International Society for Heart Research
North American Section

ISHR North American Section
Mid-Career Investigator Research Award Competition

The Mid-Career Investigator Research Competition award is newly established by the International Society for Heart Research North American section to recognize outstanding original research in the field of cardiovascular sciences by mid-career investigators. Up to three finalists will be shortlisted to present their work at the North American Section meeting in Minneapolis, MN on **May 31-June 3, 2026** It is expected that all finalists will attend and participate in the entire Section meeting.

Qualifications:
Candidates should be registered and in good standing ISHR-NAS members that hold a faculty appointment of Associate Professor or at least 8 years from 1st faculty appointment or Individuals who have taken a position in biotechnology or pharmaceutical industries with at least 8 years' experience (qualifications include a Ph.D. or equivalent degree – or – a PharmD. or equivalent degree with at least >eight (8) years of experience). Full Professors will not be considered for this award.

Applicants must also be a paid member of ISHR by **February 1, 2026**. For membership application please contact Dr. Maria Kontaridis at kelleybrodsky.ishrnas@gmail.com.

Rules for Entry:

- Deadline for receipt of these documents is **February 16, 2026, by midnight.**
- Please send a single pdf file electronically (**Combined as a single pdf file no larger than 4MB**) to Kelley Brodsky (kelleybrodsky.ishrnas@gmail.com) containing the following: in the subject line of the email: MCI Scholarship Award Competition

1. An unpublished manuscript (single spaced) in the field of cardiovascular research. This must include an abstract (~250 words) and can be in pre-submission stage or more final version. The original manuscript may not exceed 6000 words and 7 figures, and should not be previously peer-reviewed and published (on PubMed) as of March 16, 2026. The applicant should be the last/senior author of the manuscript, and only 1 manuscript per candidate will be considered.
2. Curriculum vitae in NIH BioSketch format (≤5 pages).
3. A brief letter from department chair or division head in which the research was done and should include a) a statement describing the role of the applicant in the work described in the manuscript and b) a succinct evaluation of the applicant's potential as an investigator.

If you do not get a confirming e-mail from Kelley Brodsky within one week (or by Feb 23rd, 2026), please send a follow up inquiry without the attached file. Failure to follow these guidelines is grounds for administrative withdrawal.

Three finalists will be selected by a committee and invited to present their results at the MCI Research Scholarship Award Competition. A panel of judges will give the award based on scientific merit of the manuscript, quality of the presentation, and responses to questions asked during the discussion period. All finalists will be given a certificate and USD $500 check toward a portion of the cost of their travel expenses to attend the ISHR Meeting. The first place winner will also be given a plaque and an additional award of USD $500.