

# AACP Catalyst

*Accelerating Research Leadership*

**AACP Catalyst** will help mid-career researchers expand their individual and institutional research capacity by building networks, identifying new opportunities and developing key skills in order to reach their full research and leadership potential.

## 2018–2019 Call for Applications

### Program Benefits

#### Participants will:

- Identify opportunities to build and lead collaborative research programs and centers at their institution;
- Identify key organizational structures, policies, practices and resources essential for the growth of successful research programs;
- Acquire approaches for sustaining a high-impact research program throughout changes in social, economic and political climates;
- Build a network of research funders and collaborators to expand their own research and that of their institution;
- Develop and refine skills to manage team research dynamics and position a research team for success; and
- Develop skills to balance individual research productivity and leadership responsibilities.

#### Institutions will:

- Cultivate a leader to enhance the development of early-career researchers and trainees;
- Develop a role-model and advocate for the institution's research program;
- Gain an increased capacity to seek and obtain large collaborative research grants;
- Build a network of researchers from across disciplines and institutions;
- Expand their capacity to engage in and/or lead national high-priority research initiatives; and
- Grow their national reputation for research.

### Program Structure and Timeline

Selected individuals will begin the year-long program in September and attend three in-person sessions designed to provide discussions and activities to acquire and sharpen skills for research leadership success. Between sessions, participants engage with representatives from research organizations and funding agencies through a series of webinars designed to address the research interests of the Catalyst cohort. These webinars are an opportunity for participants to build their research network while discussing resources and strategies to increase the impact of their research.

While attending in-person sessions, participants receive group and individual coaching from speakers and AACP staff. Participants are further supported at their home institution by Research Mentors, senior research administrators who help participants reflect on what they've learned at in-person sessions, how it relates to the current research landscape at home, and how participants can apply their newly acquired skills to shape the future of research at the institution.

#### Questions?

Contact **Dr. Kirsten F. Block**, Associate Director of Research and Graduate Programs, at [kblock@aacp.org](mailto:kblock@aacp.org) or **Dr. Dorothy F. Farrell**, Senior Director of Science Policy/Chief Science Officer, at [dfarrell@aacp.org](mailto:dfarrell@aacp.org).

## Session Descriptions

### Session I:

September 24–26, 2018

Arlington, VA (Washington, D.C. area)

This session will provide an orientation to the program and utilize self-reflections on individual research leadership and career development as a framework for goal-setting within the program. Participants develop skills to manage their own research productivity, enact a research leadership development plan, and navigate research team dynamics. Program content also builds a foundation to identify individual, team and institutional factors and challenges that impact the collaborative research environment.

### Session II:

February 22–23, 2019

In conjunction with the 2019 AACP Interim Meeting

Tampa, FL

This session will focus on the application of leadership to the research team. Participants will learn from current research leaders how research agendas are developed and sustained at an institutional level. In joint programming with senior researchers, strategies to leverage institutional and individual strengths to engage in federal research initiatives and expand training of the next generation of researchers will be explored. Participants are encouraged to stay for further leadership development at the AACP Interim meeting.

### Session III:

April 23–25, 2019

Rockville, MD (Washington, D.C. area)

In this final session, participants will engage with representatives from federal and private agencies involving focused research areas including regulatory science, translational and patient-centered outcomes research. Participants will also reflect on their research leadership development and will work collaboratively to translate the knowledge gained throughout the program into future actions at their home institutions.

## Eligibility and Institutional Commitment for Participation

A preferred candidate is an established investigator with 5–10 years of academic or professional research experience with a track record of publications and obtaining research funding. Applicants must have an intent to transition into research leadership roles or be nascent members of the research leadership team. Exceptional junior investigators who already have sustained research funding success and who show promise in leadership development may also be considered.

Applicants must be nominated by the CEO dean of an academic institution or a senior research administrator at a non-academic institution. The nominator must submit a letter of recommendation on behalf of the nominee describing the institution's vision for the nominee's research leadership development. The nominator must agree to be the nominee's Research Mentor throughout the program year or identify a suitable research leader at the institution to act as the Research Mentor. The nominator is responsible for providing financial support for the nominee, including the \$7,500 tuition fee (\$7,695 for applicants who are not members of AACP, AAPS, HOPA and CPNP) and the related travel expenses covering transportation, lodging and meals associated with participation in the program.

The selection of candidates is based on the strength of the nomination letter, the proposed mentoring plan for the candidate's involvement in research leadership experiences at their home institution, and the nominee's letter of intent and curriculum vitae. To meet program goals and maximize each researcher's leadership development opportunities, particular attention is given to the diversity in research backgrounds, expertise, and how participants may be complementary to each other within a cohort based on addressing the challenging research questions currently facing the nation.

**Submissions must be received by  
11:59 p.m. EDT on April 17, 2018.**

*Submit an application:*

<https://fs16.formsite.com/AACP/form116/index.html>

*Application instructions:*

<https://www.aacp.org/resource/aacp-catalyst>

*Refer a candidate for AACP Catalyst:*

<https://fs16.formsite.com/AACP/form117/index.html>

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