Young Investigator Initiative Grant Mentoring and Career Development Program
Requirements for the Application Process

Eligibility Requirements:
1. Junior faculty
2. Senior fellows, residents, or post-doctoral researcher that are doing research and have a faculty appointment in place or confirmed, or
3. Basic and clinical investigators, without or with training awards (including K awards)

Documentation Required:

1. Letter of nomination from division or department chair
   - State whether the candidate is applying with or without a training grant
   - Include a description of the candidate’s work
   - Complete contact information for both the candidate and the nominator
   - Pledge to cover the costs for roundtrip airfare for each attendance and a $500 registration fee for the full program if the candidate is accepted. The full program includes two Young Investigator workshops, with the participants spending two (2) days at each workshop
   - Confirm there will be internal institutional support for the candidate to pursue their research interests

2. Letter of support from an internal institutional research mentor
   - Indicate the support this person is providing, or will provide and type of guidance
   - Outline the plan for the mentorship, including how he/she will provide support for the candidate’s research project
   - If no institutional mentor is possible, at least a mentor in the same research area or with ability to guide applicant, stating the mentor will meet regularly with the candidate

3. One or two page document with program title
   - Outline of a proposed grant application, to include the question and specific aims
   - A brief description of design and methods
   - Make certain to include applicant’s name

4. NIH Biosketch of the applicant
   - Include complete contact details
   - Discipline specialization and sub-specialty
   - Listing of publications

The completed application packet is due by January 15, 2013.

The application should be addressed to Young Investigators Initiative and e-mailed to usbji@usbji.org (preferred), or mailed to the USBJI address on the cover page of this letter.

E-mailed Applications
When e-mailing an application, in the Subject line, please state: Your Last Name - YII Applicant - and either With Training Grant, or, Without Training Grant - Letters, Proposal, CV.

Subject line example: Jones - YII Applicant - Without Training Grant - Letters, Proposal, CV
For filenames please state: Your Last Name, underscore, followed by content matter.
For example:
Jones_NominationLetter.doc
Jones_MentorLetter.doc
Jones_Proposal.doc
Jones_CV.doc
Musculoskeletal Diseases: Leading Cause of Disability and Health Care Cost

- **Musculoskeletal diseases are the most common health condition in the United States.**
  - Estimated U.S. cost for treatment of all persons with a musculoskeletal disease diagnosis and indirect lost wages was $950 billion annually for the years 2004 to 2006, 7.4% of the gross domestic product.¹
  - The aging boomer generation, persons aged 45 to 64, accounts for an increasingly greater proportion of total musculoskeletal disease treatment cost and lost wages, a trend that will continue for the next several decades.
  - One in two adults reported a chronic musculoskeletal condition in 2005, twice the rate of reported chronic circulatory (heart condition) or respiratory conditions.²

- **Musculoskeletal diseases are frequent cause for seeking medical care.**³
  - More than 30% of Americans require medical care because of a musculoskeletal disease.
  - Back pain accounted for more than 53 million health care visits in 2004.
  - Arthritis accounted for more than 44 million ambulatory care visits and 1 million hospitalizations in 2004.
  - Musculoskeletal injuries accounted for more than 57 million health care visits in 2004, 60% of all injury treatment visits.

- **Musculoskeletal diseases are a major cause of disability and lost work time.**
  - 15 million adults, 7% of the adult U.S. population, report difficulty performing routine activities of daily living due to a musculoskeletal condition. Nearly one-half are between the ages of 45 and 64.²
  - Back pain was the cause of 313.5 million bed days and 186.7 million lost work days in 2004.⁴
  - Musculoskeletal disorders for work-related injuries account for one-third of days away from work.⁵
  - One in two women and one in four men over the age of 50 will have an osteoporosis-related fracture in his or her remaining lifetime. Hip fractures are associated with chronic pain, reduced mobility, and increasing dependence, with a 20% mortality rate in the first 12 months.⁶
  - Although less frequent, millions of children and adults suffer from spinal deformities, musculoskeletal congenital conditions, and cancers of bone and connective tissue, reducing quality of life and longevity.

Facts in Brief is a taken from *The Burden of Musculoskeletal Diseases in the United States*
For more information: [www.boneandjointburden.org](http://www.boneandjointburden.org)

The Bone and Joint Decade
The Bone and Joint Decade is a worldwide campaign to advance understanding, prevention and treatment of musculoskeletal disorders through education and research. To find out more visit the U.S. web site, [www.usbj.org](http://www.usbj.org)

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² National Center for Health Statistics, National Health Interview Survey, 2005.