

FAER Transition to Independence Grant

Consistent with its goal of supporting the research career development of junior faculty clinician-scientists, FAER has created a new research funding mechanism: the FAER Transition to Independence Grant (TIG). The TIG aims to support the transition of investigators from mentored training-focused support to independent (non-mentored) research support.

FAER has acknowledged that the current level of federal grant funding renders independent research awards, such as NIH R series, VA Merit and equivalent awards, extremely competitive. Anesthesiologist clinician-scientists who apply for such awards are often asked to revise and resubmit applications before they could be funded. The TIG aims to help address these challenges, and provide applicants with the continued momentum and progress that are needed to maximize the likelihood of success.

GRANT DETAILS

The TIG is a one-year award with a maximum of \$75,000 in funding. It is intended for primary investigators (not co-investigators) who have completed work on a FAER Mentored Research Training Grant (MRTG) within the past two years and are in the process of revising and resubmitting an application for new independent research funding (R01/21, VA Merit, AHRQ or equivalent). The application for new independent funding should have received a priority score or percentile but have fallen just outside of the funding threshold. The TIG requires 75 percent research time.

TIG awards are for high-priority short-term projects. Granting of limited, interim research support is based on the merit of the submitted R01/21 (or equivalent) application. TIG support is designed to enable the PI to gather additional data for revision and resubmission of the non-funded application.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. Applicant must have previously received and completed a FAER Mentored Research Training Grant (MRTG).
2. Applicant must apply for the TIG within two years after the end date of the MRTG, including any no-cost extensions of the MRTG.
3. Applicant must have submitted an application for an NIH R01, R15, R21, P, U, AHRQ, FDA, VA Merit award, or equivalent independent research grant. Requests for equivalency will be considered at FAER's discretion.
4. The application for an NIH R01, R15, R21, P, U, AHRQ, FDA, PCORI, VA Merit award, or equivalent independent research program, must have been submitted, reviewed and scored by the study section. It must have received a highly favorable, but not fundable score, within the top 25th percentile. Applications having received a lower priority score, within the 26th to 40th percentiles, will be accepted by FAER for consideration, but with an understanding of a lower likelihood of funding.
5. U.S. citizen, permanent U.S. resident, or holder of H-1 visa with minimum of three years remaining. *A J-1 visa holder would not qualify.*
6. Graduate physician with an unexpired, permanent, unconditional and unrestricted license to practice medicine or osteopathy in at least one state or jurisdiction of the United States.
7. Certified by the American Board of Anesthesiology (ABA) or in the examination system. The FAER Grants Management Committee will consider applicants with acceptance into the ABA Alternative Entry Path (AEP). The AEP acceptance letter must be provided to FAER at the time of grant application submission.
8. Active member of the American Society of Anesthesiologists.

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Grant application information, forms, and templates can be found at [FAER.org/research-grants/apply](https://www.faer.org/research-grants/apply)
2. An Access Code is required to submit the TIG grant application. Please contact FAER staff via phone (630-912-2554) or email (faer@faer.org) to receive the Access Code.
3. Applications can be submitted to FAER at any time of the year. All submissions must be submitted through the FAER Research Grants Application Site portal which can be accessed via <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=faer> .
4. The online application requires the following uploads:
 - a. Original NIH (or other) grant submission
 - b. Critique from the NIH (or other) study section
 - c. Point-by-point plan as to how the critique suggestions will be addressed
 - d. Budget (See note below)
 - e. Cover letter from applicant detailing the plans for resubmission of the NIH (or other) grant including the planned date of resubmission
 - f. Letter of support from the applicant's department chair. The letter must guarantee 75 percent research time during the period of FAER TIG funding, and it must state the level of salary support from the department to the applicant.

Note: The maximum budget is \$75,000 for one year. Support for the applicant's salary or benefits on the TIG is not allowed. Equipment, indirect costs, and travel costs are not allowed. Other budget restrictions and terms/conditions for MRTG also apply.

FUNDING

- The total funding amount for a Transition to Independent Grant (TIG) will not exceed \$75,000.
- The disbursement of funds may occur at the start of the quarter following the funding decision, or anytime thereafter.
- One yearly grant payment will be made to the institution, not to the award recipient.
- In the event that a TIG recipient receives extramural funding, recipient agrees to immediately notify FAER. The TIG will have been considered successful and any unused funds will be returned to FAER.