
- Budget and Budget Justification
- Facilities and Resources
- Reprints
- Confidential Letters of Recommendation (3)
Because this is a career development award, having at least one confidential letter of recommendation come from the candidate's doctoral or postdoctoral advisor can be very helpful and is strongly recommended.
- Signature Page form

All communications, including the invitation to submit a full proposal and declinations, will be made through email.

BWF does not provide critiques of pre-proposals or of full proposals.

Application Process Workflow



How to Submit an Online Pre-proposal Application

To begin a pre-proposal submission use this link: [pre-proposal](#)

First complete the eligibility quiz to determine if you are eligible to apply. If you meet the eligibility criteria, you will be allowed to access the application form.

To return to a pre-proposal already in progress you must use this link: [saved pre-proposal](#)

Applicants should bookmark this page to return to a pre-proposal in progress. Using the first link of the two immediately above will return you to the eligibility quiz. This error does not destroy a started proposal.

Pre-proposal Elements and Checklist

A complete pre-proposal consists of fields submitted through the online IGAM application plus a single PDF attachment. The detailed components of the complete pre-proposal are shown below

Online pre-proposal form – available through IGAM (see links above)

- Applicant Information
- Applicant Demographics
- Institutional Information (degree-granting only)
- Signing Official Information (degree-granting only)
- Proposal Information

Single PDF Attachment:

Prepare in advance the following required documents. Combine and order the supporting materials and upload into one (1) PDF file. Name the file using this format only: LastName, FirstName PATH 2020.

[Download Forms and Templates](#)

A. Cover Sheet

Name
Academic Rank at Time of Application
Education and Training Background
Project Title
Keywords

B. Five Critical Questions

1. What is your proposed research question?
(50 words)
2. Why is the work you propose interesting and important? How will it change our understanding of how disease unfolds?
(200 words)
3. How will you do it? What is your approach?
(200 words)
4. What about your outlook / background / training gives you great insight into this problem?
(100 words)
5. How is this work innovative and different than that supported by your other external funding?
(100 words)

C. Candidate's Biosketch

Use the BWF biographical sketch form. Note that when listing your published works we require you to list them by career stage. (*no page limit*)

D. Institutional Certification

All applicants must submit a completed signed certification form.

E. Signature Page

Using the template provided, complete the form including signature of the applicant and an authorized signing official of the degree-granting institution.

Submission Process

Upload a single, combined PDF file containing all of the supporting documents to the “Attachments” tab of the online application. Click the “Review Your Application” on the Attachments tab to see if any errors are identified in your application. If the “SUBMIT” button does not become available, check your work. All information must be provided before the “SUBMIT” button is available. Click the “SUBMIT” button to transmit the application. An automated message will confirm that the application was successfully submitted. If you do not receive a confirmation email, your application has not been successfully submitted.

Note:

Pre-proposals will not be accepted after 12:00 pm Eastern Time on July 15, 2019. The online application system shuts down automatically at the deadline and the SUBMIT button will no longer be available. Plan to submit your application well in advance of the grant deadline to allow adequate time to troubleshoot any issues. NO EXCEPTIONS OR EXTENSIONS WILL BE GRANTED.

After the deadline, applicants with incomplete pre-proposals and those not adhering to instructions will be disqualified.

Only pre-proposals submitted through BWF’s online application website IGAM will be accepted.

Questions?

Please review our online [Frequently Asked Questions](#) first. Eligibility inquiries should be directed in advance to BWF program staff by contacting:

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