



Dr. James W. Woods Junior Faculty Awards

Overview and Nomination Process

Overview: From a trust fund established by the late Dr. James W. Woods, the goal of this award is to support and retain promising young members of the medical school clinical faculty.

Award Term: One year

Award Amount: **\$3,000** to support the recipient's research and scholarship. The award should not be used as a supplement to the salary of the recipient or as a substitute for a portion of the salary. The funds of the award can be used, for example, to purchase equipment or supplies, for support of technical help, for travel to scientific meetings / other institutions, or for purchase of reprints of scientific papers.

Nomination Timeline

- Call for nominations released on June 5, 2026
- Nominations due by **August 14, 2026**
- Award announced by October 2, 2026

Award recipients will be expected to give a talk as part of UNC Research Week that will take place October 19 – 23, 2026.

Eligibility

- Full time, clinical faculty who have held a UNC faculty appointment for at least three years.
- Fixed term and tenure track assistant professors are eligible
- A maximum of two faculty per department or division (if multiple) may be nominated

Nomination Materials

- **Curriculum vitae** with a complete list of publications
- A **nomination letter*** from a faculty sponsor and a letter of support from the candidate's Chair *only if* the Chair is not the nominator
 - (OPTIONAL) One or two more supporting letters from other faculty
- A description of **Past Research Accomplishments** (maximum one page)
- A **Future Research Vision** (maximum three pages) outlining the candidate's vision for their research career:
 - **Summary of Future Research Goals** (approximately one page) including key scientific questions to be pursued and long-term impact
 - **Research Outlook** (approximately two pages) describing the rationale and motivation for the research direction, including discussion of high-risk/high-reward

aspects if applicable; should highlight how the candidate's experience and insights uniquely position them to pursue these goals. Feasibility and/or preliminary data that supports the proposed plan is strongly encouraged, including relevant publications that demonstrate the foundation for the proposed work.

- A **description of the teaching, clinical, or service activities** planned for the next several years (maximum one page)
- (OPTIONAL) Appendix: material is limited to essential preliminary data and either reprints or the title and abstract page from three relevant articles published by the applicant.

* **Instructions to Nominators** – Nominators should provide a written statement in support of the nomination setting forth his/her reasons for believing that the candidate would be particularly suitable for the award. The nominator may wish to support the nomination by requesting one or two additional faculty members to write letters of recommendation for the candidate.

Materials that exceed the recommended page limits will be returned to the applicants. Documents should be prepared in Arial, size 11 font with a minimum of .5" margins on each side.

Nominations should be submitted electronically as a single PDF via e-mail to OoR_Submissions@med.unc.edu.

The Dean will make final appointment decisions with the advice and recommendation of the Review Committee.