LIMITED SUBMISSION FUNDING OPPORTUNITY
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Sponsor: Ray Thomas Edwards Foundation
Program: Career Development Award in the Biomedical Sciences
Internal Review Deadline: March 19, 2015 8:00 AM
Sponsor Deadlines: April 1, 2015 – Nomination Deadline
June 1, 2014 – Application
Nominations allowed: 1 from Health Sciences/School of Medicine
Award Amount: $50,000 per year
Duration: 3 years

This is a limited submission opportunity that requires internal review; please see internal review instructions below:

**Award Description:** The Ray Thomas Edwards Foundation Career Development Award in the Biomedical Sciences is intended to foster the development of biomedical researchers who are early in their careers and to help them make the critical transition to becoming independent investigators. The foundation recognizes that discovery and innovation in the biomedical sciences for the public's good depends on the training and support of the highest quality young scientists in the very best research environments.

The goal of the program is to help bridge the gap between completion of research training and attainment of status as an independent research scientist. To facilitate the career development of promising biomedical research scientists, funding is provided for the purchase of appropriate laboratory equipment and salary support for laboratory personnel, including postdoctoral fellows, graduate students, and technicians.

The expectations of the Ray Thomas Edwards Foundation are somewhat different from those typically ascribed to federal funding agencies, in that we wish to encourage research that might be considered exploratory. For example, we recognize that funding by large government agencies (e.g., NIH and NSF) depends on a hypothesis-driven proposal that includes preliminary data supporting the credibility of the hypothesis. In general, proposals based on a “look and see” approach are penalized and rarely funded. While the foundation believes that the expectations described above are generally reasonable when applied to mid-career researchers, we recognize that researchers early in their careers often have difficulty meeting such objectives when writing proposals. Stringent imposition of such objectives tends to encourage “safe” research with predictable results, and in some cases, dubious significance. In order to encourage research of a more significant and exploratory nature, the foundation will give ample consideration to funding proposals that lack some of the qualities described above. For example, inclusion of preliminary data is generally not expected. Indeed, a goal of the foundation is to provide promising young researchers with precisely the sort of seed money needed to obtain such preliminary data, which then can be used to help the researcher secure future funding from other sources. Similarly, the foundation will give ample consideration to proposals based on a set of feasibility studies that aim to establish, rather than confirm, one or more working hypotheses; in other words, some degree of “look and see” research will be acceptable. On the other hand, a proposal should not simply consist of an amorphous set of ill-defined objectives, though these guidelines are intentionally ambiguous about what is and is not acceptable in this regard.

**Eligibility:**
Fellowships will be awarded graduates holding Ph.D. and/or M.D. degrees. The foundation does not support research that is primarily clinical. Candidates must be within the first 3 years of their first faculty appointment as of the application due date. Awards will be based on the quality of the individual applicant's previous accomplishments, the merit of the proposal for research, and on three letters of reference. All candidates must be citizens of the United States or Canada, or have applied for green card immigration status by the application deadline, and currently be working under the aegis of University of California, San Diego, The Salk Institute, or The Scripps Research Institute. Faculty appointments must be on a tenure track or equivalent. The foundation reserves the right to terminate the award if the conditions of the faculty appointment are not consistent with the goals of the Foundation to further basic research in the biomedical sciences.

Visit the website for more information and specific downloadable guidelines: Ray Thomas Foundation
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Required Documentation for Internal Review – Internal Review Deadline Thursday, March 19, 2015 8:00 AM

• **Cover Page (1 page)**
  o Complete contact information of PI including: full name and current academic title with the university, department, phone number, email address
  o Title of this funding opportunity
  o Descriptive title of proposed research – The ideal title should convey the nature of the proposed research to the non-expert.

• **Proposal (maximum of 2 pages)**
  Tailored to address the sponsor’s goals/focus and including:
  o Objectives and Background
  o Research Plan (expand on objectives)

• **NIH Style Biographical Sketch (maximum of 4 pages)**
  o Including other support

➢ Combine the documents listed above into one (1) PDF and email to Emily Bass at edbass@ucsd.edu. Must be submitted by Internal Review Deadline March 19, 2015 8:00 AM
➢ In the body of your submission email, include your full name and contact information (often accomplished by including an email signature).

UCSD will prescreen and nominate one (1) applicant from Health Sciences, as allowed by the sponsor, to move forward to the application stage.

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**CONTACTS**

Internal Contact for Questions:
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