**Research on Women’s Health Scholar Program (RoWHS)**

**Program Application**

## KEY DATES

Call for Applications

Applications due

Applicant Finalist Interviews

Notification of Award

Appointment Start Date

March 21, 2025

April 25, 2025

End of May 2025

Early June 2025

July 1, 2025

**KEY INFORMATION**

Number of Openings

Appointment Term

Effort Requirement Salary Maximum

Research Budget

Questions

2

1 year

75%, 12 month FTE

$75,000/year

Department dependent-matching funds considered favorably

Gillean Kitchen, gkitchen@wisc.edu

**OVERVIEW**

The University of Wisconsin-Madison Research on Women’s Health Scholar (RoWHS) program is funded by the School of Medicine and Public Health and provides interdisciplinary career development opportunities for a unique cohort of early career faculty to foster their successful transition to independent funding in women’s health research and sex differences research. This one-time program provides career development through competency based curricular activities, mentored research training, and pioneering new approaches to team science and career coaching. Scholars will be supported for one year. Upon completion of the program, applicants may be eligible for additional support and consideration through the UW BIRCWH program pending future funding. Additional information on this funding opportunity is available on the [Research on Women’s Health Scholar Program](https://ictr.wisc.edu/funding/research-on-womens-health-scholar-program-rowhs/) (RoWHS) website.

***Please review the following eligibility requirements and program expectations prior to submitting an application.***

## RESEARCH ON WOMEN’S HEALTH SCHOLAR ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

* Be a US citizen or non-citizen national, or lawfully admitted for permanent residence;
* Have a clinical doctorate or Ph.D. degree or its equivalent and engaged in women’s health or sex differences research;
* Have completed any postgraduate training normally expected for a faculty appointment in their field (including clinical or postdoctoral fellowship training or residency);
* Assistant Professor in **SMPH,** (CHS or Tenure, in rank ≤ 8 years; have no more than six years of research or research training experience beyond their last doctoral degree; excepting those who may have had a career hiatus due to family responsibilities or uniformed service). It is acceptable to have a non-faculty title at the time of the application (e.g., post-doctoral fellow, assistant scientist, clinical instructor) as long as the applicant will be promoted to Assistant Professor by July 1, 2025. **This must be clearly indicated in the letter of support from the applicant’s dean or department chair**;
* Identify/secure interdisciplinary mentors with extensive women’s health or sex differences research experience;
* Must have 75% protected time annually (12 months) for career development activities (exceptions can be made for surgeons or procedure-intensive specialties who may request 50% protected time with a strong justification). Applicants who hold appointments less than 12 months or full time (i.e., have VA appointments) are eligible, but still must meet the protected time requirement;
* Former/current PI on any grant with $100,000 or less in direct costs, including NIH Small Grants (R03), Exploratory/ Developmental (R21) or SBIR, STTR (R43, R44 grants), **are eligible to apply**.
* However, former or current PDs/PIs on any NIH-funded research project grant (or equivalent federal peer-reviewed research grant) that exceeds $100,000 in direct costs per year, or have been a PD/PI on a Center (P50, P60, P20, P30, U54) grant or subproject of a Program Project (P01), individual career development (K-series) award, or independent research project grant awards (R01) or equivalent (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/glossary.htm#R01EquivalentGrant>) **are NOT eligible to apply**.

## ROWHS PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

* **Develop an Independent Research Project**: Each Scholar is required to develop an independent research project in a substantive area of women’s health or sex differences research.
* **Prepare and/or Submit Abstracts and Manuscripts**: Each Scholar is required to prepare and submit first author abstracts and manuscripts. The abstracts should be submitted to national meetings either in women’s health or sponsored by a professional society in the Scholar's field. Similarly, manuscripts should be submitted to professional journals and/or to women's health journals.
* **Submit Grant Applications**: Each Scholar is expected to submit and revise competitive grant applications for independent research funding.
* **Mentor Requirements**: Scholars must identify a minimum of **3 mentors** forming a mentoring team comprised of: 1) a career mentor who’s role is to guide the scholar’s overall career development plan; 2) a primary research mentor most closely aligned and available to the scholar, demonstrating particular dedication to this important mentoring relationship; and 3) an additional research mentor from a complementary discipline, fostering the development of interdisciplinary scientific inquiry. All mentors must have a primary appointment with the University of Wisconsin-Madison.
* **Mentor Team Meetings**: Scholars and their mentors meet regularly to discuss research progress and career development opportunities. Scholars are expected to meet quarterly with the entire mentor team to review current research and career development activities.
* **Monthly ICTR K Scholar Seminar Series:** Scholars are required to attend monthly ICTR K Scholar sessions to increase mastery of basic research competencies.
* **Quarterly Research on Women’s Health Scholar Meetings**: Scholars are expected to attend and periodically lead a monthly Scholar meeting. Past Scholars and current mentors are also invited to attend. The meetings are used to exchange information about research progress and opportunities, review grant proposals in progress, and practice research presentations.
* **Responsible Conduct of Research**: All Scholars are required to participate and adhere to an RCR plan specified at time of acceptance that include completing the online CITI training.
* **Workshops and Professional Development Seminars**: Scholars are expected to attend trainings addressing issues relevant to women’s health and/or sex differences research, interdisciplinary research and seminars aimed at advancing the career of junior faculty.
* **Scientific Meetings**: Scholars are expected to attend a national scientific meeting in their area of research interest once during the year, in order to network with colleagues, learn about new research findings, and to present their own data.

