

# EARLY CAREER INVESTIGATOR OPPORTUNITY

**This is an exceptional opportunity for early-career researchers to participate in virtual meetings which will include:**

- Meetings with NIH leadership and staff regarding grant and research opportunities
- Mock NIH study sessions
- Mentorship sessions with academic Chairs and leaders in the fields of radiology and biomedical imaging
- Professional networking with peers, as well as meetings with industry partners and patient advocacy leaders who help drive research priorities
- Sessions on how science and health-care policies are developed, with opportunities to meet with Congressional Members and staff in-person in Washington, DC to discuss research and federal grant funding (more information on the program can be found [here](#))

The Science Council sponsors this opportunity administered by the Research Committee to support up to two early-career research-oriented AAPM members to become members of the Council of Early Career Investigators in Imaging (CECI<sup>2</sup>). CECI<sup>2</sup> membership includes a year of virtual meetings and possible fully-sponsored in-person attendance at the *Medical Imaging Technology Showcase* (MedTech), a series of advocacy meetings and NIH events over 3 days in Washington, DC. (TBD Spring 2023). CECI<sup>2</sup> is a program hosted and organized by the Academy of Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research.

AAPM sponsored two attendees to become members of the 2021-22 Council, Megan Lipford (Wake Forest University) and Adam Wang (Stanford University). You can read more about their experiences in [this recent issue of the AAPM Newsletter](#).

CECI<sup>2</sup> has been recently revised to include two levels of membership:

**Level 1** membership will engage participants in a digital setting through a variety of webinars, discussions, and workshops focused on advocacy, NIH funding, mock NIH study sessions, grant application and resubmission, and career development. The Academy estimates that Level 1 programming and participation will last six to eight months and begin in Spring 2022. Sessions in 2021 included meetings with Congresswoman Anna Eshoo (D-CA), Dr. Roderic Pettigrew (founding Director of NIH's NIBIB), Dr. Hedvig Hricak (former Academy President, Memorial Sloan-Kettering) and D. Elizabeth Krupinski (Vice Chair of Research, Emory University).

**Level 2** membership will include invited participants from Level 1 and offer an opportunity for in-person AAPM-sponsored travel to (contingent on the evolving COVID-19 pandemic) and participation in the Academy's Medical Imaging Technology Showcase, Congressional Events, and NIH Meetings. In order to be considered for Level 2 participation, investigators will be chosen from Level 1 by an internal advisory council based on meeting a number of benchmarks associated with their Level 1 participation — these criteria will ensure that investigators are highly engaged and motivated throughout the virtual programming of Level 1.

**Please Note:**

- This is a competitive opportunity; it is possible only ONE AAPM candidate may ultimately be selected.
- Any number of candidates may apply or be nominated from a single academic department; if two participants are ultimately selected, they will NOT be from the same academic institution.
- AAPM assumes all candidates are available to be fully engaged in both Level 1 programming and, if selected, Level 2 programming.

**Application Deadline: FEBRUARY 28, 2022**

<https://gaf.aapm.org/#CECI>

**All documents must be combined and submitted as one PDF.**

**Questions:** [Emily Townley](#)

**Recipients(s) notified by: March 15, 2022**

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Post-doctoral fellow, diagnostic or nuclear medicine medical physics resident or fellow, or junior faculty member (i.e. no more than 10 years after post-graduate training and no prior substantial grant-funding as a PI).
2. Research focus must be in radiology or biomedical imaging.
3. Must be a member of AAPM in good standing at the time of application (any membership category) and maintain membership for the duration of the participation period. Pending membership status is not acceptable.

## REQUIRED SUPPORTING MATERIAL

1. Cover letter outlining why the applicant wishes to participate, including information about how it fits into your professional goals.
2. Abbreviated CV (no more than five pages).
3. For residents and fellows: a letter from a supervisor confirming the ability to attend, if selected.
4. Two letters of support (one from a supervisor or department Chair), maximum two pages each.
5. A short description of research in layman's terms (one page); these topics will potentially be discussed in Congressional meetings on Capitol Hill, with much of the target audience having a non-scientific background.
6. CECIs meet with representatives from NIH Institutes and Centers; indicate which of these are of interest for visiting and why.

*Sponsored by the AAPM Science Council through the AAPM Education & Research Fund.*