

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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**OAIC Support of Protected Time for Junior Faculty Career Development in Frailty Research**  
**Due Date: March 1, 2020**

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The **Research Education Core** of the National Institute on Aging-supported **Older Americans Independence Center (OAIC)** of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions is soliciting proposals from **junior faculty members** who seek salary support of up to **\$35,000** in direct costs over a 1-year period. Junior faculty-eligible positions include Instructors and Assistant Professors, as well as Research Associates and Assistant Scientists. This award will support development of careers committed to frailty-focused aging research and the conduct of studies related to our mission of identifying risk factors and responsible mechanisms and developing interventions to improve outcomes for older adults with the frailty syndrome. Proposed research studies should focus on the etiology, treatment and/or amelioration of frailty among older Americans, with discovery aimed at impacting the larger field of frailty science.

Our goal is to provide protected time, training and mentoring for junior faculty who have not yet obtained independent funding and who wish to initiate a research-focused career on frailty etiology, interventions and/or outcomes. Supported activities include basic, clinical, and population-based investigations, clinical trials, and the dissemination of the research results to the broader community. Individuals will also have access to other OAIC infrastructure including the Biostatistics Core to assist in study design and data analysis, and the Biological Mechanisms Core for assistance in the use of genetic and genomic technologies to support their aging research. Additionally, the OAIC offers training in translation and critical study design and can provide implementation resources through its Clinical Recruitment and Translation Core, to enhance the transition of OAIC-supported junior faculty to become independent investigators and leaders in translational research on frailty. The OAIC puts particular emphasis on the development of expertise in translation.

Proposals should include specific aims, rationale, preliminary studies and methods for the proposed study, a statement of its *relevance to the OAIC mission*, requested resources, and timeline. Mentor(s) and/or preceptor(s) should also be identified. Criteria include the importance and realistic nature of the anticipated frailty research program and whether the candidate's career development needs are consonant with OAIC goals and will benefit from OAIC support. Quarterly benchmarks must be stated; continuation of funding will be contingent upon meeting these benchmarks and reporting them in a timely fashion. Proposals should be **no longer than five pages** and are **due by March 1, 2020**. Please refer to the Submission Guidelines document for further detail. Those deemed meritorious will be followed up by subsequent interviews. Final selection and notification of funding is targeted for **June 1, 2020**. Funding would begin by **July 1, 2020**. Proposals should be submitted via e-mail to the OAIC Administrator, Brian Buta, [bbuta@jhu.edu](mailto:bbuta@jhu.edu).

We welcome the opportunity to discuss the appropriateness of proposed scientific goals. Please direct any questions about scientific/research issues to Gary Gerstenblith, MD, Director, OAIC Research Education Core, at [gblith@jhmi.edu](mailto:gblith@jhmi.edu).

**Johns Hopkins University Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center (OAIC)**

✿ OLDER AMERICANS ✿  
INDEPENDENCE CENTER

**PROPOSAL SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

1. Title page: please include Title of project; PI; department and school; address; phone number; email address, list of collaborating investigators, including mentor; budget; starting and ending dates for project.
2. Abstract
3. Budget and justification (maximum \$35K direct costs)
4. Investigators (PI, mentor, collaborating investigators (if applicable), affiliation, role in project, amount of time to be devoted to this project)
5. Biographical sketch of investigators (NIH format)
6. Research Plan (not to exceed page 5 pages for sections a-d)
  - a. Hypotheses and specific aims
  - b. Background and significance of the research to frailty and late-life decline
  - c. Preliminary information if applicable (should demonstrate ability to perform the research)
  - d. Research design and methods: describe subject selection, data collection, research procedures/measures, analysis plan, timetable for completion
  - e. Literature citations (limit 20)
  - f. Protection of human subjects (describe plans for obtaining informed consent and procedures for informing and protecting subjects to be enrolled in the study if applicable)

Please follow [PHS 398 guidelines](#) for budget, Biographical sketch, and human subjects information. If you have any questions, please contact OAIC administrator, Brian Buta, at [bbuta@jhu.edu](mailto:bbuta@jhu.edu), 410-502-3412.

**Please submit applications via e-mail attachment (Word or PDF format) to [bbuta@jhu.edu](mailto:bbuta@jhu.edu).**

**Applications are due by 5pm, on designated date within this RFP.**

Please visit <http://coah.jhu.edu/oaic/> for more information.