



PBBR

UCSF Program for Breakthrough Biomedical Research

PBBR POSTDOC INDEPENDENT RESEARCH GRANTS

2025 Call for Proposals

UCSF postdoctoral scholars are invited to apply for funds from a grant program made possible by support from the **Program for Breakthrough Biomedical Research (PBBR)**. The program is designed to encourage creative and independent research driven by postdoctoral scholars in both basic and translational research. The grant will support UCSF postdocs who wish to explore biomedical research directions that are not directly linked to the research interests of their postdoctoral mentor and require the engagement of an additional collaborator or co-mentor.

Up to 14 grants will be awarded to provide the following funding for one year (August 2025 to August 2026. *Note, award start date and duration may be adjusted*)

- **\$15,000 research allowance for research supplies, meetings, courses, and other research expenses**

Eligibility requirements:

- UCSF postdoctoral scholars currently in a **PIBS, BMS, or QBC** laboratory or UCSF postdoctoral scholars who propose a collaborative project with a **PIBS, BMS, or QBC** laboratory. (PIBS faculty list: <http://pibs.ucsf.edu/pibs-faculty-all>, BMS faculty list: <http://bms.ucsf.edu/directory>, QBC faculty list: <http://qbc.ucsf.edu/about>).
- Fellow must name a co-mentor/collaborator who is not their current mentor. The co-mentor/collaborator does not have to be a UCSF faculty member if the fellow currently works in a **PIBS, BMS, or QBC** laboratory.
- The funds must be used to support research that is distinct from the work of the postdoctoral fellow's mentor. **This is extremely important and should be addressed in your application!**
- As of August 2025, the UCSF postdoctoral scholars must have been in a UCSF laboratory one year or longer, but no more than 5 years. No exceptions!
- PBBR funds can only be used while a postdoctoral scholar is affiliated with UCSF.
- Although applicants who have previously held a PBBR postdoc independent research grant are permitted to apply again, preference will be given to first-time applicants.
- Postdoctoral scholars who have been awarded a career transition fellowship (e.g. K99, Burroughs Wellcome) are NOT eligible for the PBBR Postdoctoral Research Fellowships.

Please send inquiries to Courtney.mcfall@ucsf.edu

Application deadline: Friday June 13th, 2025, 5 p.m. PST

Application Instructions:

The PBBR Postdoc Independent Research Grant Application consists of 8 items, 4 of which are supplied by the applicant, and two of which are supplied by both faculty mentors. Please send the following to the PBBR Finance Manager, Courtney McFall, Courtney.mcfall@ucsf.edu.

From the applicant, please provide the first four items as a single pdf file:

- 1) Cover page with name of award program (PBBR Postdoctoral Independent Research), title of the proposal, amount of funding requested, applicant's name and email, mentor name and email, collaborating scientist name and email. Please provide the name of the Department that will manage the award, the financial manager name and email. **See sample.**
- 2) Project description (not to exceed 2 pages of single spaced, 12 point font including figures and references). The project description should include: a brief introduction to the problem being addressed, specific aims for the funding period, a concise description of research methods, and a description of how the project is distinct from those of the fellow's primary mentor.
- 3) Applicant's NIH Biosketch- do not exceed 2 pages.
- 4) Budget describing how the \$15,000 research allowance will be used. The research allowance may be used for travel to a scientific meeting related to the proposed research, courses related to the career development of the fellow, and research expenses directly related to the project. Food/entertainment is specifically excluded. Expenses for meetings and for computer hardware are capped at \$2000. For scientific reagents, briefly justify each expense.

From the applicant's mentor and co-mentor, please email these as pdf files, indicating applicant's name in the subject line. These should be emailed directly to Courtney.mcfall@ucsf.edu

5). From the applicant's mentor:

- a) A letter of support. This letter must include a statement that the postdoc's proposed project is distinct from the mentor's work as well as the mentor's approval for the fellow to initiate the proposed project.
- b) The mentor's NIH biosketch (up to 5 pages).

6). From the applicant's co-mentor/collaborating scientist:

- a) A letter of support that describes his/her role on the project.
- b) The collaborating scientist's NIH biosketch (up to 5 pages).

An advisory board composed of UCSF faculty members will evaluate the proposals. Award recipients will be announced in July 2025 and the grant period will begin August 2025.

PBBR Postdoctoral Independent Research Fellowship:

June 13th, 2025

Project Title...

Funds Requested: **\$15,000**

sample

Applicant:

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