

Child Health Research Awards Program

\$200,000 over Two Years (\$100,000 per year, inclusive of 10% indirect costs)

Application Guidelines

Award Period: July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027

Online Application Deadline: Tuesday, April 1, 2025 at 12:00 Noon, Eastern Time

NOTE: Significant recent changes for applications:

1. **Award amount has increased** to \$200,000 over two years, inclusive of 10% indirect costs.
2. **Eligibility for physician-scientists** has been increased to up to *seven* years since completion of clinical training.
3. Eligibility windows may be extended to include their family during the applicable time frame.

(see details on page 3)

The Hood Foundation allows one resubmission. See pages 4 and 6 for related requirements.

PLEASE NOTE: There are no limitations on the number of departmental or institutional submissions per grant cycle.

Overview

The Charles H. Hood Foundation was established in 1942 to improve the health and quality of life for children through grant support of New England-based child health researchers. The Foundation is proud to have launched the careers of over 600 promising junior faculty whose research findings have contributed to significant improvements in child health.

Research Focus

Clinical, basic science, public health, health services research, and epidemiology projects must be hypothesis-driven with **direct relevance to child health**.

Applicants must complete an **impact statement** describing the implications of their work. Basic science projects will describe project relevance to child health or disease. For translational research, applicants will be asked to describe the next steps in moving the research along the translational research spectrum towards clinical application. For T4 or public health research, they will be asked to describe the implications for healthcare or public policy.

In addition, applicants must clearly convey their **commitment to advancing child health research**. This should be addressed in the

*animal studies of pregnancy or prenatal development. Please inquire **before** submitting any application that involves prenatal development, or animal studies that correspond to prenatal human development.*

Eligibility Requirements

United States citizenship or residency is not required. All applicants must have completed their training at the time of application and be within five years (for PhD scientists) and seven years (for physician-scientists) of employment following conclusion of training. Applications from physician-scientists are encouraged.

All applicants must have a doctoral degree, lead independent research programs, hold a faculty appointment at a nonprofit academic, medical or research institution in the six New England states (Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut) and be working in that institution by the application deadline.

The Applicant must have demonstrated **research independence** confirmed by the Department or Division Chair. **Please note, Chair Letters not *directly* addressing the research independence of the Applicant will be considered non-responsive to this requirement.**

Applicants may contact Charlene Mancusi at Charlene.Mancusi@CharlesHoodFoundation.org with questions regarding investigator-stage appropriateness.

The Department or Division Chair's letter of recommendation must include an assessment of the Applicant's potential to succeed in a clinical, health services or basic science research career. In addition, the Chair must complete a form that confirms the Applicant's independence as well as the **Institution's level of commitment to the Applicant.**

A publication record substantiating the Applicant's abilities should accompany the grant submission. Although this may not be available for new areas of inquiry, a demonstrated ability to plan, execute and report research data is an important consideration in evaluating potential for future success.

By the application deadline of 4.1.2025, applicants must be employed at least four days each week (0.8 full-time equivalent) at a nonprofit academic, medical or research institution in New England.

Applicants Holding a PhD or Equivalent

The five-year window begins on the first day of employment following completion of fellowship training, regardless of job title or place of employment. All previous faculty positions as well as any independent research position in a for-profit company, non-profit research institution or similar professional setting are included within the five-year window of eligibility.

The first paragraph of the Department or Division Chair's letter must document the dates of the final post-doc appointment.

Preference will be given to applicants who have established independent research environments.

Applicants Holding an MD or Equivalent

The seven-year window begins at the completion of an ACGME–certified subspecialty training program, or the equivalent for generalist fellowships. For physician-scientists who have not had fellowship training, the seven-year window begins at the completion of residency.

The difference in the eligibility window for MDs and MD/PhDs recognizes the need for mentored research training following the completion of clinical training.

Notification of funding **after April 1, 2025** will not impact eligibility for a Hood Award. **It is the responsibility of applicants to contact Charlene.Mancusi@CharlesHoodFoundation.org as soon as they are notified of any new funding.**

Resubmission Policy

Every effort will be made to provide written feedback from the Committee to applicants, who will have the opportunity to reapply

- iii.* **Research Project Summary and Performance Sites:** Complete this form according to the instructions at the top of that page. This summary will be posted on our website if the project is funded (*maximum of 300 words*).

- iv.* **Non-Technical Project Summary:** Prepare a lay-language

