UROLOGY CARE FOUNDATION
PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR THE

2020 Residency Research Award Program

Sponsored by the:
Russell Scott, Jr., MD Urology Research Fund
The Kahlert Foundation

IMPORTANT DATES

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<tr>
<th>Letter of Intent Deadline</th>
<th>5:00 p.m. Eastern time, December 12, 2019</th>
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<td>Proposal Submission Deadline:</td>
<td>5:00 p.m. Eastern time, January 9, 2020</td>
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<td>Peer Review:</td>
<td>February 2020</td>
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<td>Funding Notification:</td>
<td>March 2020</td>
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<td>Award Period:</td>
<td>Three to 12 months (to be proposed by the applicant, commensurate with the needs of the proposed project); all projects must be completed between August 1, 2020 - July 31, 2021</td>
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American Urological Association
Advancing Urology through Research

Urology Care Foundation™
The Official Foundation of the American Urological Association
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I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

A. UROLOGY CARE FOUNDATION MENTORED RESEARCH AWARDS

The Urology Care Foundation, the official foundation of the American Urological Association (AUA), works to ensure the future of urologic health by supporting and improving the prevention, detection, and treatment of urologic diseases through research and education. The Urology Care Foundation has recognized a major need to encourage bright, young physician-scientists and researchers to dedicate their careers to improving patients’ lives through better understanding the development and management of urologic diseases and conditions.

The AUA Office of Research, created in 2001, works toward its mission to increase and maintain the workforce of urology physician-scientists and researchers to catalyze the advancement of clinical practice and reduce the burden of urologic disease through impactful research. The AUA Office of Research administers all aspects of Urology Care Foundation mentored research awards including proposal receipt and review, as well as grant management. For any questions related to administration of awards or award proposals, see Section VI. Contact Information of this Program Announcement.

B. AWARD INFORMATION

Urologic research is critically important to advancing patient care and requires a diverse array of talented, dedicated individuals. Research training during urology residency provides residents with exposure to a research career path and experience to enable them to continue their development towards becoming independent investigators. Importantly, residency research training has the potential to address the critical and increasing shortfall of urology surgeon-scientists and to play a key role in improving patients’ lives through research.

Initiated in 2010, the Urology Care Foundation Residency Research Award program is made possible through the support of the Urology Care Foundation, the Russell Scott, Jr., MD Urology Research Fund, the Kahlert Foundation, and other sponsors.

NEW for 2020: The Urology Care Foundation Residency Research Award program will support outstanding urology residents by providing $10,000 per award for a period of three months to 12 months while the resident fulfills his or her obligation for research training. The length of the award period is to be proposed by the applicant and mentors.

C. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

To be eligible to compete for a 2020 Urology Care Foundation Residency Research Award, the applicant must be enrolled in an accredited urology resident program within the geographic boundaries of the AUA Sections (http://www.auanet.org/about-us/aua-governance/aua-sections-and-demographics) and willing and able to spend at least 80 percent of his or her total time on the Residency Research Award project during the performance period of the award. Deviation from this requirement will result in reimbursement to the Urology Care Foundation of any remaining funds provided through the award and/or jeopardize future Urology Care Foundation awards to the institution.

1. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Membership in the AUA is required of recipients of this award. All applicants who are not AUA members at the time of proposal must commit to applying for AUA membership if selected to receive a Residency Research Award. Membership applications must be submitted within one week of accepting the Residency Research Award and proof of AUA membership must be provided to the AUA Office of Research prior to funds being dispersed; additional
information about AUA membership can be found at https://www.AUAnet.org/join and/or https://www.auanet.org/membership/member-benefits-and-programs.

If the research is being conducted in the United States, applicants are not required to be U.S. citizens but must have valid Social Security numbers for Internal Revenue Service purposes.

Neither the Urology Care Foundation nor the AUA Office of Research discriminate as to age, race, color, gender, religion, sexual orientation, disability, citizenship or national origin in the employment and promotion of staff or in the selection of participants in the Urology Care Foundation Residency Research Award.

2. HOST INSTITUTION ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
To be eligible as a host institution, the institution must:

1) reside within the boundaries of the eight sections of the AUA (see https://www.auanet.org/membership/who-we-are/aua-sections-and-demographics for more information), and
2) must support the applicant by guaranteeing adequacy of the environment, laboratory equipment, and supplies needed to conduct the research.

D. FUNDING INFORMATION

1. AWARDS AVAILABLE

At least four awards are available for the 2020 Residency Research Award. Funding is available for research training in all urologic disease areas and across all research types: basic, translational, clinical, and health services/outcomes. For the 2020 competition, the following awards are available:

- Russell Scott, Jr., MD Urology Research Fund; two awards
- The Kahlert Foundation; two awards (specific to bladder cancer research)

The Urology Care Foundation continuously seeks additional sponsors for the Residency Research Award; thus, the portfolio of awards available typically increases during the course of the competition.

