

Guidelines for Letter of Intent (LOI): 2024 LMS SPORE Career Enhancement Award

LOI deadline: midnight (ET) December 15, 2023

Please submit to: alberamb@med.umich.edu, elizabeth.demicco@sinaihealth.ca and jfletcher@bwh.harvard.edu

Background: the LMS SPORE is a multi-institutional NCI SPORE program grant (PI: Scott Schuetze, University of Michigan). The SPORE main projects address: 1) LMS predisposition; 2) biology and targeted therapies; and 3) molecular diagnostics.

LOI Overview: The SPORE seeks LOIs for Career awards. Total award will be \$75,000 per year for a 12-month period. A second year of funding is potentially available based on progress report demonstrating substantial progress and high likelihood of long-term success. Note: there are multiple sources of funding contributing to the support of the award and indirect costs will align with the maximal amount allowed by the funding source.

Applications do not need to be limited to LMS. We also encourage LOIs for other subtypes of genomically-complex sarcoma or on biologic themes relevant to LMS. Examples include:

- translational research in LMS or other sarcomas with complex genomic and biologic features, such as undifferentiated pleomorphic sarcoma, myxofibrosarcoma, dedifferentiated liposarcoma, and osteosarcoma
- targeting cell cycle checkpoint and/or DNA damage repair deficiencies in sarcoma
- translational research on RB1 and TP53 in sarcoma
- molecular diagnostics or machine learning strategies in LMS or other complex sarcomas

Applicant eligibility:

- MD / DO, PhD, or equivalent
- Final-year clinical or postdoctoral fellow* or junior faculty (Instructor or Assistant Professor)
- Research should be undertaken at an institution within the United States, at the University of Toronto, or at the University of New South Wales
- Demonstrated interest and productivity in translational sarcoma research
- Institutional commitment to at least 50% protected research time
- Has not secured substantial NIH support in the form of a mentored career award (e.g. K08), R21, or R01

*Applicants in final year of fellowship must have an institutional commitment for transition to a faculty position at or shortly after the time of the award.

Underrepresented minority candidates are encouraged to apply.

Questions about topic suitability or candidate eligibility can be directed to Liz Demicco and Jonathan Fletcher: elizabeth.demicco@sinaihealth.ca and jfletcher@bwh.harvard.edu

The LOI should consist of:

- Proposed research (2 page maximum)
- Applicant NIH Biosketch
- Mentor NIH Biosketch

Key Dates:

Dec 15, 2023: LOI due

Feb 1, 2024: Finalists notified

April 22, 2024: Finalist applications due

July 15, 2024: Awardee notified

Sept 1, 2024: Funding start date