## RESEARCH ON WOMEN’S HEALTH SCHOLAR SELECTION

Each application will be reviewed by the Program Manager for completeness and to ensure eligibility criteria are met. Applications will then be reviewed by members of a Scholar Selection Committee comprised of Program Leadership (PIs) and select members of the UWBIRCWH Interdisciplinary Advisory Committee (IAC). Applications will be scored following program guidelines. Applicant scores will be tabulated and ranked, with top applicants advancing to finalist interviews. Interviews will be conducted by the Scholar Selection Committee. Following interviews, Program Leadership will make final scholar selections. Scholar selection is based on the following criteria:

* Candidate background and preparation for a women’s health or sex differences research career
* Candidate qualifications and potential for becoming a successful independent investigator
* Scientific and technical merit of proposed research project
* Quality of candidate Individual Development Plan (IDP)
* Strength, interdisciplinarity, and commitment by the mentoring team
* Department commitment to candidate both during and beyond the appointment (research support provided by department while not required will be viewed favorably in the application)
* Supportive environment and adequate facilities

## APPLICATION

All applications should be submitted online via the application link below:

* [APPLY ONLINE HERE](https://redcap.ictr.wisc.edu/surveys/?s=HYK8DXE7XYKH3DPY)

You will need to answer all fields in the online application, and be ready to upload the required application materials in the checklist as two individual pdf documents in the order specified in the Program Application Instructions below. Completed applications must be submitted by **11:59 PM, April 25, 2025**, adhering to the instructions provided online or below in this RFA. Please contact Gillean Kitchen, Program Manager at [gkitchen@wisc.edu](mailto:gkitchen@wisc.edu) with any questions.

## APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

**Application materials must be formatted as standard (8.5x11) pages with no less than ½ inch margins; 11-point font. The application is limited to 10 pages; requirements 5-12 are not included in the page limit. The application should be saved as a PDF in the order below and uploaded in the online application.**

**The application content consists of the following:**

1. Candidate Statement (1 page): brief statement on training, qualifications and goals relating to women’s health and/or sex differences research
2. Individual Development Plan (2 pages): description of professional milestones and projected activities to progress towards these goals. [IDP template available here](https://ictr.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/UW_IDP_template.docx) or on the RoWHS website.
3. Research Plan (2 pages): proposed research project and timeline.
4. Mentoring Plan (1 page): proposed mentors and defined mentoring activities. Please indicate if the proposed mentors have completed mentor training. Specify mentoring team comprised of: 1) a career mentor whose role is to guide the scholar’s overall career development plan; 2) a primary research mentor most closely aligned and available to the scholar; and 3) a research mentor from a complimentary discipline, fostering the development of interdisciplinary scientific inquiry. All UW mentors must have a primary appointment with the University of Wisconsin-Madison
5. Budget and Budget Justification- Preliminary budget and budget justification should be uploaded as a separate single PDF document in the online application. Optional budget template available [here](https://ictr.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Budget-Template-ROWHS.xlsx) and on the RoWHS website.
6. References (no page limit)
7. Mentor letters of commitment (career, primary and additional research mentor from complimentary discipline – 1 page each).
8. Letter of support/commitment from Department Chair (1 page)- *Note that Departments are not required to provide any research support; however, it will be viewed favorably in the review. Optional sample template letter available* [*here*](https://ictr.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Chair_Letter_Template_RoWHS.docx) *and on RoWHS website.*
9. Candidate NIH biosketch
10. Candidate CV
11. Mentors NIH biosketches
12. Appendix – 2 peer reviewed publications for which you are a lead author

**UW RoWHS APPLICATION CHECKLIST**

Apply using the online application and fill in all requested fields: [**APPLY HERE**](https://redcap.ictr.wisc.edu/surveys/?s=HYK8DXE7XYKH3DPY).

Compile the below pieces of the application as **two individual pdf documents**, titled “yourlastname2025rowhsBudget” and “yourlastname2025rowhsApp” and upload and submit in the appropriate sections of the online application by **11:59 PM on April 25, 2025.**

**Budget and Budget Justification:**

\_\_\_Budget (Optional template available online [here](https://ictr.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Budget-Template-ROWHS.xlsx))

\_\_\_Budget Justification

**Application Upload Materials**:

\_\_\_\_Candidate Statement (1 page)

\_\_\_\_Individual Development Plan (2 pages)- Template available online [here](https://ictr.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/UW_IDP_template.docx)

\_\_\_\_Research Plan (2 pages)

\_\_\_\_Mentoring Plan

\_\_\_\_Candidate’s CV & NIH biosketch

\_\_\_\_Candidate’s publications (2)

\_\_\_\_Proposed Mentors (3)

* + NIH biosketch for each mentor
  + Letter of commitment from each mentor

\_\_\_\_Letter of commitment from Department Chair/Director confirming 75% protected time

while on the award. Optional template available online [here](https://ictr.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Chair_Letter_Template_RoWHS.docx).

**The anticipated start date for this application cycle is July 1, 2025.**

Contacts: Gillean Kitchen (Program Manager) [gkitchen@wisc.edu](mailto:gkitchen@wisc.edu)