Institutions may support the proposals of multiple residents within any given funding year. However, depending on the number of awards available, the Urology Care Foundation prefers to support meritorious proposals from as many institutions as possible. Therefore, funding decisions will be impacted not only by the merit of the proposal and alignment with awards available, but also may be impacted by the intent to distribute Urology Care Foundation funding to as diverse a distribution of institutions as possible.

2. OVERLAP IN FUNDING

No other government-, non-government-, or industry-sponsored projects may fund the same scope of work as the grant proposal to the Residency Research Award program. However, an award from this program may be related to other funding from foundations or government agencies, provided there is no direct overlap. It is the responsibility of the applicant to justify the novelty of the proposed project and provide evidence that the proposal does not overlap with any current or pending funding. Applicants are required to include in their biosketches information on proposals filed to other funding sources, and provide the Urology Care Foundation with any updates regarding monies secured during the award period.

3. INSTITUTIONAL MATCHING FUNDS
New for 2020: The host institution will NOT be obligated to provide matching funds for the awardee. Instead, institutional commitment to the resident’s research training and project must be demonstrated through:

   i. **Institution Letter of Support** attesting to the protected time for the resident’s research training and any additional allowable time for research beyond the assured, protected time.

   ii. **Mentor Letter of Support** attesting to:

          1. Commitment to support (to completion) the resident’s research training and project
          2. Assurance that any funds needed beyond those provided by the award are available through the mentor’s or institution’s funding
          3. Additional laboratory, departmental, and/or institutional resources (supplies, core facilities, additional mentors, collaborators, etc.) that will support the resident’s research training and project

Items i and ii above will be evaluated by peer review and contribute to the funding decision. Misappropriation of funds may result in an institution’s disqualification from eligibility for future Urology Care Foundation funding opportunities.

4. DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

Urology Care Foundation scholarship funds will be paid directly to the awardee’s sponsoring institution. The Urology Care Foundation does not withhold taxes from awards (i.e., federal withholding, social security, local or state taxes, etc.). It is the responsibility of the host institution and/or awardee to ensure that appropriate federal and local taxes are accounted for.

NEW for 2020: All awardees, regardless of length of project, will receive one payment of $10,000, which will be made at the beginning of the award period, either on or around August 1, 2020.

Allowable Use of Funding

The intent of the Urology Care Foundation Residency Research Award funds is to provide minimally restricted support in the form of any direct costs that benefit the project during the resident’s research training. The Urology Care Foundation funds are to be used for research costs not typically covered by residency programs including: purchase of research supplies, services, and/or database access; research education (coursework or workshops related to the proposed research project), or other non-personnel resources needed to conduct the proposed research.

Prohibited Use of Funding

It is prohibited to use Urology Care Foundation Residency Research Award funds for indirect costs or costs for any personnel other than the resident. Moreover, costs may not support any other expenses related to personnel or projects other than the resident and his/her project.

II. PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL MATERIALS

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

Applicants are responsible for composing, compiling, and submitting a complete proposal. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that all required items are submitted electronically via the proposal submission system, e.g., those requested from the mentor(s), Residency Program Director, Urology Department Chair and Institutional Representative prior to the proposal deadline. Each applicant has the ability to log into his or her proposal at any time to check the submission status of required items.

Each applicant must have a primary mentor for the project. More than one mentor per project is both permitted and recommended if the project is highly translational or multidisciplinary. Listing of consultants or co-investigators on the
project is acceptable; the applicant should clearly describe the role of each member of the project personnel within the Research Project Description section.

**Electronic Registration:** Applicants must go to the 2020 Urology Care Foundation Residency Research Award program site at [http://www.AUAnet.org/research/funding-opportunities/residency-research-awards](http://www.AUAnet.org/research/funding-opportunities/residency-research-awards) to view all pertinent information regarding the program. Applicants must submit all documents electronically via the proposal submission system at [https://proposalcentral.com/](https://proposalcentral.com/). **To prevent emails from the proposal submission system from being identified as spam, it is strongly recommended that applicants, individuals providing letters of support for the proposal and institutional representatives, add pcsupport@altum.com to their address books or safe sender lists prior to creating a Letter of Intent.** Applicants requiring technical support related to the grant submission portal should visit [https://proposalcentral.com/](https://proposalcentral.com/) and contact Customer Service or email pcsupport@altum.com.

**B. LETTER OF INTENT**

Applicants are required to complete an electronic Letter of Intent via the proposal submission system at [https://proposalcentral.com/](https://proposalcentral.com/) no later than Thursday, December 12, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern time. Only one Letter of Intent can be submitted per applicant.

The Letter of Intent requires information regarding the proposed project including project title, research type, brief project description, contact information for the applicant, mentor(s), individuals providing additional letters of support, and institutional representative. Information in the Letter of Intent is not peer reviewed but rather used by the AUA Office of Research to prepare for peer review of proposals. There is no approval process for the Letter of Intent, and applicants should assume that they have permission to submit a full proposal. Applicants are not bound to complete a full proposal upon submitting a Letter of Intent.

After creating a proposalCENTRAL account and logging into the system, the application process can be accessed by clicking on “Grant Opportunities” (grey tab, top right corner). The Urology Care Foundation Residency Research Award Program can then be located and the “Apply” link selected. Each required Letter of Intent section should be completed as follows:

1. **Title Page**
   - Indicate the title of the project and the award period.

