2018 Physician Scientist Residency Training Award: Trainee

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**IMPORTANT DATES**

<table>
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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Letter of Intent Deadline</td>
<td>August 16, 2018 by 5:00 p.m. Eastern time <em>(required)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Application Submission Deadline</td>
<td>September 6, 2018 by 5:00 p.m. Eastern time <em>(required)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Peer Review</td>
<td>September 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interview Day at AUA Headquarters</td>
<td>October 17, 2018 (selected applicants)</td>
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<td>Notification of Trainee Selection</td>
<td>October 19, 2018</td>
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<td>Notification of Program Site Selection</td>
<td>November 15, 2018</td>
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<td>Award Period</td>
<td>July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2027</td>
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<td>(funding years July 1, 2021 - June 20, 2024)</td>
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I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

A. UROLOGY CARE FOUNDATION AND AUA OFFICE OF RESEARCH MISSIONS

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 patient 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 award proposal receipt and review, as well as award management. For questions related to administration of proposals or awards, see Section V. Contact Information of this Program Announcement.

B. AWARD INFORMATION

1. BACKGROUND

Conducting research is an exciting and vital activity critical to the advancement of clinical practice and improved care for patients. Importantly, success in research requires a diversity of perspectives from both clinically and laboratory trained investigators, yet the population of physician scientists is diminishing, especially from surgical specialties such as urology. This issue is an area of ongoing concern in both the national and international research communities. Research training during residency has the potential to address this concern, as it will develop the commitment and diversity of skills needed for later success in independently funded research careers.

Therefore, the Physician Scientist Residency Training Award (PSRTA), the newest of the AUA and Urology Care Foundation mentored research grants, was initiated as an award program in May 2017. This award is designed to provide early-career, intensive research training that will develop the skills necessary to enable ambitious and talented urology residents to ultimately succeed as independently funded surgeon scientists in urologic research.

Having recognized the critical need to train surgeon scientists who have the knowledge and expertise to advance urology science, the AUA and the Urology Care Foundation are offering the PSRTA for the first time to enable a focused and well-defined urology residency research track that will appropriately train carefully selected individuals. Training will be conducted at urologic research centers of excellence with strong infrastructure, mentoring, didactics, and career development elements to best prepare residents for successful and impactful careers as independently funded urology researchers.

Selection of the inaugural PSRTA Trainee is a two-phase process. First, potential PSRTA Program Sites were selected through an open, competitive process conducted May-October 2017. Second, the competition for Trainee candidates will occur July-November 2018.

This award is made possible through generous support from the Dornier MedTech Research Fund.
2. PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The PSRTA Trainee will complete all requirements from postgraduate year (PGY)-1 to PGY-5 of clinical training, as well as research training, as described below:

**Physician Scientist Residency Training Award Program Structure**

**PGY-1 and PGY-2 (Internship & Uro 1 Years of clinical training):** The first two postgraduate years (PGY-1 and PGY-2) will be spent in surgical training to provide the trainee with a thorough grounding in general surgical and urological principles. In addition, participation in research-related activities (e.g., seminars), as can be accommodated by clinical training responsibilities, and attendance at specified AUA research events will be required. PGY-1 and PGY-2 progress reports detailing performance in clinical training and specific engagement in research-related activities will also be required.

**Research Year 1:** After acquiring a solid background in clinical urology, the first year of research training will include research-related courses, seminars, and other didactic training, as well as research rotations with established scientists in laboratories that may be selected as the location for the trainee’s full research project. *It is anticipated that research rotations and subsequent selection of the research project should focus on areas and/or disciplines of research relatively understudied by urology physician scientists. Examples of research areas understudied by urology physician scientists include but are not limited to basic science, bio/tissue engineering, and bioinformatics, among others.* It is expected that Research Year 1 will provide the trainee with knowledge of and some experience in the basic investigative techniques being used to advance our understanding of diseases and conditions of the genitourinary tract. Biannual progress reports and attendance at specified AUA research events, with presentation of research results if available, will be required. Importantly, graduate degree-granting research programs are expected to ensure that didactic and other training is commensurate with degree requirements, should the trainee be anticipating a research degree (master’s or doctoral level) upon completion of his or her research training.

