

MEMORANDUM

TO: UNC- Chapel Hill Community

FROM: Sibby Anderson Thompkins, Director, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

RE: POSTDOCTORAL AWARDS FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

The awards, open to postdocs in all disciplines, are designed to recognize research potential and to assist scholars with professional development needs, such as conference travel, written materials, skills workshops, or other activities that directly enhance the individual's professional development. The awards can fund up to \$1000 in professional endeavors.

I. The following terms apply to the awards:

- A. Applicants must be full-time and fall into one of two Human Resources designations: Postdoctoral Fellow/Trainee (Rank Code 27), or Postdoctoral Research Associate (Rank Code 28).
- B. Applicants must have at least one year remaining in their postdoc appointments at the time of application.
- C. Funds from the awards may be used for books, travel to a conference, skills workshops, or other resources or activities that directly enhance the postdoc's professional development. Funds can not be used to purchase computers or electronic equipment.

II. Applications should consist of:

- A. A brief cover letter (no more than one page) on departmental letterhead addressed to Dr. Doug Cyr, Chair of the Postdoctoral Awards for Research Excellence Committee. This letter should include a brief description of how the funds will be spent.
- B. A current curriculum vitae
- C. A narrative description (no more than two pages) of the applicant's research accomplishments. As the Awards Committee is comprised of scholars from various fields, this narrative should be written for a non-expert audience. This narrative should discuss the significance of your current work, your research accomplishments/contributions as a postdoc at UNC, and your future research plans. Please note: evaluation of each candidate will be based on accomplishments as a postdoc at UNC and on one's publication record during this time. Past accomplishments, while noteworthy, will not be considered to the extent that accomplishments made as a UNC postdoc will be.
- D. A letter of endorsement from the applicant's mentor