The Board of Pharmacy Specialties (BPS) is pleased to announce two funding opportunities of up to $5,000 each to support PGY-2 pharmacy residency projects highlighting the impact of pharmacist board certification on:

1. Improved medication-related outcomes for patients;
2. Perceived value of pharmacist specialization across key stakeholder groups (e.g., patients, payers, physicians and other health care providers); or,
3. Successful integration of board-certified pharmacist specialists into institutional credentialing and privileging processes.

PURPOSE

To offer a competitive process for PGY-2 pharmacy residents to receive funding for research related to the impact of pharmacist board certification. The award is designed for current PGY-2 pharmacy residents, and board-certified preceptors or residency program directors are eligible to serve as a principal investigator (PI). Residents are not eligible to serve as the PI.

TIMELINE

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<tr>
<th>APPLICATION DEADLINE</th>
<th>SEPTEMBER 4, 2020 (6:00PM ET)</th>
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<tr>
<td>AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT</td>
<td>ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 30, 2020 (5:00PM ET)</td>
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The total available funding is $5,000 per grant award to be used over 12 months. Award funds may be used for salary support of technical or support personnel but must not be used to support the PI or co-investigators.
APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please carefully read these instructions before submitting the application! The application must contain the following sections:

1. **Cover sheet**
   All co-investigators must sign a cover sheet to indicate their approval and agreement to participate in the project. If human subjects are involved, institutional review board (IRB) submission or review may be pending at the time of application, however, evidence of IRB approval must be provided before funding can be disbursed.

2. **Letter of support**
   A letter of support from the Director of Pharmacy or Chief Pharmacy Officer is required.

3. **Abstract**
   A brief (i.e., no more than 200-300 words) description of the proposed project.

4. **Key personnel form**
   Please note that the “Role on Project” should be a short title (e.g., Co-Investigator, Consultant). In 2-3 brief sentences, explain the role of everyone involved with the project.

5. **Budget**
   The total award is for direct costs related to the research, with the caveat that funding may not be used for institutional overhead, salary support for investigators, or equipment expenditures. Please justify all budget items. If the award will provide only partial support for the project’s total budget, state specifically how the balance will be funded and provide evidence of its guaranteed availability. Any funds remaining at the end of the study shall be refunded to BPS.

6. **Biographical sketch**
   Please provide a biographical sketch (National Institutes of Health format is acceptable, but not required) for the PI and any other Co-Investigators.

7. **Research plan**
   **Introduction and Specific Aims**: Includes the introduction, study hypothesis, and specific aims. It should cover the rationale for and significance of the project. It should discuss the scalability and reproducibility of an intervention, if applicable.

   **Background and significance**: Discuss the existing knowledge base and identify gaps this project might fill.

   **Preliminary data**: Preliminary studies performed by others or publications in the specific or related area of the proposal. Pilot data should be included if available.
APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

**Project design and methods:** This section should address each specific aim and include (but not necessarily limited to):

- Hypothesis and study question
- Experimental design, including rationale
- Study population, including detailed description of recruitment strategy and sample size calculation (i.e., power analysis)
- Data collection procedure
- Data analysis plan
- Plan for dissemination of results

**Timeline:** Provide a detailed timeline for project completion. Include dates by which each step in the project will be completed.

**Literature cited:** Include a bibliography of cited references.
EVALUATION CRITERIA

Significance (40 points):
- Does the proposal align with the goal of the funding, which is to evaluate impact and/or value of pharmacist board certification?
- Is there a critical evaluation of existing knowledge and are gaps in knowledge identified which the project is intended to fill?
- Are pilot or preliminary data presented to support the proposal?
- Will this grant aid the investigators in securing additional research funding to facilitate future investigations in this area?

Approach (20 points):
- Does the proposed project appropriately address the specific aims/hypotheses? Are the methods well described and appropriate for the project proposed?
- Does the proposal contain appropriate information pertaining to sample size (i.e., power analysis), participant recruitment, sampling/handling techniques, statistical/data analysis, etc.?
- Are any methodological problems anticipated and alternative approaches considered?

Feasibility (20 points):
- Is the project feasible given the training/experience of the investigators?
- Does the investigative team have the environment and resources (human and financial) to carry out this project?
- Can the investigators analyze and interpret the results of this project or will outside support be necessary?

Budget (20 points):
- Is the budget matched to the resource requirements to complete the project?
- Is the probable outcome worth the time and money involved?
- Will the grant serve as the total sum for the project or supplement an existing research effort? If the grant will provide only partial support for the project’s total budget or any personnel, has the investigator stated specifically, how the balance will be funded and provided evidence of its guaranteed availability?

(Note: salary support is restricted to technical or support personnel and is not to be used for support of the PI or co-investigators).
GRANTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

By accepting this award, the grantee agrees to undertake all reasonable efforts to complete the study and take responsibility for fulfilling the terms described within the award letter. If, for any reason, the grantee is unable to complete the project, the PI shall inform BPS in writing as soon as possible, including a justification and report of the activities completed up to that point.

The grant period of activity will begin upon IRB approval following notice of the grant award by BPS and will expire 18 months after initial disbursement of the funds. Spending of the funds should match the proposed budget. Any changes to the proposed budget should be requested by email to Samuel Johnson (sjohnson@aphanet.org) prior to implementation. Remaining or unused funds shall be returned to BPS at the end of the grant period of activity, while over-expenditures are the responsibility of the PI.

Finally, any publications or presentations resulting from work supported by these funds shall acknowledge BPS support.

DURING THE FUNDING PERIOD, GRANTEES WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT ELECTRONIC COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING:

1) Interim report 6 months after the start date
2) Progress report at the end of year 1
3) Final report (including final financial report) no later than 6 months after the study termination date