2. **Download Templates & Instructions**
   - Program Guidelines and Instructions
     - The Program Announcement is provided in this section of the portal as a reference.
   - Download Application Agreement Form
     - This form must be completed in its entirety including all necessary signatures and contact information. Signatures may be signed electronically or by hand. This completed form will be uploaded in “Upload Application Attachments Here” section during submission of the full proposal.
   - Applicant CV/Biosketch Template
     - A NIH formatted Biosketch Template is provided to be used to create the applicant CV/Biosketch.
   - Biosketch Example is provided as a reference to create the applicant CV/Biosketch.
   - Download Budget Template. The proposed budget is a required component of proposal submission.

3. **Enable Other Users to Access this Proposal**
   - No action required in this section.

4. **Applicant/PI**
   - The applicant should click “Edit Professional Profile” to provide the required information.
• Once the applicant clicks “Edit Professional Profile,” he/she will see an orange text box indicating that the “Primary institution is required, please click here to add one.” The applicant should search for and enter the applicant’s medical school. **NOTE:** Multiple iterations of the medical school name may be available, but the name indicated as “Confirmed” in the “Institution Status” column should be selected.

• Once the institution has been added, the applicant should click on the orange “Return to LOI/Proposal” button. This button will allow the applicant to toggle between the proposal sections of the application and the Professional Profile in order to reference and complete the required information.

• Upon returning to the Applicant/PI section of the application, the applicant should click the drop down box next to “Principal Investigator” and select his/her name with the newly added institution. This will autofill the “PI Institution” and address information. The applicant should then return to the Professional Profile to complete the remaining required information in the Applicant/PI section.

• New for 2020: ORCID Identifier
  ➢ ORCID provides a persistent digital identifier that distinguishes the applicant from other researchers (learn more at https://orcid.org/). All applicants are required to submit their ORCID identifiers with their proposals.

5. Eligibility
   • AUA Membership Information
     ➢ All applicants are required to notate the AUA Section in which the proposed research will be conducted. **NOTE:** It is imperative that the correct AUA Section be selected.
     ➢ For more information on AUA Sections and for assistance in selection, call 1-866-746-4282 (toll-free, U.S. only) or visit https://www.auanet.org/about-us/about-the-aea/aua-sections-and-demographics.

6. Institution & Contacts
   • Confirm contact information for institution and institutional representatives.

7. Key Personnel
   • Enter in the name and role of each person submitting a letter of support for the proposal e.g. “Primary Mentor 1”, “Mentor 2”, “Mentor 3”, “Residency Program Director”, “Urology Department Chair”, and/or if applicable, “Collaborator” **NOTE:** The “Phone” and “Effort” fields in the table are hard coded so please disregard them.
   • Applicants will not be able to change the name of the person listed here after submitting the Letter of Intent.

8. Blind Letters of Support
   • The proposal must contain the following Letters of Support listed below on institutional letterhead and should be submitted **confidentially** via the proposal submission system at https://proposalcentral.com/ by 5:00PM Eastern Time on January 9, 2020:
     ➢ Mentor Letter(s) of Support (two-page limit per letter/mentor)
       ▪ The proposal must contain one Letter of Support from each mentor or a combined letter from all mentors. The mentor Letter(s) of Support should clearly demonstrate that the mentor is strongly supportive of both the research project and the applicant and that the mentor has the expertise required to provide sufficient scientific guidance and oversight for the respective portions of the research project and training.
       ▪ Mentors should be independent investigators with track records of success in research publication, grant funding, and documented development of trainees who have achieved academic success.
     ➢ Residency Program Director Letter of Support (one-page limit)
• The proposal must contain a Letter of Support from the institution’s Urology Residency Program Director attesting to the following:
  - The applicant’s strong performance in residency thus far;
  - The applicant’s demonstrated aptitude for a career in urologic research;
  - A project duration of not less than three months or more than one year;
  - 80% protected time for residency research for the duration of the project; and
  - Adequate provision of research supplies and other support.

➢ Urology Department Chair Letter of Support (one-page limit)
  • The proposal must contain a Letter of Support from the Urology Department Chair attesting to departmental support for residency research for the duration of the proposed project.

- Individuals listed in Section 8. Blind Letters of Support of the portal cannot be changed after the Letter of Intent has been submitted. Any email address listed here will receive an email notification with a link to submit a Letter of Support. This link will expire: 12/12/2019 5:00:00 PM (US Eastern Time)*** If they are unable to submit the Letter of Support before the link expires, then the applicant should send another e-mail notification request from proposalCENTRAL.
- All applicants are responsible for ensuring persons all Letters of Support have been submitted to portal system by the full proposal deadline: January 9, 2020 at 5pm Eastern Time. It is highly recommended that the applicant makes sure that the individuals providing Letters of Support have added pcsupport@altum.com to their address books or safe sender lists to receive emails from the submission system PRIOR TO adding their name in Section 8. Blind Letters of Support in the portal.
- Applicants do NOT need to put email addresses for collaborator(s) in this section of the portal since letters of support from collaborators do NOT need to be submitted confidentially; see “Letters of Collaboration” section on page 11 of this Program Announcement for more information.
- To send another email notification request to a person submitting a Letter of Support, click the envelope symbol hyperlink found on the right-hand side of the screen of the “Blind Letters of Support” section in the portal.

