

Eligibility

- 1. I have a PhD and was appointed as Instructor (a faculty position) following my fellowship training. Am I eligible to use Instructor as my first faculty appointment?**

We understand that there is a continuum of independence at many institutions beginning with emerging independence at the Instructor level. However, to level the playing field and ensure that all applicants have only one window of eligibility, we are considering the tenure track Assistant Professor appointment to be the first independent faculty appointment.

If your institution can confirm in writing at the time of application that you will be appointed an Assistant Professor by the funding start date (and can provide verification in the event the Award is offered), then the Smith Family Foundation will accept your application. If not, then you should wait to apply in future grant cycles when Assistant Professorship is established.

- 2. Are leaves of absence counted towards the three-and-a-half-year ceiling?**

No. If you were not working during a specific period, you would not include that time when determining your eligibility. The Department or Division Chair should confirm both the duration of the leave of absence and applicant eligibility via the Applicant Independence/Institutional Commitment Form.

- 3.**

- 8. My project involves modeling the impact of different diseases on different populations and how this affects healthcare decisions. Would this be considered “biomedical research?”**
The Excellence Awards support traditional laboratory/bench research and do not support health services research.

- 9. My project involves the development of research methods. Is this eligible?**

12. For the Full Proposal, do I need to submit the Budget Form in the online application system in addition to including it in my PDF Document Upload?

Yes. Please