



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE LORNA GRINDLAY MOORE FACULTY LAUNCH AWARD

Nanette Santoro, MD, Director

Letter of Intent due date: *January 17, 2025*

Application due date: *March 21, 2025*

The University of Colorado Denver (CU Denver) and University of Colorado | Anschutz Medical Campus (CU | AMC) proudly announce the next call for applications from faculty at any of the schools or colleges of the University of Colorado Denver's Campus or Anschutz Medical Campus for the Lorna Grindlay Moore Faculty Launch Award. Preference will be given to junior faculty (Instructors or Assistant Professors) seeking to launch their independent research programs in women's health in Low- to Middle-Income Country (LMIC), but established faculty at the Associate or Professor rank who seek to extend their women's health-related research to LMICs are also invited to apply. The award total is \$40,000 and can be expended over an up to two-year period. [Please visit this link for the definition of LMIC.](#)

Research Focus: Women's health in a LMIC, as defined by the World Health Organization.

Examples of topics of interest for research in LMIC:

Overcoming critical barriers for preeclampsia diagnosis and treatment.

Mechanisms linking pregnancy complications to later-in-life adult diseases in the mother or child.

Causes of and factors associated with stillbirth.

Determinants of partner violence.

Improving the collection and use of women's health data.

Unique challenges for the diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular disease in women.

Understanding the contribution of pregnancy on subsequent cancer outcomes.

Role of maternal nutrition and/or environmental exposures in spontaneous preterm birth.

Overcoming barriers for access to contraception.

Implementation of HPV vaccination for lessening cervical cancer.

Description: The total amount of the award is \$40,000 which can be expended over an up to two-year period. The funds are intended to help junior faculty at either the CU Denver or CU Anschutz campuses who are launching their independent research careers or established faculty with demonstrated records of achievement in women's health research seeking to extend their investigations to a LMIC setting.

Eligibility: Women's health during or after the reproductive period in a LMIC must be the central focus of the proposed research, but may be basic, clinical, behavioral, or translational in nature and based on the applied, life, or social sciences.

Junior faculty are considered to be faculty with an appointment at the instructor or assistant professor rank for less than five years; if more time has elapsed, a justification for why the faculty member is eligible and would benefit from the award must be provided. Applicants may have previously received a fellowship, postdoctoral or institutionally funded seed grant but are not eligible if they have received a major, independent, externally funded research grant. A major research grant is defined here as one from a national or internationally funded agency of more than two years duration and funded as a result of a competitive peer-reviewed process.

Established faculty at the rank of associate professor or higher with demonstrated records of achievement in women's health research are eligible to apply if their area of research is relevant

to LMICs but they have not yet received a major, independent, externally funded research grant to conduct research in the proposed LMIC setting. A justification for why the faculty member's research would benefit from extension to a LMIC setting must be provided.

Additional requirements are:

- Likelihood that the proposed research will improve the faculty member's ability to obtain further, extramural funding.
- Evidence that the applicant has established a partnership with a LMIC institution or investigator and already identified the local IRB.
- Applicants may have other funding, but it must **not** duplicate the work being proposed, and a clear justification must be provided as to why additional funding is needed.
- The extent to which the applicant's research career will benefit from receipt of this award.
- Applicant's experience to date in the area or the proposed research and evidence that the proposed work can be completed, and publishable results obtained within the time period for which support is being requested.
- Grants will be reviewed by a special review panel convened by Dr. Thomas Jansson that will include members with expertise appropriate to the applicant pool. All applicants will receive feedback.
- The applicant must agree to submit a final report upon completion of the funding period and to cite the award in all publications arising from this work.

Guidelines for Letter of Intent

- A **letter of intent (LOI)** addressed to Dr. Thomas Jansson (thomas.jansson@cuanschutz.edu) is required and will be used to identify eligible applicants and select persons with the appropriate expertise for serving on the grant review committee. **Letters of intent are due *January 17, 2025*. The following format is required for the letter of intent:**
 - A cover letter which should include the following information:
 - Title of proposal
 - Principal Investigator
 - Identification as to whether the faculty is a junior or an established faculty
 - Co-investigator (if any)
 - For junior faculty, their mentor's name and affiliation
 - Current and past faculty positions
 - Title, total direct costs/yr and funding agency of **all** current funding
 - Title, total direct costs/yr, funding source for **all** grants received and/or applied for in the past three years
 - A no more than **one-page** description of the intended research which includes a brief background/premise, central hypothesis, specific aims, significance and innovation, and anticipated impact on the applicant's career.