9. Project Information
  • Lay Statement: The “Lay Statement” should briefly summarize the proposed research project in language that can be understood by audiences WITHOUT a background in science or medicine. By providing this information, the applicant thus gives permission for its use on the Urology Care Foundation website, www.UrologyHealth.org, and the AUA website, www.AUAnet.org, and in press releases and other promotional materials for the Residency Research Award program.
  • Technical Project Description: The “Technical Project Description” should briefly summarize the proposed project using any necessary scientific terminology or procedures.
  ➢ Enter in Research topic and type keywords relevant to the proposal.

10. Upload Applicant Biosketch Here
  • Include the applicant’s curriculum vitae in any style or NIH-style biosketch (five-page limit), which should include information on any other pending proposals for support for the resident.
  • Current NIH biosketch guidelines are available at: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html

11. Validate
  • This section will check for any missing REQUIRED information or files. All missing required information will be listed on the screen. Please correct any missing information before proceeding to submit the Letter of Intent.
12. Preview Letter of Intent
   • **NOTE:** Signature of the title page by the PI/chairman/signing official is **not** required. Please disregard this guidance.

13. Submit
   • After submitting the Letter of Intent, the proposal submission system will send an email to the individuals listed in “Section 8. Blind Letters of Support” requesting that they submit a letter of support for the proposal **prior to** the full application deadline.

C. PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF THE PROPOSAL PACKAGE

After administrative review of the Letter of Intent, the AUA Office of Research will open the submission portal to allow applicants to submit full proposals. **Prepare the proposal package to include all documents as indicated below. Each component must adhere to its specific page limitation.** **NOTE:** any components that exceed the respective page limits will be removed from the proposal or administratively truncated, with one exception: **if the Research Project Description exceeds the three-page limit, the proposal will not be considered.** The mentor(s) may provide guidance on preparation of the proposal; however, the applicant should prepare and submit his or her own proposal package. Each required proposal section should be completed as follows:

1-9. Title Page, Download Templates, Enable Other Users to Access this Proposal, Applicant/PI, Eligibility, Institution & Contacts, Key Personnel, Blind Letters of Support and Project Information
   • The information shown in sections 1-8 will be pre-populated with the same information provided in the Letter of Intent.
   • **IMPORTANT:** Re-send an email notification request to individuals listed in Section 8. Blind Letters of Support asap if the system shows that their Letter of Support has not yet been received. To send another email notification request to a person submitting a Letter of Support, click the envelope symbol hyperlink found on the right-hand side of the screen of the “Blind Letters of Support” section in the portal after submitting the Letter of Intent.

10. Other Research Support
   • Provide information on the applicant’s other existing and/or pending funding support.

11. Assurances & Certifications
   • Confirm if the proposed project involves human subjects and/or vertebrate animals and, if so, input/upload IRB and/or IACUC approval/exemption information.

12. Upload Application Attachments Here
   • **The applicant must prepare the following components of the application as PDF files with each component adhering to its specific page limitation as indicated below.** **NOTE:** Pages in excess of the limitation for any component will be removed from the application. In addition, if the Research Project Description component is missing or exceeds the three-page limit, the application will not be reviewed. If the Applicant CV/Biosketch, Mentor Letter of Support, or Mentor Biosketch is missing, the application will not be reviewed.

   ➢ Application Agreement Form
     • The applicant must download and complete the Application Agreement Form located at https://www.auanet.org/research/research-funding/aua-funding/residency-research-awards. This form must be completed in its entirety, including all necessary signatures and grant
administrator contact information. Please type information into the Application Agreement Form (illegible information will not be accepted). **NOTE:** Information listed on the Sponsoring Institution Section located on the Application Agreement Form will be used to submit award payments.

- All mentors are required to complete the mentor sections (Part A) within the Application Agreement Form; however, only the primary mentor is required to state his or her involvement in the application process (see **MENTOR SECTION: Part B** of the Application Agreement Form).

> **Applicant Career Plan (one-page limit)**

- The statement of career goals and plans should include how the applicant intends to build on this research award to continue on a path that includes research in his or her career as urologist or urology surgeon-scientist.
- The career plan may further include description of any intended fellowships, coursework, conferences, seminars, teaching or clinical responsibilities, grant writing, or other activities that the applicant plans to use in his or her career development.

> **Applicant CV/Biosketch (five-page limit)**

- Include the applicant's curriculum vitae in any style or NIH-style biosketch (five-page limit), which should include information on any other pending proposals for support for the resident.

