**Limited Submissions**

**Sponsor:** National Institutes of Health (NIH)  
**Program:** NIH Director’s Early Independence Awards (DP5 Clinical Trial Optional)

**Deadlines:**  
Internal Application: July 9, 2020  
Full Application: September 4, 2020

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**Estimated Award Amount:** $1,250,000 (direct costs)  
**JHU Nomination Limit:** 2  
For More Detailed Information Click [Here](#)

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**Opportunity Summary:**

The NIH Director’s Early Independence Award provides an opportunity for exceptional junior scientists to accelerate their entry into an independent research career by forgoing the traditional post-doctoral training period. Though most newly graduated doctoral-level researchers would benefit from post-doctoral training, a small number of outstanding junior investigators are capable of launching directly into an independent research career. For those select junior investigators who have already established a record of scientific innovation and research productivity and have demonstrated unusual scientific vision and maturity, typical post-doctoral training would unnecessarily delay their entry into independent research. The NIH Director’s Early Independence Award also provides an opportunity for institutions to invigorate their research programs by bringing in fresh scientific perspectives of the awardees they host. Those wishing to apply for the NIH Director's Emergency Early Independence Award for SARS-CoV-2-related research must apply in response to **RFA-RM-20-021**.

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**Eligibility & Requirements:**

- The degree receipt date on the official transcript of the terminal doctoral degree or end of post-graduate clinical training of the PD/PI must be between June 1, 2019 and September 30, 2021.
- At the time of application, the PD/PI must not have served as a post-doctoral fellow following a previous (not the most recent) doctoral degree for more than twelve months.
- Applications with multiple PDs/PIs will not be accepted.
- There is no U.S. citizenship requirement.
- Individuals must commit at least 9.6 person-months each year (i.e., 80% effort of a 12-month appointment) to the Early Independence Award project in years 1-2 of the project period. In years 3-5, awardees may reduce effort towards the Early Independence Award project but must commit at least 9.6 person-months each year (i.e., 80% effort of a 12-month appointment) to independent research in general.
- Though PDs/PIs must not be functionally independent at the time of application submission, they may become functionally independent prior to time of award and still retain eligibility for the award.

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**Internal Nomination Process:**

Interested applicants should submit the following documents:

1. JHU Limited Submission Cover Sheet  
2. Proposal (maximum of two pages of text only, single spaced: 12-pt font and one-inch margins)  
   (Note: figures, tables, and other reference material may be included in addition to the 2 pg. text limit)
3. Curriculum Vitae of investigator, including current external research support and publications  
4. Budget (two pages maximum)

[Click Here to Apply](#)

Questions? Comments? Email the Research Development Team at resapp@jhu.edu.