

# The Milstein Medical Asian American Partnership Foundation Research Project Award in Skin Disease

In connection with the **Milstein Medical Asian American Partnership (MMAAP) Foundation's** committed support of outstanding medical research in diseases of the skin and promotion of skin health, we invite submission of applications from Chinese dermatologists and skin biologists for a research project award which will have immediate impact on improving skin care in China. The MMAAP Foundation will be providing the sole support for these initiatives. The aim of the program is to build enduring partnership between the US and Asia through funding a research project and to encourage long term collaborations between the two regions. The award will provide support for the project to be conducted at a Chinese institution in the amount of USD 50,000 and support for a US partner institution in the amount of USD 10,000. These funds will be distributed to the sponsoring Chinese and US institutions.

## ELIGIBILITY:

Funds may be used for support of a new or ongoing clinical research project with demonstrated potential for immediate impact on improving skin care in China. Knowledge gained should be applicable to dermatological clinical practice with clear generalizability. Applications should come from major Chinese medical centers with demonstrated excellence in dermatology with a prominent US institution as the partner. The successful application should include a stated goal of establishing a partnership between the US and Chinese institutions to facilitate a long term relationship and a feasible plan for further collaboration. An applicant must be a Chinese dermatologist who will serve as the Principal Investigator (PI) of the proposed project. The US partner will serve as the co-PI. Both Chinese and US leaders must have demonstrated productivity as clinical investigators.

## CONTENTS OF APPLICATION:

All applications should be prepared in one PDF document with contents in the following order. They should have both Chinese and English versions:

1. **Title page** including applicant's name, title of proposal, sponsoring Chinese institution and US partnering institution. **Title page and checklist** (containing both Chinese and English) can be downloaded from [www.mmaapf.org](http://www.mmaapf.org).
2. **A letter from the applicant stating:**
  - a. research goals and plan for future collaboration with the US partnering institution
  - b. clinical and translational impact of the project
  - c. explanation of how this project will yield measurable results over a 2-year period of time
  - d. acknowledgment of the requirement to submit periodic progress reports (written in layman's language) during the grant period and an expenditure report at the end of the grant period, and if necessary to submit request for 1-year non-cost extension with report of progress made during the first year
  - e. acknowledgement of the requirement to list **MMAAP Foundation** support in all presentations and publications
  - f. acknowledgement to keep **MMAAP Foundation** informed of current/future presentations and/or publications.
3. **Curriculum vitae of the PI** (up to 6 pages) including date of birth, education and training, academic appointments, key publications, and other research support.
4. **Three letters of recommendation:** One must be from the President of applicant's home institution, the second from the Chair of applicant's home department and the third from an independent dermatologist familiar with applicant's work. These letters must evaluate a) research quality and commitment of the applicant and his/her department; b) applicant's ability to write and speak English; c) guaranteed access to facilities and support to ensure the success of the proposed project as well as collaboration and future partnership building. The first two letters must guarantee that the home institution will provide the applicant with sufficient time to achieve the proposed goals in the application.
5. **It is advised to have the CV of and a support letter from co-PI at the partner US institution**, to acknowledge willingness to assist in planning and implementation for success of the proposed project at the Chinese home institution. If the applicant cannot identify US co-PI/partner institution, s/he is advised to review the list of experts and their research areas on the Foundation's website (this information will be updated periodically based on availability) and identify a US co-PI/partner institution. If this is not successful, the Foundation will try to help identify US co-PI/partner institution for outstanding application. However, funding for such application is contingent to the availability of US co-PI/partner institution with a support letter filed.
6. **A research proposal** (3-5 pages including references) prepared by the applicant detailing the title, aims, significance, approach, and projected results. The proposal must be typed in **Arial 11 pt. type with 1-inch margins**. Application for human subject use to the Chinese home institution (Institutional Review Board or its equivalent) should be submitted by the deadline and approved before funding can be started.
7. A line item **budget** and justification for the research project for both Chinese and US institutions must be attached. Indirect costs are not allowed.
8. Matching funds by the requesting partner institutions, if necessary, are encouraged.
9. The award is intended for one year. A non-cost extension for an additional year may be requested upon receipt and review of the need for such extension and satisfactory progress during the first year.

## DEADLINE:

**Deadline for receipt of application is midnight December 1, 2016 (China time). The award will be announced with funding available in early 2017.** Incomplete applications will not be considered. Applications need to be uploaded to the MMAAP Foundation website [www.mmaapf.org](http://www.mmaapf.org). Please contact [mia@mmaapf.org](mailto:mia@mmaapf.org) or call +1 (212) 850 – 4505 with any questions.

## PEER REVIEW PROCESS:

Applications (Chinese version) will be first reviewed by Chinese experts in dermatology. The selected top applications (English version) will then be reviewed by a designated committee of American Skin Association. One application with the highest quality will be selected through this two-step peer review process with final approval by the MMAAP Foundation.

## ABOUT THE MMAAP FOUNDATION, A 501 (c)(3) NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATION

The Foundation was established by the Milstein family to contribute to the improvement of world health by developing mutually beneficial partnerships between the United States and Asia. Its goal is to bring together and fund exchanges between the best medical and research talent and institutions of both regions and to produce medical and scientific progress with integrity and efficiency.