



Purpose:

The ACP Research-In-Practice Grant Program is designed to assist clinical phlebologists who are not established as independent researchers in initiating a clinical research project of importance to the field of Phlebology. The long-term intent of this Program is to foster the research education and development of clinical phlebologists who are capable of active participation in and/or leadership of clinical trials of phlebological therapies.

Award:

This grant provides \$24,000 for one year. Funds may be used for salaries for research assistants working on the project, supplies, service function charges, travel expenses for attendance at 1-2 related conferences, and completion of a research education program. Consulting expenses, institutional indirect costs, and office expenses will not be funded. Grantee agrees to return any unused funds to the grantor.

Extensions: Two types of extension may be requested:

- 1) A no-cost extension to extend the budget period up to 12 months beyond its original ending date without additional funding
- 2) A funded extension to complete additional research (max \$50,000) – such requests will only be funded if it is clear that the originally proposed work will be completed on time, and that the 2nd year of research will enable the Investigator to achieve new scientific goals beyond those of the originally planned project. Requests for extensions must be submitted in writing to the ACP Office at least 30 days before expiration of the original grant period. The request must state the reason(s) for the extension, length of the extension requested, amount of additional funding requested, and an explanation of how the reason(s) for the delay has been addressed (no-cost extensions) or how the extension will achieve new scientific goals beyond the project's original plan (funded extensions).

Eligibility:

Investigators with an MD, DO, PhD, or equivalent degree are eligible. Non-ACP members will be considered, but ACP members will be given preference. Applicants must not have been recognized as independent investigators or recipients of major grant support (exceeding \$50,000). Understanding that clinical phlebologists may have professional business dealings and/or interests in for-profit commercial entities (medical device or pharmaceutical companies, as well as private practices), a detailed full disclosure of any and all such interests is required. This disclosure will be weighed in the grant approval process.

Review Process:

Completed applications will be reviewed by the ACP Research Programs Committee, ACP Foundation Research Committee, and 1-3 outside experts in the relevant scientific topic area selected by the Committee chairpersons. Funding decisions will be based upon:

- 1) Scientific Merit, including the soundness of the study hypothesis and methodologic approach
- 2) Relevance to and potential impact upon Phlebology
- 3) Qualifications of the Investigator
- 4) Projected likelihood that the project will enhance the Investigator's ability to independently obtain research funding
- 5) Institutional commitment and projected ability to complete the study in the required time. Funding decisions are subject to approval by the Executive Boards of the ACP and ACP Foundation.

Regulatory Requirements:

If the project involves the use of human subjects, animals, radioisotopes, or biohazards, approval from the relevant institutional review board(s) must be obtained.

Participation in Research Education:

The ACP Junior Faculty Investigator Grant is intended to improve the recipient's clinical research training. Therefore, recipients must fulfill the following requirements:

1. The grant recipient must complete an ACP-approved research education program, which may include a Research Education module at an ACP Annual Congress or Regional Symposium, or other program(s) approved by the Research Programs Committee. At the present time, research education modules at ACP's meetings are under development and therefore not available. Until such time as an ACP module is offered, the recipient is strongly encouraged seek out and propose (in the application) alternative research education programs in which they can participate. The grant may be used to pay for the relevant expenses for research education, and an estimate of these educational expenses should be provided in the enclosed budget.
2. The recipient will be assigned a research liaison by the ACP Research Programs Committee. Recipients are expected to update the ACP liaison on the progress of the research project by e-mail on a monthly basis, and by telephone on a quarterly basis. The ACP liaison will be chosen after consultation with the grant recipient.

Progress Reports:

Grant recipients must submit a written interim report to the ACP Research Programs Advisory Committee 6 months after the project's start. A final report must be submitted within 3 months after the project's completion. Reports are expected to:

- 1) Summarize the project's progress, including all supporting data
- 2) Describe and justify any deviations from the original research plan
- 3) Indicate any problems or delays encountered
- 4) 4) Provide a detailed accounting of expenditures of research grant funds
- 5) For final reports, recipients must summarize plans for presentation/publication of the study results and plans for obtaining research funding for future Phlebology projects.

Presentations and Publications:

The results of funded research projects must be submitted for presentation at the ACP Annual Congress prior to presentation in any other venue. Submission of manuscripts to *Phlebology* (ISSN 0268-3555) is strongly encouraged. Submission of manuscripts to other journals requires written approval from the ACP Research Programs Committee. A copy of all publications must be submitted to the ACP. All posters, presentations, and publications of ACP Foundation-funded projects must contain appropriate acknowledgement of the Foundation's grant support.

Modification or Termination of Support:

The ACP and ACP Foundation reserve the right to modify or terminate the amount of any funds granted under the terms of the ACP Junior Faculty Investigator Grant Program.