> **Budget**

- Applicants must submit budget information with their proposal submissions. The applicant must download and complete the Budget Template Form located at [https://www.auanet.org/research/research-funding/aua-funding/residency-research-awards](https://www.auanet.org/research/research-funding/aua-funding/residency-research-awards).
- Allowable research costs include those not typically covered by residency programs such as purchase of research supplies, services, and/or database access; research education (coursework or workshops related to the proposed research project), or other non-personnel resources needed to conduct the proposed research.

> **Mentor Biosketch(es) (five-page limit per biosketch)**

- Include a biosketch for each mentor (NIH-style required).

> **Research Facilities and Environment Description (one-page limit)**

- Describe the institution's facilities, funding, and technical assistance available to the proposal. Include specific duties of the applicant, time committed to research (residents must commit no less than 80% of their time to the Residency Research Award project during the award period); please provide the research time commitment in bold within the Research Facilities and Environment Description), clinical activities, relationship to mentor’s ongoing research program, and immediate supervisor (if other than mentor).

> **Research Project Abstract (one-page limit)**

- Summarize the following elements of the proposed research project and training under the following headings:
- Problem to Be Addressed
- Specific Aims and Experimental Design
- Mentoring/Training Plan
- Potential Impact of the Project on Urologic Research and on the Applicant’s Career Development

➢ Research Project Description (three-page limit)

- Use of a simple font (e.g. Arial, Calibri, Times New Roman) in 12-point format is recommended. Proposals that use below an 11-point font and half inch margins may not be forwarded to peer review. Paragraphs should be single-spaced. Legibility can influence proposal evaluation. Applicants are encouraged to be mindful of ease-of-review considerations and avoid overcrowding of text, use figures of sufficient size for understanding and bolding of the most notable text, and include other features that contribute to ease-of-review.

- PLEASE NOTE: All figures and tables must be included within the THREE-page limit for the Research Project Description.

  o Section 1: Background and Specific Aims (suggested length: one page)
  Introduce the problem to be addressed, providing the major reasons why this is an important problem to study and citing the appropriate literature. Define the major hypothesis to be tested and list specific aims proposed to test the hypothesis. Ensure that the aims are appropriate for the proposed duration of the project. The description should also state how the applicant will allocate the research/clinical time for the duration of the award period.

  o Section 2: Supporting Data (suggested length: one page)
  Provide any preliminary data pertinent to the proposed experiments. Present either research data that the applicant has generated or data that has been generated by the laboratory of the mentor(s) and is related to the proposed project. Unpublished data or published data (with references) may be included. The data in this section should support the hypothesis of the proposed work.

  o Section 3: Experimental Plan (suggested length: one page)
  Describe each experiment such that reviewers can determine the feasibility of the methods and how they will address the hypothesis and aims. Outline the rationale for each experiment, possible or anticipated results, and the approaches that will be used for data analysis and statistical interpretation, as appropriate. Briefly describe alternative experimental approaches should the initial approaches prove unsuccessful.

  o Section 4: References Cited page(s) and List of Abbreviations/Acronyms
  Space needed for this section does not count toward the page limit of the Research Project Description.

➢ Letter(s) of Collaboration (optional; one-page limit per letter)

- Letters of support from collaborators (e.g., for promised materials or other research support) are not required for this award; however, if applicable, they are permitted. The applicant is responsible for uploading any letters of support from collaborators into the proposalCENTRAL proposal submission system by the full proposal deadline.
13. Validate

- This section will check for any missing REQUIRED information or files. All missing required information will be listed on the screen. Please correct any missing information before proceeding to submit the full proposal.

14. Print Full Application with Uploads

15. Submit

**PLEASE NOTE:** The AUA Office of Research strongly recommends that, prior to submission, all applicants send their proposals through both institutional scientific review (where available) and appropriate institutional grant administration review at their home institutions to optimize grant quality and ensure consistency with institutional policies.

The proposal must be SUBMITTED electronically at [https://proposalcentral.com/](https://proposalcentral.com/) no later than Thursday, January 9, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. EASTERN TIME. Applicants should allow ample time for composing, compiling, and submitting materials. Late or proposals not submitted through the proposal submission system will NOT be considered.

### III. PROPOSAL REVIEW INFORMATION

#### A. PROPOSAL REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

All proposals are evaluated by a peer review panel of expert physician-scientists and researchers. Each proposal is considered according to established criteria for determining merit as described below.

Following the completion of peer review and from the pool of applications deemed fundable, the most highly meritorious applications will be matched to the available awards. All funding decisions must be approved by the AUA Director of Research and Research Council Chair. All review processes are conducted confidentially to maintain the integrity of the selection process. Peer reviewers sign a nondisclosure statement that all proposal and evaluation information will not be disclosed outside the peer review panel. Violations of confidentiality can result in the voiding of peer review results and other corrective actions. In addition, the applicant, mentor(s), and other individuals involved in or otherwise standing to benefit from the proposal’s funding are prohibited from contacting persons involved in the review process to gain protected evaluation information or to influence the evaluation process. Violations of these prohibitions will result in the disqualification of the proposal.

#### B. REVIEW CRITERIA

All proposals will be evaluated against the following review criteria:

**Applicant**

- To what degree the applicant’s achievements to date, as reflected by awards, honors, previous publications, etc., indicate his or her potential for a successful career that includes urologic research.