Guidelines for Application

1. **Applications** adhering to the guidelines listed below are due no later than **5 pm on *March 21, 2025***.
2. You will be notified within approximately two weeks after the submission deadline for the LOI whether you will be invited to apply.
3. **Format:** Applications should be addressed to Dr. Thomas Jansson (thomas.jansson@cuanschutz.edu). All materials must be submitted as a single pdf file with one-inch margins and using 11-point Arial font. Applications not adhering to these guidelines will be returned and not considered further.
4. **Face Page (1 page):** Provide the name of the applicant -- including present and all prior academic positions (including department[s] and institution[s]), the applicant's contact

information (email, phone, fax, campus location and campus mailing address), and the title of the work proposed. Also list the names and positions of all other personnel involved in the project as mentors or co-investigators.

5. **Abstract (300-word maximum):** Briefly describe the applicant's proposed research and research career goals. The abstract should be on a separate page.
6. **Budget and budget justification:** Include a detailed budget request for the award period with all costs justified. The award can be used for salary support, project support and indirect costs up to 8% for the foreign site if mandated. Aspects of the proposed research receiving support from existing sources, whether institutional funds or other grants-in-aid, must clearly be justified.
7. **Biographical Sketch:** Provide a biographical sketch using use the most current NIH form (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch-blankformat.docx>) for the applicant and all other persons named in the proposal as mentors or co-Investigators and which lists all current and pending research support for each person.
8. **Description of Applicant(s) Career Goals (300-word maximum):** Describe the applicant's career goals, how the Lorna Grindlay Moore Faculty Launch Award will help in attaining them.
9. **Mentor and training plan (1 single-spaced pages maximum).** All junior faculty must include a training plan with specific goals enumerated and the roles of the mentor and, if appropriate, a mentoring committee clearly delineated.
10. **Description of Proposed Research (3 single-spaced pages maximum):** A complete and concise description of the applicant's ongoing and proposed work must be included. Separate sections should be devoted to Specific Aims and Hypotheses, Background and Significance, Preliminary Studies, and Experimental Design and Methods. All figures, tables and other relevant data should be included within the body of the proposal (i.e., no appendices). References are not included within the 3-page limit.
11. **Impact Statement (300-word maximum):** The importance and impact of the proposed work, its relevance to and impact upon women's health in LMICs, and potential for generating future, funded research must be included.
12. **Other Factors and Assurances:**
 - a. **Letter(s) of Support:** The applicant's Department Chair is required to provide a letter of recommendation that guarantees that the applicant will have sufficient salary support, protected research time, laboratory space and/or other resources necessary for the successful completion of the proposed project. If the project involves more than one department, both Chairs are required to provide such letters.
 - b. **Mentor Letter(s) of Recommendation:** Each mentor named in the application must provide a letter that endorses the applicant and states whether and how that Mentor will support the applicant's research and career development.
 - c. **In-Country Partner Letter(s) of Recommendation:** The identified partner institution/organization/researcher residing in the LMIC setting named in the application must provide a letter that endorses the applicant and the relevance and cultural appropriateness, when applicable, of the proposed research to the local setting.
13. **Final Report:** A final report must be submitted within one year of the conclusion of the award period that summarizes the progress achieved, including the challenges and successes encountered; conferences and workshops attended; and efforts made and/or anticipated for securing further funding. Copies of all articles emanating from the work conducted within the period of the award that has been published or is under review are required components of the report.

Please address all Letters of Intent and Applications to: Thomas Jansson, Chief of Division of Reproductive Sciences, and Vice Chair of Research Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and email to Cameron Davis (Cameron.g.davis@cuanschutz.edu)

Please address any questions to:
Cameron Davis (Cameron.g.davis@cuanschutz.edu)