

## **The Paul C. Gillette Pediatric and Congenital Electrophysiology Society (PACES) Research Grant**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Paul C. Gillette (PCG) Pediatric and Congenital Electrophysiology Society (PACES) Research Grant is sponsored by the family of Paul C. Gillette to develop and sustain clinical and translational research directed at children and adults with congenital and acquired pediatric electrophysiology diseases.

Paul C Gillette (1942 – 2013) was a founding father of pediatric electrophysiology. In 2013, after an exemplary career of innovation and dedication, he passed away, just a few months after being selected for the inaugural PACES Lifetime Achievement award. His family wanted to honor his contribution to the field of pediatric electrophysiology, and, in the spirit of his lifetime of mentorship, established this grant.

### **THE GRANT**

A single applicant may submit one application per grant cycle as the study Principal Investigator (PI). Email the full application package, including appendices, as a single PDF file to VP of Research (currently Shubhayan Sanatani at [ssanatani@cw.bc.ca](mailto:ssanatani@cw.bc.ca) )

#### **Eligibility**

- **Research:** All projects must focus on pediatric or adult congenital electrophysiologic conditions. Research may range from epidemiology, health policy, genetic, translational, clinical to basic science.
- **Applicant:** Early career regular PACES members, trainees (including fellows in training) and associate members are eligible to apply. Early career is defined as the first 5 years (ending June 30<sup>th</sup> of the decision year) of clinical and/or research career, after completion of an electrophysiology fellowship. Membership is defined in the PACES bylaws (<http://www.pediatricpsociety.org/members/documents/>).
- Former PCG award recipients are ineligible
- If in doubt about eligibility, please contact the VP of Research prior to submitting an application.

#### **Award and Timelines**

- Total award is up to \$10,000 US dollars total, to be spent within two years
- **Application deadline is March 1** of the year the grant is awarded. The awardee will be announced at the annual PACES meeting during the Heart Rhythm Society's Annual Scientific Sessions in May of the application year.

#### **Awardee responsibilities include:**

- Conceptualization and implementation of carefully conceived and ethically sound research
- Yearly submission of a Progress Report to the PACES Research Committee
- Presentation of findings at the PACES annual meeting upon completion of the project
- Acknowledgement of the PCG award from the PACES society in all publications, abstracts and presentations

## **Research Mentor**

Investigators are required to identify a primary research Mentor. This Mentor does not need to be a member of PACES but must be a senior investigator with expertise in the proposed field of research and have a track record of investigation, publication and mentoring. The primary mentor is required to provide a letter of support that will carry significant weight in the review process. While not required for the application process, a mentoring plan will be looked upon favorably. Furthermore, a mentor/mentor training plan will be required from grant awardees.

## **Scoring and review criteria**

Scoring is based on NIH Investigator-initiated review criteria. Expanded definitions of each criterion can be found at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/critiques/rpg.htm>.

1. **Significance:** Does the study address an important problem that currently is incompletely understood or has no currently effective therapy?
2. **Approach:** Is the study design well-conceived? is it likely that the proposed experiments can be completed by the applicant? Have statistical considerations been addressed appropriately?
3. **Innovation:** Does the project develop or use novel concepts, approaches, methods, tools or technologies?
4. **Investigators:** Are the investigators appropriately trained and well suited to carry out this work?
5. **Environment:** Does the scientific environment contribute to the probability of success?
6. **Ethical considerations:** Reviewers will assess how well ethical considerations have been addressed with respect to research risks, the scientifically appropriate inclusion of women, minorities, and children, and/or ethical use of animal models.

PACES Research committee members will review applications. Applicants and co-investigators must not discuss their application with reviewers. Any questions or concerns must be directed to the VP of Research. Breach of confidentiality or significant concerns may render an application ineligible.

All applications reviewed by the committee will receive reviewer comments and a priority score regardless of award status.

## **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

### **How to Apply**

The application process for this funding opportunity consists of: (A) Face page; (B) Resubmission summary of changes (if applicable); (C) Research plan; (D) Appendix (E) Budget justification; (F) Supplemental documents. The outlined number of pages must not be exceeded.

Format: Single PDF file of a letter size 8½ x 11” Word document with 2 cm margins, single-spaced text, single column format, consecutively numbered pages, and Arial regular (11 point) or Times New Roman (12 point) font.

### **A. Face page (1 page)**

1. Project Title
2. Principal Investigator – name, degree and affiliation, years since completion of training for physician members and contact information

3. Research Mentor and co-Investigators – name, title, affiliation
4. Date of proposed period of funding support
5. Contact information for the financial administrator: address for correspondence, phone number, fax number and corresponding email address
6. Information on host institution, commonly a health research institution or university, responsible for administering award fund
7. Project funding status and all sources of funding for the project
8. IRB applied for and status
9. Resubmission status

**B. Resubmission summary of changes (1 pages)** (if applicable): See instructions below.

**C. Research plan**

1. Lay summary with title, maximum length of 250 words.  
Specific Aims and background (1 page)
2. Significance and Innovation (1 page)
3. Research Design and Methods (2 pages), including statistical considerations. Published references to methods previously used by mentor should be used to simplify this section.
4. Ethical considerations (1 page)  
Funded projects will require demonstration of institutional review board (IRB) and/ or animal studies approval prior to disbursement of funds. Human and animal welfare considerations should be elaborated briefly, however.

**D. Budget and Budget Justification (1 page)**

A summary budget of how funds will be used should be included. Detailed accounting of awarded funds will be expected as part yearly summary report.

**F. Supporting Documents**

The following documents are optional, but may be viewed favorably by reviewers:

1. **Mentoring Plan** (optional for application, required for awardee) (2 page maximum).
2. **Biographical Sketches.** NIH-style Biographical sketch must be submitted for the applicant, mentor, and collaborators .
3. **Letters of support and/or collaboration**
4. **IRB approval.** While not required at time of application, IRB and/or animal welfare regulatory steps must be completed prior to receiving awardee funds.

**RESUBMISSION:**

PACES will accept a maximum of two resubmissions per project (amendments to the original application). The requirements for a Resubmission application are:

- 1) The PI must make significant changes to the application.
- 2) A Resubmission Summary of Changes must be included that summarizes the substantial additions, deletions and changes to the original application. The Summary must also include a response to the issues and criticism raised in the Reviewer comments. The Resubmission Summary may not exceed 2 pages.
- 3) Substantial scientific changes must be marked in the text.