- To what degree the applicant’s stated career goals and the letters of support indicate a strong commitment to pursuing urologic disease research throughout his or her career.

**Mentor(s)**
To what degree the mentor letter(s) of support demonstrates the applicant’s potential to pursue career-long involvement in urologic research.

To what degree the mentor letter(s) of support includes a realistic time frame and describes the availability of necessary resources for the applicant’s research project.

To what degree the mentor(s) can provide the necessary expertise and track record to provide sufficient scientific guidance and oversight for the research project and training.

To what degree the mentor has outlined a solid training plan for the applicant.

Research Project

To what degree the research project is appropriately designed and will provide the applicant with research experience and training to promote the development of long-term involvement in urologic research.

To what degree the experimental plan is appropriately designed to achieve the aims of the project and achieve them within the proposed time frame. Expected results, potential obstacles, and alternative strategies should be discussed.

To what degree the proposal is well organized, clearly presented, and suggests the applicant's ability to think clearly and to present an argument in a logical, compelling way.

To what degree the research project has an appropriate budget to support the applicant and his or her proposed studies.

Institution

To what degree the institution provides a training environment with ongoing urologic disease research and the necessary resources that will promote the development of the applicant.

Residency Program Director and Urology Department Chair

To what degree the letters of support indicate the applicant’s strong performance in residency thus far, the applicant’s potential for career-long involvement in urologic research, and appropriateness of the proposed length of the award performance period.

C. NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSAL REVIEW RESULTS

Residency Research Award applicants will be notified of funding decisions via the proposal submission system and/or in writing via email no later than March 2020; results will not be given over the phone. To prevent emails from the proposal submission system from being identified as spam, it is strongly recommended to add pcsupport@altum.com to your address book or safe sender list. Summary statements of proposal reviews will not be provided for the Residency Research Award program.

Photographs for UrologyHealth.org and AUAnet.org

For applicants selected for funding, a headshot photograph saved as a jpeg file must be submitted electronically via the proposal submission system at https://proposalcentral.com immediately after receiving a notification email from the proposal submission system and/or the AUA Office of Research (save the file as, “Last name, First name_Photo” e.g., “Smith, John_Photo”). The photograph should be a high-quality headshot (file size typically ≥1MB) with either professional dress or a laboratory/white coat. Please do not compress the photograph after it is taken. With the submission of the photograph, the applicant thus gives permission for his/her photo to be used in press releases and other promotional materials for the program. The photograph will not be shared with reviewers and will not impact the review process or funding decisions.
D. NOTICE OF AWARD

For applicants selected for funding, a Notice of Award letter will be issued prior to the first payment to notify the awardee, mentor(s) and institutional representatives that an award has been made and to specify the terms and conditions of the award.

The Urology Care Foundation including the sponsors for their award programs does not assume responsibility for the conduct of the activities that the award supports, or for the acts of the award recipient, because both are under the direction and control of the award recipient’s institution and subject to its medical and scientific policies.

IV. AWARD REQUIREMENTS

All Urology Care Foundation Residency Research Award recipients must adhere to the following requirements:

A. REGULATORY APPROVALS AND EXEMPTIONS

Institutional Review Board (IRB)

If activities involving human subjects are planned during the proposed research, the applicant must provide a letter of approval or exemption from the local IRB. IRB letters of approval or exemption are not required at the time of proposal submission. Should the proposal be selected for funding, the award will be contingent upon receipt of a copy of the current IRB approval or exemption letter by the AUA Office of Research. Documentation should be submitted through the proposal submission system. If IRB approval or exemption for the project is not obtained within 30 days of the award performance period start date for awards shorter than 6 months or within 90 days of the award performance period start date for 6 to 12 month awards, the Urology Care Foundation reserves the right to terminate the award.

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)

If activities involving vertebrate animals are planned during the research, the applicant must submit a letter of approval or exemption by the IACUC. IACUC letters of approval or exemption are not required at the time of proposal submission. Should the proposal be selected for funding, the award will be contingent upon receipt of a copy of the current IACUC approval or exemption letter by the AUA Office of Research. Documentation should be submitted through the proposal submission system. If IACUC approval or exemption for the project is not obtained within 30 days of the award performance period start date for awards shorter than 6 months or within 90 days of the award performance period start date for 6 to 12 month awards, the Urology Care Foundation reserves the right to terminate the award.

B. REPORTING

The Residency Research Award includes the reporting requirements described below. Failure to adhere to reporting requirements and/or provide appropriate documentation may result in a delay in payments of other awards to the institution or suspension of the awardee, mentor(s), or institution from eligibility for subsequent Urology Care Foundation funding opportunities. Unless approved by the institution and the Urology Care Foundation, failure to complete the duration of the research period may result in repayment of unspent funds to the Urology Care Foundation.

