Program Description:
The Department of Medicine, through this program, invests in the career development of each Scholar. The primary goal of this program is to allow successful early career faculty to embark on new lines of exploration and to elevate and expand the scope of their research enterprise. This program is not meant to fund incremental efforts, and it is intended to help our most successful young faculty who have already demonstrated a high level of achievement and potential for future growth.

Early Career Scholars will be expected to commit 75% of their effort to scholarly activities. The award is not limited to a specific research project or scholarly activity. The Outstanding Early Career Scholar Program will provide each Scholar with $75,000 annually for up to 4 years. These funds may only be used to support the career development, research, or innovative work of the Scholar. These funds cannot be used to support or supplement the Scholar’s salary. Progress will be evaluated every year.

Eligibility:
- Applicants must have held the rank of Assistant Professor or be within the first 5 years of their appointment at the time of application (years at the Instructor level do not count against this limitation).
- Applicants must hold the MD, DO, PhD, or DVM-equivalent degree.
- Applicants must have a primary appointment in the DOM and must be working at either UCH, VA, Denver Health, or National Jewish Health.
- Applicants must be engaged in highly creative, hypothesis-driven investigation or highly innovative clinical or educational program development.
- The Division Head must pledge to protect 75% of the effort/time and to provide $25,000/year to the applicant as part of the $75,000/year for the duration of their appointment as a Scholar.
- Individuals from traditionally under-represented communities are strongly encouraged to apply.
- Competitive applicants usually have already obtained extramural funding (NIH or equivalent career development or independent grants) and have published original research articles in high impact journals. No limit is imposed on the amount or type of extramural funding an applicant has already obtained.

Awardee Obligations:
- Objective accomplishments should include novel high impact papers and new research accomplishments that are expected to result in eventual additional R01 or R01-equivalent grant support
- Initiation of novel areas of research or innovation
- Awardees are expected to attend regular OECSP meetings with DOM leadership
- Awardees are expected to attend and participate in organization of the annual DOM Research Day
- Awardees are expected to attend at least 25% of the Thursday noon DOM Research and Innovation Conferences (RIC), and to present their research at 1 of these RIC conferences during the period of the award
Application Requirements:
• Title page, including:
  - Name and contact information
  - Faculty rank, date of Assistant Professor appointment
  - Title of application
  - 200-word abstract

• No more than three (3) pages of narrative text addressing the areas listed below:

  1. Summary of candidate and vision for how OECSP funding will elevate your research program (approx 1 page):
     Articulate how the proposed project and ideas will expand your current research efforts into new significant and innovative areas.
  2. Overview of Experimental Strategy (approx 1½ pages):
     Provide a brief synopsis of experimental plans and approaches.
  3. Career development plans: (approx ½ page):
     Outline your overall career goals and describe how OECSP funding will support your career development.

• References, not included in three page narrative limit
• A full, updated CV
• Up to three letters of recommendation (at least one from outside the CU system)
• A nomination letter from the candidate’s Division Head

Applications will be evaluated by an ad hoc committee composed of non-conflicted DOM and SOM faculty. Complete applications are due January 1, 2021 for a July 1, 2021 start date.

Selection Criteria:
• Candidate’s previous accomplishments: based on but not limited to the following criteria: their publication, prior/current funding record, and letters of recommendation. Successful applicants are typically those deemed to be on the strongest career trajectory in their peer group.
• Candidate’s vision for the development of future innovative research.
• Candidate’s current research environment and mentoring team.
• An additional goal of this program is to promote diversity of the research and research investigators in the DOM.

Contact Information:
Please send application materials (single, combined pdf) by January 1, 2021 to:
Jennifer Kemp, PhD, Director of DOM Research Office
(Jennifer.T.Kemp@CUAnschutz.edu)

Last revised: October, 2020