**Research Years 2 and 3:** Research Years 2 and 3 will focus on immersion into the research project with a carefully selected primary mentor and mentoring team. *Clinical responsibilities, while important to maintaining clinical skills, must not exceed 20% of the trainee’s full-time professional effort.* Submission of a research project proposal to the AUA Office of Research is expected within the first two months of Research Year 2, with AUA Office of Research peer review and approval of the project completed within 30 calendar days after the research project proposal submission. Research Years 2 and 3 are expected to provide the trainee with in-depth experiences that establish:
• A strong foundation in study design, methods, and analytic techniques appropriate for the proposed research area;
• Enhancement of the trainee’s ability to conceptualize and think through research problems with increasing independence;
• Experience in conducting research using state-of-the-art methods as well as presenting and publishing research findings;
• Interactions with members of the scientific community at appropriate scientific meetings and workshops; and
• Knowledge and early development of the spectrum of modern scientific skills needed to succeed as an independent investigator.

Biannual progress reports and attendance at specified AUA research events will be required. Assessment of progress will include but may not be limited to advancement of the research project, presentations at intramural, regional, and/or national meetings, and manuscripts submitted for publication. Should a site visit be requested by the AUA Office of Research, the Program Site will be required to accommodate the visit, with costs to be covered by the AUA Office of Research. After completion of the three years of research training, and if available at the Program Site, the Trainee will be awarded a master’s or doctoral level research degree if all degree requirements have been met.

**PGY-3-5 (Uro 2 to Uro 4 years of clinical training):** After completion of the dedicated research years, the Trainee will return to clinical training for completion of urology residency PGY-3 through PGY-5. During this time, it is expected that the large majority of the Trainee’s efforts will focus on exceptional performance in and completion of his or her clinical training. However, annual progress reports, as well as attendance at specified AUA research events, will be required. Assessment of progress will include performance in clinical training and ongoing, albeit limited, engagement in research-related activities.

**NOTE:** The Program Structure as described has been approved by the American Board of Urology as an alternate pathway for Board certification in the specialty of Urology. Divergence from this program structure will not be allowed.

### 3. PROGRAM SITES

Approved PSRTA Program Sites were selected in October 2017, and each has a robust track record of residency research training, a diversity of urologic research areas available for study with emphasis on areas understudied by surgeon scientists, and a selection of established scientists with successful funding records and available to serve as effective mentors to the trainee. Each Program Site is also accredited by the Liaison Committee for Medical Education (LCME) and in good standing with, and approved for PSRTA participation by, the Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Urology Research Review Committee. All Program Sites are registered with the AAMC Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS®).

The following approved PSRTA Program Sites will be available for selection by the PSRTA Trainee:

- **University of California, Los Angeles**
  Principal Investigators: Robert Reiter, MD and Jonathan Bergman, MD, MPH
  Urology Residency Program: [https://urology.healthsciences.ucla.edu/intranet/education/pages/residency-info](https://urology.healthsciences.ucla.edu/intranet/education/pages/residency-info)

- **University of Michigan**
  Principal Investigator: Ganesh Palapattu, MD
  Urology Residency Program: [https://medicine.umich.edu/dept/urology/education/residency](https://medicine.umich.edu/dept/urology/education/residency)
• **University of Washington**  
  Principal Investigator: Hunter Wessells, MD  
  Urology Residency Program: [https://www.washington.edu/urology/education/residency/](https://www.washington.edu/urology/education/residency/)

• **Wake Forest University**  
  Principal Investigator: Anthony Atala, MD  
  Urology Residency Program: [https://www.wakehealth.edu/School/Urology/Residencies/Residencies.htm](https://www.wakehealth.edu/School/Urology/Residencies/Residencies.htm)

Additional information about each Program Site can be obtained by contacting the PSRTA Program Site Principal Investigators. **NOTE:** Program Site personnel will not be involved in the peer review of PSRTA candidate trainee proposals, but will participate in the final selection of the PSRTA Trainee as described below.

