



APSF/AQI Patient Safety Career Development and Research Award, 2015-2016

The Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation (APSF) and the Anesthesia Quality Institute (AQI) are pleased to announce a new collaborative career development and research award that will be available for the academic year 2015-2016. The award will include exposure to a mega-data environment (e.g., the National Anesthesia Clinical Outcomes Registry, the Anesthesia Incident Reporting System and the Closed Claims Project database) and mentorship through a patient safety-oriented, hypothesis-driven research project using the resources of both the AQI and APSF.

A major objective of the award is to develop future anesthesia patient safety leaders who will attain experience in using demographic, practice, and outcome information representative of anesthesia care in the United States. The ideal research project associated with the award will result in a positive impact on perioperative patient safety and enduring improvements to the infrastructure or the analytic capabilities of the AQI. **It is worth noting that for this career development and research award, the research project will be designed during the award period, not as part of the application.**

Candidate requirements

- U.S. anesthesiology resident in the CA-2 or CA-3 year of training, fellow, or active anesthesiologist
- Board certified or in the board certification process (e.g., resident, fellow, or recent graduate of a training program) of the American Board of Anesthesiology
- Capable of committing minimum of 0.4 FTE for the one-year duration of the award; will require a letter of support from the applicant's department chair and, if active in a training program, the program director that indicates a commitment to this minimum time period for the applicant
- Experience in outcomes research or database analytics preferred but not required
- Must have an identified mentor who has experience in outcomes research or mega-data analytics

Award requirements

- Awardee must spend a minimum of a two-week orientation at the AQI office within the American Society of Anesthesiologists' (ASA's) Schaumburg, Illinois complex. The orientation will involve introduction to ASA, AQI, Health Policy Research (HPR), and Wood Library Museum (WLM) personnel, orientation to the AQI's data and analytic processes, and mentored time for preliminary design of a research project.
- Mentor must also attend several days of orientation at the AQI office concomitant with the awardee and participate in the development of the research project.

- Will need to attend a variety of meetings during the year, including executive meetings of the APSF and AQI directors and officers, as part of the orientation to these organizations (approximately 8 travel days).
- Participation in regular calls with mentors and collaborators will be required as the project progresses
- A final report and manuscript will be submitted upon completion of the fellowship.

Financial resources

- \$100,000 grant of one-year's duration, with 50% awarded in July of the award's academic year and the remainder awarded in January of the academic year upon successful completion of the initial six months of the award
- In addition, a maximum of \$20,000 is available to cover the costs of routine travel, lodging, and other expenses related to required meeting participation, including the orientation experience for both the awardee and the mentor. Travel will require approval by the AQI director and the current ASA travel reimbursement guidelines will be used.

Application Deadline

- Midnight, January 31, 2014

Announcement of Award

- March 1, 2015

Award Active Dates

- July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

Application Information

Applications will include personal statements from applicants about their career aspirations and letters of support from department chairs, program directors (when applicable), and mentors. The letters of support should indicate the capabilities of the applicants and their potential to become productive clinical researchers and leaders in perioperative patient safety and in anesthesiology in general.

A selection committee will evaluate applications, giving equal weight to the quality of

- The *applicant* as demonstrated by past or current experiences and letters of support that project potential for the applicant to become a leader in perioperative patient safety and the specialty
- The *mentor* as demonstrated by strength of track record in database-related clinical research, outcomes of previous mentees, and national or international reputation
- The *applicant's department and institution* as demonstrated by existing, productive programs in mega-data development and analytics, clinical or biomedical informatics, and patient safety.

Application format

The application will consist of the following:

- A cover letter in which the applicant expresses interest in pursuing a career oriented towards improving perioperative patient safety and a desire to understand how to use mega-data to identify and study patient safety issues. This cover letter should describe important personal and professional attributes and experiences that demonstrate the applicant's potential as well as capability to become a leader in anesthesia patient safety and anesthesiology in general. The letter should be no more than two pages in length, single-spaced, and have a 12 pt. font size and 1" margins.
- Biographical sketches of no more than 4 pages in length for the applicant and the primary mentor using the current NIH biosketch template (the personal statement is already documented in the cover letter and should not be repeated here). The selection committee understands that applicants who are in residency or fellowship training or who are recent training graduates will likely have limited biographical sketches, with some categories having no information compared to those of applicants who have more experience.
- Letters of support, no more than two pages each, from the appropriate department chair (and program director for trainees) and the primary mentor.

Application Submission

- Completed application packets, as well as any questions about the award or application process, should be submitted electronically to Lance Mueller, M.S., AQI Director (l.mueller@asahq.org).