SPR membership criteria: refined

Roberta Keller July 2024

Domains for membership eligibility/review

- Credentials
- Leadership, participation and productivity in pediatric/child health research
- Current research activity (i.e., recent publication)
- Hypothesis-related research relevant to pediatrics or child health
- Letters of support

Note: Multiple criteria can be met by a single accomplishment (e.g., PI on a research grant, recent first/senior author publication)

Credentials

- 1) Have completed an advanced degree (beyond Bachelor's degree)
- 2) At the time of application, \geq 3 years post completion of fellowship or, if no fellowship undertaken, \geq 3 years post final training position (including post-doc, for PhD nominees)
- 3) For allied health professionals, the requirement for an advanced degree can be waived if there is demonstrated evidence of an independent research program

Research leadership, participation, productivity

Research leadership, participation and productivity in an area relevant to pediatrics/child health with an independent trajectory as demonstrated by **one or more** of the following:

- 1) Recent (< 2-3 years) first or last author publication of original-science, hypothesis-related, peer-reviewed research from studies completed after completion of fellowship/research training
- 2) Letter of support indicating that Nominee is a project leader within a collaborative research group or network, with relevant publications and funding supporting the role and productivity
- 3) Extramural grant funding in the Nominee's primary research area, with Nominee's role in securing funding described, or as PI/multi-PI. Funding is not required for membership, but it is supportive. Funding should be for investigator-initiated, hypothesis-related research. Individual career development (e.g., K series) and K99/R00 awards are considered.

Publications submitted for review and grants listed should be responsive to and supportive of this criterion. For funding, if the nominee is not PI/multi-PI, the entry should be annotated with the nominee's role in obtaining the grant and conducting the research.

Current research activity

Publication(s) demonstrating independent research (studies conducted after completion of research training period)

 Recent (< 2-3 years), quality, original-science, peer-reviewed publication(s) in a topic related to pediatrics or child health for work undertaken since completion of fellowship/research training

Middle author papers are considered if letters of support identify that the Nominee has a leadership role relevant to the work, such as within the collaborative research group or network Submitted publications should be annotated:

- 1) To describe the hypothesis for the work in question
- 2) To describe the nominee's role in the work if not first or last author

Manuscripts that reflect work completed during the research training period do not qualify, nor do review or position papers, commentaries or book chapters

Hypothesis-related research + Letters

Application should demonstrate that Nominee is engaged in hypothesis-related research as a major focus of their career, through publications and funding, supplemented by letters

Letters of support from Nominator and Seconder must support the nominee as an investigator with evidence of hypothesis-related research as a major focus of their professional activity

A template for the Nominator letter was provided.

If the fellowship mentor is a co-author or the Nominee continues to work in the same research environment after completion of training, letters must include specific information regarding the Nominee's independent contributions. A supplemental letter in this regard from the mentor or other faculty member with in-depth knowledge can be provided if appropriate.