### 4. COMPETITION TIMELINE

Approved PSRTA Program Sites were selected in October 2017. Applications/proposals from candidate trainees must be received by September 6, 2018. **Trainee applicants MUST adhere to the competition timeline below, with several required elements, or their applications will not be considered.**

- **Letter of Intent Submission Deadline**  
  August 16, 2018 by 5:00 p.m. Eastern time

- **Application/Proposal Submission Deadline**  
  September 6, 2018 by 5:00 p.m. Eastern time

- **Peer Review of Applications/Proposals**  
  September 2018

- **Notification of Interview Invitation**  
  September 21, 2018

- **Interviews at AUA Headquarters (Linthicum, MD)**  
  October 17, 2018

- **Notification of PSRTA Trainee Selection**  
  October 19, 2018

- **PSRTA Trainee Program Site Visits**  
  To be completed by November 13, 2018

- **Notification of Trainee Matched to Program Site**  
  November 15, 2018

**IMPORTANT:** The results of the PSRTA competition are binding for both the selected Trainee and the Program Site. The selected Trainee must accept the PSRTA award and complete the program, and the selected Program Site must accept the PSRTA Trainee for the full residency research training.

### C. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

To be eligible to compete for the Urology Care Foundation Physician Scientist Residency Training Award, applicants must, **by July 1, 2018,** be either:

- Enrolled in the senior year of their medical school degree programs; or
- A medical school graduate that is not more than two years beyond graduation.

In addition, trainee applicants must be completing, or have completed, medical school at an institution within the boundaries of the [AUA Sections](https://www.aua.org/education/residency-matching/faq).

**IMPORTANT:** Applicants for the PSRTA program MUST also register for the AUA’s [Urology Residency Match Program](https://www.aua.org/education/residency-matching). To ensure that the selection process for the PSRTA will in no way hinder a Trainee applicant’s eligibility for the regular Urology Residency Match Program, notification of the PSRTA recipient will be completed no later than October 19, 2018.
MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS: Applicants who are not AUA members at the time of application must commit to applying for AUA membership in the event of being selected to receive the Physician Scientist Residency Training Award. Additional information about AUA membership can be found at http://www.AUAnet.org/about-us/membership/membership-value.

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 institutions or trainees in the PSRTA program.

D. FUNDING INFORMATION

1. AWARDS AVAILABLE

One Trainee position is currently available to begin residency training in July 2019. The duration of the training program is eight years, although funding is provided only during the research training years at $75,000 per year for three years. Funding is provided by the Urology Care Foundation with support from the Dornier MedTech Research Fund. Should additional funds for the program become available prior to selection of Trainees in 2018 or future years, additional Trainees will be selected and matched with one of the four approved Program Sites.

2. OVERLAP IN FUNDING

No other government-, non-government-, or industry-sponsored projects may fund the same scope of work as the PSRTA. However, an award from this program may be related to other funding from foundations, government agencies, or other funding organizations, provided there is no direct overlap.

3. DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS AND INSTITUTIONAL COST-SHARING

The Urology Care Foundation will provide $75,000 per research training year, paid directly to the institution, in conjunction with institutional cost-sharing to provide the full support needed by the trainee. Funding, issued in two payments of $37,500, will be provided on approximately August 1 and February 1 for each year of the three-year research period of the award.

It is permissible and encouraged that Urology Care Foundation funds be used to provide salary support for the resident during his or her research training. In addition, the Program Site is obligated to cost-share funds for the trainee, which may consist of additional salary (not beyond peer parity) and/or funding for research supplies or other direct costs for research training including course registration fees and travel costs for scientific meetings. Under no circumstances may Urology Care Foundation funds be used for institutional indirect costs or for salary support for anyone other than the Urology Care Foundation-funded Trainee. Misappropriation of funds may result in an institution’s disqualification from eligibility for future Urology Care Foundation funding opportunities.

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.
II. PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION MATERIALS

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

All applicants must submit a Letter of Intent, receive permission to submit a full application/proposal, and submit a full application/proposal in compliance with all deadlines to be considered for this award program.

Electronic Submission: Letters of Intent and all application/proposal materials must be submitted via the application/proposal submission system at https://proposalcentral.altum.com/. For easiest access, applicants should enter the system through the AUA website at http://www.auanet.org/research/research-funding/aua-funding/physician-scientist-residency-training-award. Confirmation of receipt of Letters of Intent and applications will be provided no later than 72 hours after submission.

To prevent emails from the proposal submission system from being identified as spam, it is strongly recommended that applicants and individuals providing letters of support add pcsupport@altum.com to their address books or safe sender lists PRIOR TO submission of the Letter of Intent.

All information pertinent to this award program is contained in this Program Announcement and in the respective Application Agreement form, both available at http://www.auanet.org/research/funding-opportunities/physician-scientist-residency-training-award.