New for 2020: Public Access Publishing and Sharing of Grant Information

All Urology Care Foundation awardees are subject to a public access policy. In addition, the American Urological Association is a member of the Health Research Alliance (HRA) (www.healthra.org; a national consortium of non-
governmental, nonprofit funders of biomedical research and training) and has agreed to deposit grant information in the HRA database of privately funded grants, HRA Reporter.

The American Urological Association and Urology Care Foundation reserves the right to include information relating to the grant (such as the grantee name and project title) in materials issued by or on behalf of the AUA and Urology Care Foundation, including periodic reports, newsletters or news releases, the website, or in any other materials issued by or on behalf of the AUA and Urology Care Foundation. The following award information will be provided to the HRA Reporter database and may be shared with the public: investigator name, degrees, clinical specialty if applicable, institution, project title, abstract, grant start date and duration, grant amount and Open Researcher and contributor ID (ORCID) of the investigator if applicable. HRA aggregates these data for its member organizations and for periodic publication of findings. View more information on HRA reporter and use of these data by HRA members here.

1. PROGRESS REPORTS AND PERSONAL STATEMENTS

Resident Awardee Report

The awardee must submit a progress report electronically to the AUA Office of Research via the proposal submission system, which is due:

- For three to six-month awards: Within one month of the end of the research training period or by February 28 (whichever comes first)
- For seven to 12-month awards: Within one month of the end of the research training period or by August 31 (whichever comes first); awardees sponsored by the Kahlert Foundation awardees must submit by the end of the first week of August.

The report should include all information as outlined in the Notice of Award Scholar Progress Report sections.

Mentor Report (approximately one page)

Under separate cover, the primary mentor must submit via the proposal submission system a confidential statement evaluating the resident's performance during the research project and progress on the funded research, and include all information as outlined in the Notice of Award Mentor Progress Report sections.

2. INSTITUTIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

The Institutional Accountability Report (IAR) is a form that re-affirms that the institution is adhering to all terms of the Program Announcement and Application Agreement Form, especially the provisions of institutional support and level of effort requirements. Continued funding is contingent upon receipt of a satisfactory report.

Interim IAR

During the award performance period, the Institutional Sponsored Programs Office must submit an IAR to the AUA Office of Research via the proposal submission system no later than December 31 of each funding year (three to six-month awards are not required to submit an interim IAR).

Final IAR

Once the award period is complete, a final IAR (financial statement detailing expenditures during the award period) should be completed by the Institutional Grant Administrator and sent to the AUA Office of Research in the Final Progress Report package via the proposal submission system, which is due:
- **For three to six-month awards:** Within 30 days of the end of the research training period or by February 28 (whichever comes first)
- **For seven-month to 12-month awards:** Within 30 days of the end of the research training period or by August 31 (whichever comes first)

### 3. POST-AWARD REPORTING

At specified time points following the completion of the Urology Care Foundation award (e.g., upon completion of the residency and, if a research career will be pursued, at intervals of three, five, and 10 years post-award), the AUA Office of Research will contact previous awardees to collect additional award outcomes information including, but not limited to, publications, funding, invited speakerships and presentations, mentorship, and leadership positions within the AUA or affiliated organizations.

The Urology Care Foundation and the AUA Office of Research request that all past awardees provide updated contact information when appropriate and be responsive to requests for post-award information.

### C. UROLOGY CARE FOUNDATION AND AUA RESEARCH-RELATED ACTIVITIES

Each year, the AUA and the Urology Care Foundation coordinate several events designed to advance urologic research and provide educational venues, especially for early-career investigators. The AUA Office of Research also provides several opportunities for funded investigators to present posters at some of these events. For all investigators funded by the **Urology Care Foundation Residency Research Award**, attendance at the Urology Care Foundation Research Honors Program, AUA Research Forum, and the AUA Funding Opportunities and Grant Writing Workshop, all held at the AUA Annual Meeting, is required. Attendance at the Early-Career Investigators Workshop, typically held at the AUA Headquarters building in Linthicum, Maryland, is recommended but not required.

In addition, depending on eligibility or relevance of the topic to the awardee’s research, attendance at the AUA/SBUR Summer Research Conference, held at AUA Headquarters, and the Basic Sciences Symposium and Urologic Oncology Research Symposium, both held at the AUA Annual Meeting, may also be required. Unless prior approval is given, failure to attend an event may disqualify the awardee from receiving a Urology Care Foundation award or payment. Travel awards or other means of travel support may be available for some events.

#### 1. AUA ANNUAL MEETING EVENTS

- **Urology Care Foundation Research Honors Program:** This event is held annually to recognize all recently-awarded Urology Care Foundation grant recipients, present research Awards of Distinction, and provide a valuable opportunity for networking between early-career investigators supported by the Urology Care Foundation and leaders in urology and urologic research.

- **Basic Sciences Symposium:** This symposium is a premier research event attracting basic and translational researchers and physician-scientists from various specialties. Past program topics include stem cells and nanotechnology, inflammation and fibrosis, new perspectives in pelvic health, and aging and urologic manifestations. Attendance is required if the topic is associated with the research being conducted by the awardee.

