

Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Neuromuscular Disease

Funded by the American Brain Foundation and the Muscle Study Group

Application Deadline: October 1, 2017

The American Academy of Neurology is pleased to support clinical research training in neuromuscular disease. This award aims to recognize the importance of good clinical research and to encourage young investigators in clinical studies. The AAN Research Program demonstrates the AAN Board of Directors' dedication to promoting neurology and neuroscience research and training.

Each award will consist of a commitment of \$55,000 per year for two years, plus a \$10,000 per year stipend to support education and research-related costs for a total of \$130,000. Supplementation of the award with other grants is permissible, but to be eligible to apply for this award, the other grant source(s) cannot exceed \$65,000 annually. For additional information regarding this policy, visit: <https://www.aan.com/research-and-awards/aan-research-program/frequently-asked-questions/>

HOW TO APPLY

1. Visit AAN.com/view/ResearchProgram
2. Select "Research Training Scholarship (Fellowship)"
3. Select "Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Neuromuscular Disease"
4. Select "Apply now"

Please submit only one application. The review committee will consider your application for all of the applicable funding opportunities.

IMPORTANT DATES

October 1, 2017: Application deadline
January 2018: Notification of recipients
July 1, 2018: Funding begins

ELIGIBILITY

1. For the purpose of this scholarship, research is defined as "patient-oriented research conducted with human subjects, or translational research specifically designed to develop treatments or enhance diagnosis of neurological disease. These areas of research include epidemiologic or behavioral studies, clinical trials, studies of disease mechanisms, the development of new technologies, and health services and outcomes research." Disease-related studies not directly involving humans or human tissue are also encouraged if the primary goal is the development of therapies, diagnostic tests, or other tools to prevent or mitigate neurological diseases.
2. Recipient must be an AAN member interested in an academic career in neurological research who has completed residency or a PhD no more than 5 years prior to the beginning of this award.

EVALUATION AND SELECTION

Applications are evaluated by reviewers based on the following criteria:

- Applicant's ability and promise as a clinician-scientist based on prior record of achievement and career plan, letters of reference, and NIH Biosketch (30 percent)
- Quality and nature of the training to be provided and the institutional, departmental, and mentor-specific training environment (30 percent)
- Quality and originality of the research plan (40 percent)

ANNUAL AND FINAL PROGRESS REPORTS

An annual progress report is due in May of the first year. Renewal of the award in year two is contingent upon presentation of a satisfactory progress report. Additionally, a final research report and a final expenditure report are due within 60 days following the close of the grant term. The final expenditure report must be prepared by the institution's financial office.

MATERIALS FOR APPLICATION

Complete an online application by visiting AAN.com/view/ResearchProgram:

1. Letter of nomination from the chair of your department, including assurance that clinical service responsibilities will be restricted to no more than 20 percent of the recipient's time.
2. Three-page Research Plan, including brief statements of aims, background, and the contemplated approaches to methodology and data. The research plan should be written by the applicant and should represent his/her original work. However, the applicant is expected and encouraged to develop this plan based on discussion with the proposed mentor. It is appropriate but not required for the proposed work to be specifically related to the mentor's ongoing research.
3. Applicant's NIH Biosketch.
4. Two letters of reference supporting the applicant's potential for a clinical, academic research career and qualifications for the scholarship.
5. Listing of the applicant's current, pending, and overlapping support including pending overlapping support using NIH format.
6. Letter from proposed mentor detailing his/her support of and commitment to the applicant and the proposed research and training plan. The letter should specifically indicate the mentor's role in the development and preparation of the applicant's research plan and include:
 - How the proposed research fits into the mentor's research program
 - Expertise and experience in the area of research proposed and the nature of the mentor's proposed time commitment to the supervision and training of the applicant
 - Mentor's prior experience in the supervision, training, and successful mentoring of clinician scientists
 - Potential for applicant's future research career and comparison of applicant among other residents
7. Proposed mentor's NIH Biosketch, including listing of mentor's current and pending support.
8. Plans and arrangement for formal course work including quantitative clinical epidemiology, biostatistics, study design, data analysis, and ethics.

Contact Information:

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