B. LETTER OF INTENT

Applicants are required to complete an electronic Letter of Intent via the proposal submission system at https://proposalcentral.altum.com/ no later than Thursday, August 16, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern time.

The Letter of Intent is an electronic form (rather than a letter per se) that requires basic information about the applicant and the individuals providing letters of recommendation or support. IMPORTANT: The applicant should include the same individuals that provided letters of recommendation for the applicant’s ERAS® application. Because these letters are not included in the ERAS® application that the applicant will download and submit for the PSRTA program, the individuals submitting letters of recommendation must submit the letters to both the ERAS® and PSRTA application/proposal submission systems. In addition, the applicant must include the name and contact information for a Letter of Support from an individual who will speak specifically to the applicant’s appropriateness for the PSRTA and potential as a future successful, independent urology physician scientist.

Information in the Letter of Intent is not peer reviewed but rather used by the AUA Office of Research to prepare for application/proposal review. There is no approval process for the Letter of Intent, and applicants should assume that they have permission to submit full applications/proposals. Applicants are not bound to complete a full application/proposal upon submitting a Letter of Intent.

C. PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION PACKAGE

Trainee application/proposal submission for the PSRTA is a two-step process. All steps must be completed by or before the application/proposal submission deadline of September 6, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern time.
NOTE: Applicants are responsible for composing, compiling, and submitting complete applications/proposals. All documents described below must be submitted. All applications/proposals will undergo administrative review to ensure compliance with the application requirements prior to peer review. Any components that exceed their respective page limits may jeopardize the entire application/proposal.

STEP 1:

1. Register for the AUA’s Urology Residency Match Program; and
2. Submit a residency application through the Electronic Residency Application Service® (ERAS®).
   A complete packet consists of the following documents:
   a. Curriculum Vitae (including but not limited to education; experience including research, volunteer, etc.; publications and presentations; awards and accomplishments)
   b. Electronic Residency Application
   c. Personal Statement
   d. Letters of Recommendation (note: some residency programs suggest including letters from Urology Department Chair(s) and/or other urologists with whom the applicant has worked)
   e. Medical school transcript(s)
   f. United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Scores (include Step 1 scores at the time of ERAS® application and Step 2 scores, if available, directly to the AUA Office of Research before October 17)

STEP 2:
Submit the following information, by or before September 6, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern time. All items must be submitted via the application/proposal submission system at https://proposalcentral.altum.com/.

1. Application Agreement Form
Submit a completed PSRTA Application Agreement Form, including the necessary signature in writing and not electronic format. The Application Agreement Form is available for download at http://www.auanet.org/research/funding-opportunities/physician-scientist-residency-training-award.

2. ERAS® Application
Download and submit a copy of the applicant’s ERAS® application (available immediately after submission to ERAS®).

3. Personal Statement Addendum (Career Intent Statement), one-page limit
Provide a statement, above and beyond that provided in the ERAS® application, that provides a compelling rationale for the applicant’s desire to enter into the PSRTA program. Include summarized descriptions of past research experiences (e.g., clinic, lab, conferences/seminars/workshops, mentoring received) that support the applicant’s understanding of the commitment and drive needed to succeed in the PSRTA program and ultimately develop a successful, independent career as a urology physician scientist. Include urologic research interests for the PSRTA program and beyond.

4. Additional Letter of Support
Each applicant for the PSRTA program must provide the same Letters of Recommendation that were submitted to ERAS®. Applicants must provide the names and contact information for these individuals submitting Letters of Recommendation during the Letter of Intent submission process. These individuals
will be sent links via email through which their letters can be submitted confidentially at https://proposalcentral.altum.com/.

In addition, PSRTA applicants must request an additional Letter of Support from an individual who will speak specifically to the applicant’s appropriateness for the PSRTA and potential as a future successful, independent urology physician scientist. This also will be accomplished through the confidential process described above.

The complete application/proposal must be submitted via https://proposalcentral.altum.com/ by September 6, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. EASTERN TIME. Applicants should allow ample time for composing, compiling, and submitting materials. Late submissions will not be considered.

III. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

A. APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

All applications/proposals for Urology Care Foundation awards are evaluated by peer review panels of expert physician scientists and researchers. Each application is considered according to established criteria for determining merit as described below in Section III.B.

