



**Pediatric HIV/AIDS Cohort Study (PHACS)  
Early Career Investigator Mentored Research Award  
Program Application**

**Goal:** This program aims to support the development of an Early Career Investigator to enter the field of maternal/child, adolescent, or young adult HIV research and advance the mission of the Pediatric HIV/AIDS Cohort Study (<http://phacsstudy.org>). In coordination with a mentor, Early Career Investigators are invited to propose a project that takes advantage of existing data and samples generated by PHACS protocols or to propose a new substudy.

**Eligibility:** An Early Career Investigator is within 10 years of completion of training (from terminal degree or residency training) and is currently an Instructor/Lecturer, Assistant Professor, Research Fellow, or equivalent at their institution.

**Funding:** One award with a total annual direct dollar amount of \$40,000 is available. Support will initially be provided for a 1-year funding period. A second year of support will be provided contingent upon a review of the awardee's progress in Year One. (Progress and final reports will be submitted at the end of Years 1 and Year 2, respectively.)

Funding may be used to cover FTE support for the Early Career Investigator and/or other project expenses (e.g., specimen testing, data collection). The budget must include support to attend PHACS network meetings (two 2-day meetings per year) and the Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI) for each year of the two-year funding period. The Investigator and/or Mentor may seek additional funding, including a request for discretionary funds from the PHACS Coordinating Center, to cover other research and equipment costs (if required). The PHACS Data and Operations Center (DOC) will provide data management and will assign an epidemiologist or statistician to provide input on methods and perform data analyses, as needed.

**Focus:** Submissions should be aligned with the focus of at least one of the PHACS working groups as outlined at the following web link:

<https://phacsstudy.org/Our-Research/Areas-of-Focus>

Projects may propose use of existing PHACS data and stored samples or collection and analysis of new PHACS data and/or samples (i.e., a substudy). Requests for protocol documents as well as other questions should be sent to the PHACS DOC, based at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health ([PHACS.DOC@fstrf.org](mailto:PHACS.DOC@fstrf.org)).

Proposals may utilize data and/or samples from other studies in addition to PHACS (i.e. analysis of data and/or testing of samples from both PHACS *and* another study).

**Key Dates:**

Proposal Submission Due Date:	May 15, 2017
Award Notification Date:	June 1, 2017
Anticipated Funding Start Date:	August 1, 2017

**Submission of Proposals:** Proposals should be submitted to the PHACS DOC (PHACS.DOC@fstrf.org) no later than 5pm ET on May 15, 2017.

**Application Format:** The application should follow the following format:

- I. **Section A:** Applicant and Mentor information, including names and contact information (Institution, address, telephone, e-mail).
  
- II. **Section B. Research Proposal:** Please include the following information (maximum 3 pages):
  - Basic study objectives
  - Significance, including background literature
  - Study population and/or data required
  - Exposure and outcome measures and potential confounders
  - Brief description of study design, and approximation of sample size, and/or preliminary feasibility assessment (formal sample size and power calculations are not required)
  
- III. **Section C. Mentor Plan** (1000 words): Specify timelines and measurable outcomes.
  
- IV. **Section D. Appendices:** The following items should be included as Appendices.
  - Appendix 1: Applicant's and Mentor's NIH Biosketches
  - Appendix 2: References
  - Appendix 3: Figures (if applicable)
  - Appendix 4: Letters of Support (up to 3)
  - Appendix 5: Budget and Justification: Please provide a budget and justification for the entire 2-year funding period (total costs = \$ or ~\$ per year), beginning August 1, 2017. The total annual direct dollar amount is \$40,000. Applicable indirect costs can be added to the direct cost budget in accordance with the applicants' institutional approved rate agreement. Please note other outside resources available to the Early Career Investigator that may contribute to the success of his or her project; e.g., institutional support, grant or foundation support.