

Paul Calabresi Clinical Oncology K12 Career Development Award Call for Applications

Deadline to submit — Monday, February 13, 2023, by 10 a.m.

All applications and supporting documents must be **submitted electronically in a single PDF file** to Donna Van Dolah at dlvandolah@ucdavis.edu.

OVERVIEW

The UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center is pleased to announce a call for applications for the NCI-funded Paul Calabresi K12 Clinical Oncology Career Development Award.

The goal of the PC K12 program is to train junior faculty (basic/translational scientists and clinician scientists) as investigators in team-based, patient-oriented cancer research. Upon successful completion of a three-year, salary-supported core curriculum, scholars will receive a UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center Certificate in Clinical Cancer Research.

Selected scholars will receive 75% protected time for research, formal mentored training in clinical cancer research, up to \$100,000/year (for up to 3 years) to support salary and benefits, and \$16,500/year (for up to 3 years) for research, and travel expenses up to \$2,000. Appointments are contingent upon scholar departmental approval of 75% effort and cost sharing on the project.

The program will combine key didactic, research, and career development components to train independent and productive clinical oncology researchers. The curriculum will be guided by two research tracks in basic/translational and clinical science. Scholars will participate in four training components: (1) core competencies, (2) advanced coursework, (3) career development, and (4) mentored research.

The mentored research training plan will be supervised by two senior, independently funded faculty members (one basic/translational mentor and one clinical mentor) who will guide the scholar in the development and conduct of their research project. (Mentors must appear on the [list of NCI-approved mentors](#) for the Paul Calabresi program.) The NCI approved mentor list is available at <https://health.ucdavis.edu/ctsc/area/education/index.html>, or you may contact Donna Van Dolah at dlvandolah@ucdavis.edu for confirmation prior to submission of an application.

Scholars are also expected to write, develop, and submit a K08 as part of year three of the program. Scholars will develop their own **investigator-initiated clinical trial** during the training period and have plans to secure suitable funding to support it.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must be a United States citizen or non-citizen national or have legal admission into the United States as a permanent citizen **at the time of application**.
- **Clinical Track Scholars** will be physicians holding an M.D. or D.O. degree, pharmacists with a Pharm.D. degree, or nurses with a Ph.D. degree, and must have completed the necessary clinical training to engage in oncology research (e.g., completed residency training and are board-eligible).
- **Basic/Translational Track Scholars** will be individuals with doctoral-level degrees (e.g., Ph.D., D.V.M.) or the equivalent, with a minimum of two years of postdoctoral research training.
- Applicants must demonstrate a high level of interest and have a long-term plan to pursue a **clinical cancer research career**.
- K12 scholars may not be a Principal Investigator on an R01, R29, or subproject of a Program Project (P01), Center (P50, P60, U54) grant, mentored career development (K-series) grants, or other equivalent

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS
PAUL CALABRESI CLINICAL ONCOLOGY K12 CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD

research grant awards. Also, K12 scholars may not receive concomitant salary support from any other federal grant during the first year of K12 funding.

- Applicants must be faculty or have a commitment for a faculty position by the award start date.

APPLICATION

Candidates must submit a written application electronically in a single PDF file to

Donna Van Dolah, Program Manager, at dlvandolah@ucdavis.edu. Unless otherwise specified, the application should conform to the standard NIH organizational structure and NIH guidelines with respect to the details of formatting (e.g., font size, margins) and include the following components:

1. **Application Cover Sheet** (see attached)

2. **Research Proposal** (5 pages)

- **Statement of Problem and Specific Aims** (1 page)
- **Research Strategy**
 - Background and Significance (1 page)
 - Innovation and Approach (2 pages)
 - Contributions to diversity (briefly describe your diversity efforts, even if unrelated to research endeavors.) (0.5 pages)
 - References

3. **Human Subjects Consideration**

(Expand on approach and include a targeted/planned enrollment table,

Human subject: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/enrollment.pdf>.)

IACUC subject: UC Davis Office of Research IACUC Policies and Guidelines:

<https://research.ucdavis.edu/policiescompliance/animal-care-use/iacuc/iacuc-policies-and-guidelines/>

- Risk to Human Subjects and or Animals
- Adequacy of Protection Against Risks
- Potential Benefits of the Proposed Research to Human Subjects and Others
- Importance of Knowledge to Be Gained
- Data and Safety Monitoring Plan
- ClinicalTrials.gov Requirements
- Inclusion of Women and Minorities
- Targeted/Planned Enrollment Table

4. **Career Plans** (3 pages)

Write a brief paragraph that addresses each of the following prompts.

Please ensure that this statement has a clear **cancer focus**.

- What are your long- and short-term career goals and aspirations?
- What do you envision yourself doing in 5-10 years?
- What resources will you require to achieve this vision?
 - Education/training resources
 - Funding resources or other
- Is there a role model (past or current) that you aspire to emulate?
- What are the characteristics of an ideal mentor? Of an ideal mentor-mentee relationship?

5. Cancer Center Shared Resource Utilization

Indicate plans (if any) to use one or more of the following Shared Resources of the Cancer Center:

In Vivo Translational Imaging	Immune Modeling, Analysis and Diagnostics	Biorepository
Flow Cytometry	Genomics	Biostatistics
Mouse Biology	Combinational Chemistry & Chemical Biology	Molecular Pharmacology
https://health.ucdavis.edu/cancer/research/sharedresources/index.html		

6. NIH biosketches (NEW format) for both the applicant and mentors and any other co-investigator (follow NIH guidelines for instructions including page limits and formatting based on [NOT-OD-21-073](#), new requirements starting May 2021, <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm> from the applicant, both mentors, and appropriate collaborators.