All review processes are conducted confidentially to maintain the integrity of the selection process. Panel members agree to a nondisclosure policy that application and evaluation information will not be disclosed outside the 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 application’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 application.

Following the completion of peer review, the top four-six PSRTA applicants will be invited to, and MUST be available for, interviews during the Interview Day at the AUA Headquarters in Linthicum, Maryland on October 17, 2018, which is described below in Section III.C.

B. PEER REVIEW CRITERIA

All PSRTA applications/proposals will be evaluated against the following peer review criteria:

- Academic Accomplishments and Excellence (grades, scores, awards)
- Research Accomplishments and Excellence (productivity, presentations, publications, awards)
- Commitment to Research (personal statement and addendum, previous experience in research, scholarly opportunities pursued, appropriateness of research interests)
- Research Career Potential (letters of recommendation, extracurricular activities and accomplishments, other strengths)
C. INTERVIEW PROCESS

Following the completion of peer review, the top four-six PSRTA applicants will be invited to, and MUST be available for, interviews during the Interview Day at the AUA Headquarters in Linthicum, Maryland on October 17, 2018. Any applicant who is not selected for participation in the Interview Day will be released from the PSRTA program and will be available for matching in the regular Urology Residency Match Program. The AUA will provide support for arrangements and cover expenses for travel within AUA travel guidelines.

The Interview Day will include:
- Provision of both breakfast and lunch for all attendees;
- Presentations by the AUA Chair of Research and AUA Director of Research on key aspects and expectations of the PSRTA program;
- Individual candidate interviews with the AUA Chair of Research, AUA Director of Research and key AUA Office of Research personnel;
- Individual candidate interviews with key PSRTA Program Site personnel (including the Principal Investigator(s)) of each of the four approved PSRTA Program Sites); and
- Conclusion of the Interview Day at no later than 3 p.m. Eastern Time.

D. FINAL TRAINEE AND PROGRAM SITE SELECTION PROCESS

Following the completion of peer review and the Interview Day, the following process will, by its completion, select the final PSRTA Trainee and Program Site:

1. At the completion of the Interview Day, the Program Site personnel will contribute to an overall ranking of each trainee candidate.
2. Using these rankings and programmatic considerations, the AUA Chair of Research and AUA Director of Research will determine the PSRTA Trainee. PSRTA applicants will be notified of final selection decisions in writing via email no later than October 19, 2018.
3. The selected PSRTA Trainee will then be permitted to travel, with support for arrangements and expenses covered by the AUA Office of Research within AUA travel guidelines, to his or her top two-three Program Site choices, wherein he or she will meet urology and research faculty, tour the facilities, and learn additional information about the residency clinical and research training.
4. Following completion of the Program Site visits, and by November 15, 2018 if possible, the final Program Site selection will be determined.

For applicants not selected for the Interview Day or as the PSRTA Trainee after the Interview day is completed, a notification will be provided to ensure full participation and consideration in the regular Urology Residency Match Program.

E. NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

PSRTA applicants will be notified of final selection decisions in writing via email no later than October 19, 2018.
F. NOTICE OF AWARD

For the PSRTA Trainee and Program Site selected for funding, a Notice of Award letter will be issued prior to the start of the period of performance to provide notification that an award has been made and specify the terms and conditions of the award.

IV. AWARD REQUIREMENTS

Physician Scientist Residency Training Award program participants must adhere to the following requirements:

A. REPORTING

Failure to adhere to reporting requirements and/or provide appropriate documentation may result in a delay in payments or institutional ineligibility for other Urology Care Foundation funding opportunities.

1. TRAINEE PROGRESS REPORTS

Trainees in the PSRTA program must submit:
- Annual progress reports during their clinical training years and
- Biannual progress reports during their research training years.

Specific guidance on the format, content, and deadline dates of the reports will be provided by the AUA Office of Research prior to the first reporting period. Required information during the clinical training years is anticipated to include reporting of progress on clinical training and engagement with research. Required information during the research training years is anticipated to include reporting on progress in didactic training and research rotations, presentations at intramural, regional, or national meetings, progress on applications submitted for other funding, progress on the research project, and manuscripts in preparation or submitted for publication.

2. PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR REPORTS

Under separate cover, Principal Investigators of PSRTAs must submit brief, confidential annual reports to the AUA Office of Research detailing progress of the Trainee and information on the success and challenges of the training program as a whole. Specific guidance on the format, content, and deadline dates of the reports will be provided by the AUA Office of Research prior to the first reporting period.

