**The Edna and Fred L. Mandel Jr. Foundation**

**Mandel Center for Hypertension and Atherosclerosis at Duke**

**Request for Proposal for the**

**Mandel Post-doctoral Research Fellowship**

**Due Date December 1, 2014**

**Background** The Mandel Center for Hypertension and Atherosclerosis at Duke has been established to advance scientific understanding in the areas of hypertension, atherosclerosis, and related cardiovascular diseases. Based on the goals of the Mandel Foundation, our vision for this center is built on our commitment to positively influence research in the fields of hypertension and atherosclerosis by creating an expanding core of established faculty, early career fellows, and students, all focused on pursuing knowledge in these areas.

**Grant Program** To promote its mission, the Center is requesting proposals for a grant to support a Mandel Postdoctoral Research Fellow, conducting innovative research into the causes and treatment of hypertension, atherosclerosis and related cardiovascular diseases. Funds are available for one 1-year fellowship grant of $45,000 to be used soley for supporting the applicant’s salary. The explicit purpose of this Seed Grant program is to encourage the training and research experience of future leaders in cardiovascular research that will lead to successful applications for external funding from NIH and other agencies in thematic areas relevant to the mission of the Mandel Foundation.

Each Applicant **must** have an identified Mentor who is a Member of the Duke **Cardiovascular Research Center (CVRC)** at the time the application is reviewed**.**  Please email DUKECVRC@dm.duke.edu for information on CVRC membership.

**Application** Each proposal will include:

1. An executive summary paragraph written in lay person’s language plus 1-2 page application covering background, specific aims, research approaches and key references.
2. An NIH-style biosketch for the applicant and for the mentor
3. A letter from the mentor stating his/her commitment towards the trainee’s project and training, and documenting availability of funding to support the proposed study.
4. A 1 page career statement from the applicant describing future plans.

**Review Criteria** Applications will be judged based on the following criteria:

1. Background of the Trainee and potential to become a successful cardiovascular researcher
2. Strength of the scientific approach.
3. Adherence to the goals of the Mandel Foundation.

**Timeline** **Applications are due December 1, 2014** and decisions will be made within 3-4 weeks of the deadline with the expectation that projects will be initiated upon receipt of funds on January 1, 2015. The grant period will be from January 1 through December 31, 2015. Please send applications *in a single PDF* to Amberly Adams at amberly.adams@duke.edu.

**Reporting Requirements** The Mandel Fellow will be expected to participate in a site visit with the Foundation Trustees sometime in the first quarter of 2015. In addition, the Mandel Fellow will be expected to prepare a progress report (3-4 pages) for consideration by the foundation in *June 2015* for the foundation’s reporting period and a final report at the end of the funding period.

**Acknowledgement** We expect that publications describing research supported by the Edna and Fred L. Mandel Jr. Foundation will include acknowledgement of such support.