The applicant’s Biosketch should include all sources of current extramural funding and describe the applicant’s role, % effort, and % salary support.

7. Evidence of Certification in Human Subject’s Protection

<https://research.ucdavis.edu/policiescompliance/irb-admin/outreach/citi/>

8. Letters of Support (see specific requirements below)

9. Mentor Review Applicants should give potential mentors enough time to review and develop the K12 proposal. It is strongly recommended that applicants provide mentors minimum of (3) three weeks for review and input process.

10. Biostatistical input Applicants should seek input from a biostatistician on the proposal, allow a minimum of (3) three weeks for review and input process.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

1. Mentors: a letter of support from the candidate's proposed mentors will be of great importance to the reviewers. Considerable attention should be paid to the requirements for the mentors' letter:

- The candidate will need to identify and propose two mentors: a basic/translational scientist and a clinical scientist, each of whom will contribute to the applicant's program of research and training. Each proposed mentor will submit a letter of support either individually or jointly. A jointly signed letter is preferred.
- The mentors' letter must provide evidence of familiarity with the candidate's research. Ideally, the mentors will guide the candidate in the development of the research proposal to be submitted as part of this application.
- The mentors' letter should also describe specific plans for the frequency of contact between the mentors and the applicant and identify expectations for candidate productivity (i.e., expectations regarding manuscripts, submission of applications for extramural funding, etc.). They should indicate a willingness to complete the required semi-annual documentation of scholar progress and participate in seminars with the other scholars and their mentors.
- Finally, each mentor should describe their experience with mentoring and provide a table identifying prior mentees, their current positions, and any evidence of their mentees' research productivity.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS
PAUL CALABRESI CLINICAL ONCOLOGY K12 CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD

2. **Department Chair:** The letter should address the chair's opinion regarding the applicant's qualifications for a career as an independent clinical research scientist and discuss how the applicant's work will contribute to and is consistent with the goals of the department. The chair is also expected to commit to providing the scholar at least 75% protected time for research.

CALENDAR AND DEADLINES

The calendar for the application and review process is as follows:

Paul Calabresi K12 Program Q & A Virtual Presentation To reserve a space in the PC K12 Q & A session, RSVP to Donna Van Dolah at dlvandolah@ucdavis.edu no later than November 1, 2022.	November 7, 2022 10 – 10:55 a.m., virtual
Deadline for electronic submission of all application materials, including letters. Submit an electronic application to Donna Van Dolah at dlvandolah@ucdavis.edu .	February 13, 2023 10 a.m.
Oversight committee/selection committee meets	Week of March 9, 2023
Notification of results	Week of May 8, 2023
Appointment start date (Start date will be established in discussion with scholar and their department chair.)	August 1, 2023 (or as negotiated)

EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Preparation of the applicant for success as a clinical/translational researcher
- Quality of the research plan, including importance, innovation, methodological rigor, and feasibility
- Career and mentoring plan
- Integration with the Cancer Center

Reviewers evaluate each of the above categories for each application, and an overall impact score (following the NIH scale) is determined. Reviewers also provide a supplemental written evaluation identifying major overall strengths and limitations of each application. A summary of review comments and scoring will be provided to candidates after final selections are made.

PROGRESS OF SCHOLARS AND ANNUAL RENEWAL PROCESS

- Scholars must complete Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) during the K12 award, if selected. RCR training dates are posted here: <https://research.ucdavis.edu/policiescompliance/research-ethics-rcr-program/>
- Scholars and their mentors will meet regularly, agree on productivity goals, and discuss the scholar's progress. This will be a proactive process designed to identify and overcome any barriers to success, facilitate access to resources, and promote accelerated career development through networking.
- Scholars will present their work in progress at the CTSC Annual Scholar Symposium and the Annual Cancer Center Research Symposium.
- Scholars will be asked to provide advice and feedback regarding the success of this program and methods for improving it via focus groups.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

PAUL CALABRESI CLINICAL ONCOLOGY K12 CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD

- Documentation from both scholars and their mentors will be submitted (twice per year) for Semi-Annual Scholar meetings, Annual RPPR, and/or other items as needed by the K12 and the Comprehensive Cancer Center.
- All K12 Scholars and mentors will participate in the University of Pittsburgh – UPITT online IDP Study. Donna Van Dolah, Program Manager, will provide a link to UPITT and instructions to set up an online profile and IDP for both scholar and mentors.
- Scholars are required to complete the UC Davis Health SEED training in compliance with the UC DEI requirements, and/or other training as identified in curriculum requirements.
- Scholars are required to attend the Paul Calabresi K12 training modules, present and attend the Works In Progress (WIP) monthly meetings, and participate in journal club meetings as identified or as related to project focus.

For more information, please visit our website at <https://health.ucdavis.edu/ctsc/area/education/k12/k12-paul-calabresi-career-development.html>.

If you have any questions regarding the application process, please contact Donna Van Dolah, Academic Program Management Officer, at dlvandolah@ucdavis.edu.