Should a site visit be requested by the AUA Office of Research, the institution will be required to accommodate the visit, with costs to be covered by the AUA Office of Research.

3. PRIMARY MENTOR REPORTS

Under separate cover, primary mentors of PSRTA Trainees must submit brief, confidential annual reports to the AUA Office of Research detailing the research progress of the PSRTA Trainee, his or her career development, and information on the success and challenges of the research training overall. Specific guidance on the format, content, and deadline dates of the reports will be provided by the AUA Office of Research prior to the first reporting period.
4. INSTITUTIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTS

Institutional Accountability Reporting will be required annually to document expenditure of institutional or Urology Care Foundation funds in support of the PSRTA. Institutional Accountability Report forms will be provided by the AUA Office of Research, completed by the Institutional Grant Administrator, and included in the reports due at the end of each complete year of residency training (both clinical and research years). These reports affirm that the institution is adhering to all terms and conditions of the Notice of Award with particular attention to provisions regarding institutional support, use of Urology Care Foundation funds, and level of effort requirements.

5. POST-AWARD REPORTING

At intervals of two, five, and ten years following the completion of the entire residency program, the AUA Office of Research will contact previous Program Sites, mentors, and awardees to collect additional award outcomes information and other awardee 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 any requests for post-award information.

B. 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 required within 90 days prior to the start of the research project (anticipated to be in the second year of research funding).

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 required within 90 days prior to the start of the research project (anticipated to be in the second year of research funding).

C. UROLOGY CARE FOUNDATION 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 opportunities for funded investigators to present their research at several of these events. PSRTA Trainees are required to attend, with some exceptions as described below. Travel awards or other means of travel support may be available for some events. Descriptions of each event/activity are provided below:
1. **AUA Annual Meeting Events**

The following events are required of the PSRTA Trainee every year (clinical and research) of the training program:

- **Urology Care Foundation Research Honors Program and Reception:** All current Urology Care Foundation funded investigators are acknowledged at this program. Attending the program and presentation of a poster (during research years) is required for all individuals receiving funding from the Urology Care Foundation.

- **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.

- **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 where early-career investigators can interact with leaders in a host of disciplines related to urologic cancers.

- **Challenges for Urologic Research Symposium:** This half-day symposium series features a scientific topic considered highly relevant, potentially challenging, and offering significant educational opportunity for urology researchers. Recent topics have included prostate cancer biomarkers, diabetes and urologic complications, and strategies for success in health services research.

- **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.

- **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.

- **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.
2. EVENTS AT AUA HEADQUARTERS

The following events are required of the PSRTA Trainee only during the research years of the training program:

- **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 at 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 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 funding opportunities. Attendance is required one to two times for the PSRTA Trainee.

D. PUBLICATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Awardees are required to submit electronic copies of articles published based on their Urology Care Foundation-funded research to the AUA Office of Research at grantsmanager@auanet.org. Any publication arising from work supported in whole or in part by the PSRTA should include acknowledgment of the specific sponsor. Such acknowledgement should read:

“This work was supported in part by the Urology Care Foundation Physician Scientist Residency Training Award sponsored by (name of sponsor, e.g., Dornier MedTech).”

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

Any potential changes that occur in the institutional or trainee components of the PSRTA after the application is selected for award or at any time during the award period must be expeditiously reported to and approved by the AUA Office of Research.

In the case that an awardee withdraws from the program for any reason at any time during the first two (clinical) training years or during the research training years, the residency program may be permitted, at the sole and final discretion of the AUA Office of Research, to transfer the award to another resident within the same residency program or an alternate course of action will be determined by the AUA Office of Research in consultation with the Program Site.

If the trainee or residency program is selected for any additional funding that may be considered to potentially overlap with Urology Care Foundation funding, the Program Site and/or trainee must contact the AUA Office of Research to discuss appropriate courses of action.

**Failure to provide timely reporting of any significant changes to any components of the PSRTA including funding may result in delay of payments, termination of the award, and/or withdrawal of institutional eligibility for any subsequent Urology Care Foundation support.**
V. CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions related to this Program Announcement and application/proposal content 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 to send an email to grantsmanager@AUA.net.org. Phone calls, when necessary, can be directed to 410-689-3762.