FAQ	Answer
How long is this program?	The EPS program runs for 15 months- from August of the awarded year to November of the following year.
What is the maximum awarded amount?	EPS will receive up to $20,000.
What are the requirements if I am accepted into the program?	As an EPS Scholar, you will be expected to: • Complete a 3-day didactic training • Attend monthly EPS meeting/groups • Complete proposed project • Complete final project report • Attend at least 1 IRB meeting as an observer • Attend USC SOM Internal Peer Review meetings, at least one per quarter • Present an extramural grant proposal utilizing findings from fellowship
On what campus will the monthly EPS discussion group meeting be held?	Monthly EPS meetings will be held at the School of Medicine VA campus at 6311 Garners Ferry Road.
What if I am unable to attend the monthly EPS meet/groups?	Remote access to meetings will be available. For those unable to attend live sessions (in-person or remotely) should contact the RCTH to access recorded sessions.
Is there a specific format for my proposal? If so, where can I find that document?	We recommend investigators follow NIH PHS 398 guidelines and formatting for their proposal. https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-d/general/g.400-phs-398-research-plan-form.htm
What type of guidance/support will be provided as I am writing the proposal?	The RCTH will be providing an informational session on April 23rd and will be available by appointment for interested investigators. For session information or to schedule an appointment, please email the center at rcth@uscmed.sc.edu
Is there someone who will review my proposal before it is time for submission?	Proposals will not be reviewed prior to the submission deadline. We encourage investigators to reach out to potential mentors for this type of activity.
What information should be included in the Letter of Intent (LOI) and what is the format?	The LOI should include: • Name, email, telephone number and department of the prospective physician scientist • The Name, email, telephone number and department of any key personnel • Mentor's Name, email, telephone number and department (if one has been identified) • Descriptive title of the project • Brief overview or abstract of proposed project (max 500 words)

Will Letters of Intent be evaluated based on merit?	No, the letters of intent will help inform the RCTH on the later review process of complete applications.
What information should be included in the letter of support from my department chair?	The LOS should indicate the department chair's knowledge and support of the time needed to complete fellowship requirements and proposed project. Please refer to the RFA and LOS template for more information.
What is a Data Use Agreement?	Data Use Agreements (DUAs) are contractual documents that outline terms and conditions used for the transfer of nonpublic data that is subject to restriction on its use.
Why is a Data Use Agreement (DUA) or documentation of permission to an existing dataset needed for submission of this application?	Obtaining DUAs and/or permissions to use or obtain data and datasets can be a lengthy process. Obtaining these permissions **and** completing projects may not be feasible in the program timeframe.