Limited Submission – Request for Applications

Funder: V Foundation

Funding opportunity: Women Scientists Innovation Award for Cancer Research

Website: [https://www.v.org/research-overview/applicants/](https://www.v.org/research-overview/applicants/)

Mission: The V Foundation is a charitable organization dedicated to saving lives by helping to find a cure for cancer. The V Foundation seeks to make a difference by generating broad-based support for cancer research and by creating an urgent awareness among all Americans of the importance of the war against cancer. The V Foundation performs these dual roles through advocacy, education, fundraising and philanthropy.

Grant description:

The pandemic has been a setback for the careers of researchers, particularly women. To help level the playing field for women in cancer research, this opportunity is specifically to fund women cancer researchers conducting adult cancer research. There is a special interest this year in colorectal cancer. Applicants may apply through two different grant mechanisms depending on the nature of their proposed project:

**V Scholar** applicants can propose cancer research that is focused on laboratory research that increases understanding of cancer biology or translational research that improves cancer detection, prevention, treatment and survivorship. The emphasis for this mechanism is on supporting exceptional early-career investigators to be better positioned to leverage R01 or similar sustaining grants. V Scholar Awards provide $600,000 over three years (no indirect costs allowed).

Clinical scientists are eligible for the V Scholar Award if they are fully supported with dedicated lab space, committed research time and start-up funds.

**Translational** grant applicants can propose cancer research that moves a novel strategy from the laboratory into a human clinical trial or uses specimens from a clinical trial to develop biomarkers. The research should apply in some direct way to human beings within three years from the end of the grant. If biomarker research is proposed, a validation set or independent clinical trial is essential. A plan for biomarker validation, if applicable, must be included in your proposal. The endpoint of the project should be the planning or initiation of a new clinical trial. Translational Awards provide $800,000 over four years (indirect costs up to 10% allowed, not to exceed $80,000 within the award).

*Please note: Research areas not included in this scope for either mechanism include epidemiology, behavioral science and health services research.*

Eligibility:

All applicants must self-identify as a woman and must be appointed full-time. Researchers with adjunct, affiliated, temporary, part-time, etc. appointments are not eligible to apply.

**V Scholar** applicants must meet the “all applicants” criteria, in addition to all of the following:

- Must possess at least two years of postdoctoral (MD or PhD) fellowship training. For MDs, a minimum of one year is acceptable if only one year is required for their subspecialty.
- Must be appointed at the Assistant Staff-level and have been appointed to this role no earlier than February 15, 2019
- Must be a US citizen or have permanent legal residency in the US.

V Scholar applicants may **not** have:
• Been a previous or current V Scholar awardee
• Accepted or received notification they will be awarded an R01 or other large grant exceeding $250K per year in funding from public or private sources by February 15, 2024.
• Accepted or received notification of aggregated funding exceeding $300K per year for more than three consecutive years by February 15, 2024 (internal/start-up institutional funds should not be included in this aggregate calculation).

Translational applicants must be meet the “all applicants” criteria, in addition to all of the following:

• Must be Assistant, Associate or Full Staff
• Must be either a US citizen or have a legal permit to work in the US (temporary or permanent acceptable).

Internal application instructions: This is a limited submission opportunity. The Cancer Center may nominate one applicant to submit to either the V Scholar or Translational mechanisms. To apply for the nomination, please submit the following no later than Monday, January 15, 2024 by 5:00pm:

1. Title Page – include the proposed title for your project, your name and contact information, and the names of any other key personnel you would include on your project
2. Two-page project summary that includes:
   • Background and Hypothesis
   • Specific Aims and Methods, including a brief plan for statistical analysis for each aim
   • Timeline and Expected Milestones
   • If applicable, a description of the plan for biomarker validation
3. NIH-formatted biosketch (five-page limit)
4. If applying for the V Scholar mechanism, current and pending support information

Smartsheet link: V Foundation Women in Science

Important dates:

| Internal application deadline | January 15, 2024 |
| Anticipated V Foundation application deadline | Mid-March, 2024 |

For questions about this limited submission opportunity, please contact Nikki Chandler at cc_fundingops@cuanschutz.edu.