

**SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY (SSSP)
SHAPIRO MID-CAREER RESEARCH GRANT AWARDS (MCRA)**

Amended 8/18/20

Request for Applications (RFA), Due October 8, 2020; 5PM Eastern Time

1. Goal and Objectives of the Shapiro Mid-Career Research Grant Awards

The goal of the SSSP Shapiro Mid-Career Grant Awards is to promote excellence in research for mid-career researchers studying school psychology. The primary objective is to facilitate submission and attainment of external research funding (e.g., federal agency or national foundation) for a mid-career psychologist studying school psychology. Although not all Shapiro proposals submitted to the SSSP can be funded, each applicant will receive constructive feedback to guide future submissions. Successful applicants will be expected to acknowledge funding by SSSP in any publications or presentations of the results of the research supported by the grant. Successful applicants are encouraged to consider publication in the *Journal of School Psychology*, the SSSP journal.

2. Eligibility

- Investigators eligible for this initiative in an academic position possess an earned doctorate, are between two- and ten-years post-tenure and are currently at the rank of Associate Professor or equivalent. For those not in an academic position, eligible applicants would need to be at an equivalent number of years post-degree, usually 10-17 years after receiving the doctoral degree.
- Applicants will have not yet been successful in submitting or receiving external funding for projects budgeted at \$100,000 per year or greater but must be able to document evidence of movement toward the external, national grant application process.
- To be eligible, an applicant will have a defined and coherent program of research in school psychology (at least 12 research articles in a coherent area of research published in peer reviewed journals).

3. Mentorship Requirements

A senior researcher with expertise in the applicant's area of study will work with the applicant to prepare and submit a proposal for research funding during the funding period. This will involve mentorship activities including brainstorming research questions and design considerations, reading drafts of proposals, and preparation of presentations and/or manuscripts.

4. Award Funding

- A. Both awardees and mentors will receive travel reimbursement to meet with each other at one national school psychology conference (e.g., APA, NASP, CDSPP) each year over a two-year period (up to \$1500 travel reimbursement per year for both

- the awardee and the mentor). Travel reimbursement will also be available for either the mentor or the mentee to travel to the other's institution for a face-face meeting once per year for each year of the two-year period (up to \$1,000 per year for either the awardee or the mentor). Note that, consistent with SSSP policy (see the SSSP website) indirect costs (IDC) will not be reimbursed by the SSSP for the MCRA or any of the SSSP awards. Of course, external grant proposals themselves may include IDC.
- B. Awardees who submit an external research grant that meets SSSP requirements during the two-year period will be eligible to apply for a third year of additional travel reimbursement for both the awardee and the mentor. This will include travel reimbursement (up to \$1500 each) to a national meeting (NASP, APA or CDSPP), and a face-face meeting at either the awardee's or the mentor's institution during the third year (up to \$1,000).
- C. A third year of travel reimbursement will only be considered if the awardee submits an external, national grant that meets the following requirements:
- The awardee must be named as the PI,
 - The national grant proposal represents a research project that is developed during the first two years of the SSSP award period (i.e., cannot be a grant that was submitted prior to the granting of the SSSP award),
 - direct costs must be at least \$50,000 per year for at least two years, and
 - external grant funding decisions must be made by peer review.
- D. The third year of travel reimbursement will only be considered if the awardee is also in compliance with SSSP documentation requirements and timelines (all documents must be submitted by January 31st of each year travel reimbursement eligibility-- e.g., if an applicant is funded for 2019 and 2020, the documentation must be received by the Director of Research and Scientific Practice by Jan. 31, 2020 and 2021). The required documentation follows:
- Submission of an annual report each year (template to be provided)
 - Documentation of a presentation at a national school psychology meeting, and/or acceptance by an appropriate peer-reviewed journal.
 - Documentation of the face-face meeting each year at either the awardee's or the mentor's institution (e.g., meeting notes signed by both the awardee and the mentor, and travel receipts).
 - Documentation of the submission and approval of an external, national grant proposal (e.g., summary page from the federal agency or national foundation that lists the awardee as the PI and includes a date of submission) during the two year travel reimbursement eligibility period that indicates that the proposal meets the SSSP criteria outlined in Section 4C above.
- E. Travel reimbursement funds will not be provided beyond the third year.

5. All eligible applications will be scored based on the following criteria:
 - Area of research is well defined and reflects a coherent research agenda.
 - The area of research is likely to be viewed favorably by federal funders (e.g., NIH, IES, NSF).
 - There is an available and appropriate research mentor.

6. Submission Instructions and Notification of Awards.

Applications are due by October 8, 2020. Applicants will be notified of the status of their application on or around December 8, 2020. The length of award will be two years with an additional year potentially available pending approval by Director of Research (see above). The start date will be January 1, 2021. The complete application should be converted to a single pdf file with the sections organized in the order listed in the attached application and emailed to Tom Power (power@email.chop.edu) by **5:00 pm Eastern Time October 8, 2020**. The file should be labeled with the applicant's name, followed by the mentor's name and the date (e.g., Doe_Beckman_10-8-2020.pdf).

7. Reporting Requirements: Awardees and mentors must submit the documentation described in section 4D above by the January 31st deadline each year.

8. Chair of the Shapiro Mid-Career Awards Selection Committee is Thomas Power, PhD.