

## ATS EARLY CAREER INVESTIGATOR AWARD IN PULMONARY VASCULAR DISEASE

*Sponsored by:*

**Johnson&Johnson**

### 2025-2026 Eligibility Criteria

#### **Applicant Criteria**

1. At time of grant submission applicants must be a:

- United States citizen
- Permanent US resident
- Canadian citizen
- Permanent Canadian resident

*Note that you will be required to furnish proof of US/Canadian citizenship or residency if an award is made. **Applicants with nonimmigrant visas are not eligible to apply.***

2. Applicants must complete their primary research training (PhD or subspecialty fellowship training) **by January 1, 2026.**

3. Applicants may be a:

- junior faculty member up to and including the rank of assistant professor
- postdoctoral scholar
- doctoral candidate
- fellow

*Postdoctoral scholars, doctoral candidates, and fellows must complete their training by the award start date of **January 1, 2026 AND have a pending postdoctoral or faculty appointment.***

4. Applicants' first faculty appointment must be no earlier than 2021.

5. Applicants must be engaged principally in basic science, translation, and/or clinical research, with a proposal aimed at understanding the pathways and pathophysiology of pulmonary vascular disease.

6. Significant funding from any of the following grants or awards is **not allowed** and will disqualify the applicant:
  - **US:** NIH-R01, NIH-P01 project, VA Merit Review Award, NSF, DOD or equivalent, NIH-K awards, American Heart Association Career Development Award, NSA Career Development Award, VA Career Development Award or equivalent
  - **Canada:** CIHR (Project grant), Heart and Stroke Foundation Grant (National Award)
7. Applicants may not be employees of a commercial entity, e.g., pharmaceutical company.
  - Grants will not be awarded to applicants with salaries largely derived from commercial organizations in the pharmaceutical or allied industries. However, **research support** from commercial organizations is allowed.
8. Applicants must have a firm commitment from their home institution for mentored career development. The applicant's mentor should:
  - be involved in overseeing the means for adequate funding to support necessary research.
  - ensure protected time for the applicant to complete their research and to investigate career development.
  - have only an advisory role in the project helping the applicant obtain a firm commitment from the applicant's institution.
  - see the project through to successful completion.
  - The points above must be addressed in the mentor's letter (see additional information below).
9. Applicants may submit only one *Early Career Investigator Award in Pulmonary Vascular Disease* proposal per grant cycle.

### **Project Criteria**

1. **Site:** University or research institute in the US or Canada
2. **Length and Budget:** The project must be achievable within the one-year grant time frame and \$100,000 budget allocation.

Additional funding sources are acceptable and must be clearly indicated in the proposal.

3. **Focus:** Develop a better understanding of/approach to disorders of pulmonary vascular biology. **Bridge funding, therapeutic drug trials, or registry trials will not be funded.**

4. **Research type:** Basic science, translation, and/or clinical
5. **Mentor and Letter of Support:** Applicant must be supervised by an appropriate mentor, who must also provide a letter of support.

#### **Letter of Support**

The mentor should describe their commitment to the investigator's faculty appointment and general career development.

Specifically, the letter should address:

- the mentor's track record of productivity, funding, and success with prior trainees; available lab facilities; and a proposed training plan for the applicant.
  - the applicant's research competence, clinical proficiency, originality, perseverance, and ability to exchange ideas and organize scientific data.
6. **Co-investigators** may be included; the specific role of each co-investigator and justification will be evaluated.