- **Urologic Oncology Research Symposium:** The intent of this symposium is to create synergies and foster collaboration in genitourinary oncology by bringing together scientists and clinicians at all career levels in a stimulating and interactive setting. The information discussed and shared during this meeting is expected to catalyze the translation of laboratory research to practical application. It is also intended to serve as a forum for
where early-career investigators can interact with leaders in a host of disciplines related to urologic cancers. Attendance is required if the topic is associated with the research being conducted by the awardee.

- **AUA Research Forum – Funding Opportunities and Grant Writing Workshop:** Typically each year, the AUA Office of Research offers an educational course/forum to assist researchers in identifying and understanding sources of funding and skills needs for successful grant writing. The forum provides information on major funding opportunities, preparing an effective grant application, and peer review processes. Representatives from public (e.g., federal) and private (e.g., foundations, societies) funding organizations are typically in attendance to provide information on current opportunities. All investigators funded by the Urology Care Foundation are required to attend the session if it is offered.

- **AUA Research Forum – Early-Career Investigators Showcase:** This event provides a venue showcasing the research of promising early-career investigators. The program features presentations on innovative, relevant, and potentially impactful research studies that are of great interest to the basic, translational and clinical research communities. A panel of judges scores the presentations and awards are provided to the top three presenters. All investigators receiving funding from the Urology Care Foundation are required to attend this event.

- **Early-Career Scientists Exchange:** Held every other year, this event brings together Urology Care Foundation awardees with representatives from the AUA Office of Research and funding organizations in an informal setting to discuss research career challenges and strategies for success. Attendance is required at the discretion of the AUA Office of Research.

## 2. EVENTS AT AUA HEADQUARTERS

- **AUA Co-Sponsored Research Symposia:** The AUA Office of Research often co-sponsors research symposia and workshops with other urology sub-specialty societies and research institutions that cover the spectrum of urologic disease (e.g., AUA/SBUR Summer Research Conference, Diabetes and Diabetic Uropathy Symposium). Attendance to these meetings is optional but strongly encouraged if the research topic is relevant to the funded research award.

- **Early-Career Investigators Workshop:** The goal of this workshop is to motivate and support early-career researchers and surgeon-scientists by providing an outstanding program of mentoring, career development, and scientific perspectives presented by leaders in the field. The program agenda typically includes information and interaction with representatives from public and private funding organizations, a mock scientific peer review panel/study section, and faculty presentations on research success and career development. Attendees preparing to submit grant applications for independent research or career development funding also participate in working sessions that provide 1-on-1 instruction from faculty advisors with concrete guidance for improving current or developing grant applications, as well as roundtable discussions with experts on federal funding opportunities. Attendance is strongly recommended but not required.

## D. PUBLICATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Awardees are required to send electronic copies of articles published based on Urology Care Foundation Residency Research Award-funded research to the AUA Office of Research at grantsmanager@AUAnet.org. Any publication or presentation arising from work supported in whole or in part by the Urology Care Foundation Residency Research Award should include the following acknowledgment:
“This work was supported in part by the 2020 Urology Care Foundation Residency Research Award Program and [SPONSOR NAME].”

E. CHANGES TO CONTACT INFORMATION, PROJECT, PERSONNEL, INSTITUTION, OR FUNDING

Any changes in the research project, mentor, personnel, or location/contact information that occur after the proposal is selected for funding or during the award period must be reported to and approved by the AUA Office of Research. Changes in the resident awardee will typically result in award termination. However, exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis and at the discretion of the AUA Director of Research.

If the awardee is selected for any additional funding from organizations other than the Urology Care Foundation after being selected for a Urology Care Foundation Residency Research Award, the awardee MUST immediately contact the AUA Office of Research to discuss appropriate courses of action. If the awardee does not meet this requirement, return of any unused Urology Care Foundation funds may be required.

V. UROLOGY CARE FOUNDATION SCHOLAR TRAVEL SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Urology Care Foundation Scholar Travel Support Program, administered by the AUA Office of Research, is intended to provide opportunities for investigators funded through the Urology Care Foundation research award programs to attend scientific/professional meetings relevant to basic, translational and clinical research in urology. This program provides travel support (maximum of $1,500 per award year, with a maximum of $1,000 per meeting) to Residency Research Award recipients upon the review and approval of the Scholar Travel Support Program application request. This program is not intended to serve as the sole source of travel funding for award recipients, but rather to provide supplemental travel funds to those provided by travel awards and the award recipient’s host institution, especially when funds are needed for the award recipient to attend the meetings required by our award programs. Institutions are expected to cost-share travel support costs. Award recipients must plan usage of the funds so they have some funds available if needed to attend all of the required meetings mentioned in Section IV.C. of this program announcement as a higher priority above other scientific meetings. For more information about the Scholar Travel Support Program, contact Research Program Specialist, Idrissa Heard, iheard@AUAnet.org.

VI. CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions related to this Program Announcement or submission requirements should be directed to the AUA Office of Research.

Assistance is typically available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern time. Response times may vary depending upon the volume of inquiries.

The preferred method of communication is email to grantsmanager@AUAnet.org. Phone calls, when necessary, can be directed to 410-689-3945.