

## MISSION STATEMENT

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**Pulmonary hypertension** is a syndrome characterized by elevated blood pressure in the lungs. Unlike systemic hypertension or "high blood pressure", little is known about the causes of pulmonary hypertension. Pulmonary hypertension is progressive, leading to shortness of breath, exercise limitation, and even death. Unfortunately, most forms of pulmonary hypertension have no effective therapies. Lung transplantation is often the only option, but has its own limitations. Recent discoveries in the pathogenesis, epidemiology, and treatment of pulmonary hypertension have had a major impact on our understanding of the disease and on the treatment of patients. The Opus Fund for the Cure of Pulmonary Hypertension was established in order to support the efforts of young investigators performing research in pulmonary hypertension under the tutelage of established mentors. The mission of this fund is to provide grants to deserving investigators working in supportive environments to supplement the research costs of studies which will lead to future NIH-funded grants.

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## OPUS FUND FOR THE CURE OF PULMONARY HYPERTENSION APPLYING FOR GRANT

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The medical advisory committee will make funding decisions. Applications requesting up to a maximum of \$5,000 will be considered.

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### APPLICATION GUIDELINES

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Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Hold an MD or DO at the time of award.
- Be within 5 years of his/her first faculty appointment at a research institution in the US.

- Have a demonstrated career focus on pulmonary hypertension.
- Have a mentor with a track record of successful training of previous young investigators.
- Hold an extramural competitive grant from the NIH, AHA, or similar funding body which will be active for the duration of this award, if granted.
- Complete the proposed research within a 1-yr award period.
- An Applicant must be a citizen, permanent resident of the United States, or hold a temporary nonimmigrant visa. This visa must be valid for the one-year award period.
- Mentors must ensure the means for adequate funding to support necessary research and must see the project through to successful completion. Principal investigators must be given protected time to complete their research.
- Grant funds cannot be awarded to principal investigators whose salaries are largely derived from commercial organizations in the pharmaceutical or allied industries. However, research support from commercial organizations is allowed.
- Research projects must be carried out at an academic institution or research institute. Only submissions from the United States are accepted.

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## APPLICANT/MENTOR CRITERIA

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### Applicant

- Potential for a career in pulmonary hypertension-related research.
- Prior research experience and/or publications.
- Clearly written presentation supporting the research need

### Mentor

- The candidate must name a primary mentor who, together with the candidate, is responsible for the planning, directing, monitoring, and executing the research.
- The mentor should be recognized as an accomplished investigator in the proposed research area and have a track record of success in training and placing independent investigators.

- The application must include a statement from the mentor providing: 1) information on his/her research qualifications and previous experience as a research supervisor; 2) a plan that describes the nature of the supervision and mentoring that will occur during the proposed award period; 3) a plan for monitoring the candidate's research, publications, and progression towards independence.

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## PROPOSAL

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- Are the proposed research question, design, and methodology of significant scientific and technical merit?
- Is the research plan relevant to the candidate's research career objectives?

### Completed Application Form

- Research Abstract from the main "parent" grant.
- Research Proposal (Two pages).
- Applicant's NIH biosketch.
- Mentor's NIH biosketch.
- Letter of Support from mentor, which includes: mentor's track record of productivity, funding, and success with prior trainees; detailed description of the mentoring plan, including available resources allocated to the proposed research project, provision of projected time and available laboratory facilities.
- Bibliography of relevant references (Not included in the two pages).
- Detailed budget and completed budget summary

If you are selected as an Award Recipient, you and your institution must agree to the following items, including, but not limited to:

- The award will be given to the institution to be used exclusively to fund the award recipient's research plan.
- The itemized budget may not include institutional indirect costs, overhead or general expenses.



- Papers based on the work funded by this grant should include the statement “This research was funded in part by a grant from the Opus Fund for the Cure of Pulmonary Hypertension.”

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## PREPARING YOUR GRANT REPORT

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Grantees are required to submit reports reflecting progress towards stated objectives and to notify the Fund at any time if there is a major change or delay in the proposed plan. A grant year-end report assessing accomplishment of stated objectives of the grant and a financial accounting is necessary.

All applications must be sent to: [GRANTS@OPUSFUND.ORG](mailto:GRANTS@OPUSFUND.ORG)

Applications should be submitted by midnight on October 16, 2011