



## **SRI Grant Program - 2018-2019**

*For Grant Period: July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019*

*To be considered for either of the grants, you must be a current member of SRI, as well as maintain your membership throughout the grant period. Priority will be given to hypothesis-driven submissions, and applications with multiple investigators will not be accepted. Applicants with more than \$50,000 in discretionary funding available to them, whether in the form of start-up funds, small grants from private funding sources, endowments, etc. are not eligible to apply.*

The Society for Reproductive Investigation (SRI) is pleased to announce the continuation of the SRI Grants Program. In Training and Regular SRI Members who wish to apply must first submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) and a letter from their Department Chair **addressing specific issues related to eligibility and support.** Requirements for the LOI and Chair's letter are below, and must be submitted to [info@sri-online.org](mailto:info@sri-online.org) **no later than September 8, 2017**. Additional deadlines are listed below. If your LOI is accepted and you are asked to submit a full proposal, you will receive a link to the online grant application early October 2017.

- I. **SRI Research Award for Early Career Investigators** (1 Award per year). EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS WHO HAVE HELD **INDEPENDENT** PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (PI) FUNDING ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR EARLY CAREER INVESTIGATOR AWARDS. This includes, but is not limited to any NIH "R" type Award, and CIHR awards held in one's own name (not as a trainee). Any private Fellowship held in the Candidate's own name that does NOT require a mentor as a sponsor, PI or Co-Investigator will be considered "independent" funding. Exceptions in North America would be the SSR and ACRM awards.

SRI grants are open to our international members, but we are not able to track the funding mechanisms of all other countries. Therefore if you are an international applicant, you may be asked to provide contact information for the sponsor of any grant you may have received that appears to be independent funding as opposed to a training/mentored grant award.

**PhD applicants or equivalent:** The convention for PhDs in North America is generally 1-2 post-doctoral Fellowships (3-4 years, maximum 6 for SRI grants) before moving into a junior faculty or research scientist (academic) or scientist (if in an Institute or private industry) position. We are aware that many PhDs do not find long-term posts and continue working in shorter term, perhaps even year-to-year contracts at post-doctoral Fellowship equivalents. While this does not disqualify an applicant, it is likely to disadvantage your application, as candidates with faculty posts and/or guaranteed salary support for more than the one-year grant period will be viewed more favorably by reviewers. If you wish to apply and are in this type of situation, your Chair/Institute Director/Supervisor's letter must be clear on what your North American (USA) academic job equivalent is. The key distinction is between persons who are still considered to be in training (a Post-doctoral Fellow equivalent) versus an independent scientist (Assistant Professor, Assistant Research Scientist etc.). You and your Chair/mentor must justify the level of award for which you are applying, clarify your degree of scientific independence, and what level of support you can expect both during and after the grant period.

For early career applicants still on year to year or other short-term contracts, your Chair/Mentor's letter should explain how you will transition into a stable independent scientist

position that permits application for higher level grant awards. If this information is not provided, the grant will either be triaged, or scored accordingly.

MD applicants or equivalent should not be more than 5 years from their last year of clinical training at the time of grant application. Training includes sub-specialty Fellowship(s) and post-Fellowship training mechanisms (e.g. RSDP, BIRCWH or WRHR, if applicable). Clinical Fellows in sub-specialty training may apply only in the final year of their training and only if they have a guaranteed faculty position after completion of Fellowship/post-Fellowship training program(s).

The primary Research Mentor, if applicable, should be identified in the LOI, but a letter from the mentor does not need to be included in the LOI. The LOI still needs to include the letter from the Chair however.

**SRI Bridge Grant for Junior Faculty** (1 Award per year): APPLICANTS MUST ALREADY BE INDEPENDENT CLINICIAN-SCIENTISTS or SCIENTISTS AND HAVE A SUCCESSFUL TRACK RECORD OF HOLDING INDEPENDENT PI FUNDING. Priority will be given to Assistant or very early Associate Professor equivalents whose independent funding has lapsed and whose most recent funding application(s) were scored well but were unsuccessful. The purpose of a “bridge” grant” is to provide funds to bridge the gap between the old grant and an anticipated newer round of funding. Ideally applicants in this category will be within 15 years of their final post-doc or last year of clinical training.

- II. **Applicants with ≥\$50,000 in discretionary funding available to them, whether in the form of start-up funds, small grants from private funding sources, endowments etc. are not eligible to apply.**

Letter of Intent: *Items 2-7 below may not exceed two (2) pages. The LOI should be single-spaced and use Arial 11- or 12-point font with ½ inch borders on a standard USA 8 x 11 inch page size.*

1. Cover Page, [available for download here](#), which includes your department Chair’s signature
2. Hypotheses and Specific Aim(s)
3. Scientific Rationale and Innovation
4. Preliminary Data (optional)
5. Synopsis of Experimental Design and Methods, and of Data and Statistical Analyses
6. Expected Results/Alternative interpretations or approaches
7. A timeline for application(s) for extramural funding request(s) subsequent to receipt of a SRI Research/Bridge Award.
8. For the SRI Grant application, the letters from your Department Chair must include the following details:

Early Career Investigator Research Award:

- 1) *The Candidate’s job title and its North American academic equivalent if applicable*
- 2) *Tenure/non-tenure track*
- 3) *The year they were hired*
- 4) *The duration of his/her appointment*
- 5) *Intramural funding support (duration and amount, mechanism, e.g. start-up package, departmental support of shared technician, shared equipment support etc.)*
- 6) *Space/other resources allocated to applicant*
- 7) *Is salary support to candidate during grant period guaranteed*
- 8) *Statement of candidates scientific independence*

Bridge grants:

- 1) *The Candidate's job title*
- 2) *Tenure/non-tenure track*
- 3) *The year they were hired*
- 4) *The duration of his/her appointment*
- 5) *History of success in extramural funding*
- 6) *Potential for success in obtaining extramural funding given SRI Award*
- 7) *Explain need for bridge award*
- 8) *Intramural funding support (duration and amount, mechanism, e.g. departmental support of shared technician, shared equipment support etc.)*
- 9) *Space/other resources allocated to applicant*
- 10) *Is salary support to candidate during grant period guaranteed*

**IMPORTANT DATES**

December 1, 2017: Applications due to SRI office

December 5, 2017 – January, 2018: Review Process

February, 2018: Recipients will be notified; those not chosen will be notified