

Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society-St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Fellowship Program in Basic and Translational Research

APPLICATION FOR FELLOWS ENTERING JULY 1, 2021 AND FOR RESEARCH SUPPORT STARTING JULY 1, 2022

The Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society-St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Fellowship Program in Basic and Translational Research is funded by St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and jointly sponsored by the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society and St. Jude. The goal of the program is to develop a larger cadre of physician-scientists who are trained to carry out rigorous, high quality basic and translational investigation in the field of pediatric infectious diseases. Applicants are encouraged to pursue research opportunities in cutting edge basic science and translational research units, in most cases outside of departments of pediatrics, including units in this country and throughout the world. Fellows supported by the program should have fully protected time for research throughout their research years. Upon written request, approval may be given for limited clinical activities following the second year of research.

Each year fellows will have the opportunity to present their research at an annual scientific symposium that is held at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and involves leading scientists in microbiology and infectious diseases (the St. Jude-PIDS Pediatric Infectious Diseases Research Conference).

During their clinical year of training, fellows will be offered the option of a one-month rotation on the Infectious Diseases service at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. This rotation will provide an intensive experience in the diagnosis and treatment of infectious complications in patients with compromised immunity. Fellows will be given flexibility in setting up their research program, particularly encouraging a diversity of training sites to maximize exposure to excellence. Collaboration with St. Jude investigators is encouraged, but not mandatory.

Eligibility: Candidates must possess an MD or an MD/PhD. At the time of application, they should be incoming fellows accepted into an accredited pediatric infectious diseases fellowship training program in North America. They must be nominated by their Director of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, who must be a member in good standing of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society.

Support: Support will begin July 1, 2022 (in the second year of fellowship). Awardees will receive a salary of \$70,000 during the first year of support, with an incremental increase of \$5,000 for each subsequent year. Support will cover a total of three years and will include \$15,000 per year for fringe benefits and for use at the discretion of the research mentor for supplies, small equipment, and meeting attendance by the fellow.

Application and Selection Process: The application should include a completed application form (attached), a personal statement from the applicant, a research proposal from the applicant, a nominating letter from the applicant's division director, a letter from the applicant's prospective research mentor, a copy of the NIH biographical sketch from the prospective research mentor, a curriculum vitae from the applicant, letter of reference from two medical or scientific professionals who can comment on the applicant's potential for an academic career and an official copy of the applicant's medical school transcript. All items with the exception of the official transcript should be combined into a single pdf and forwarded to Christy Phillips in the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society Office at pids@idsociety.org. **Application deadline extended to 5 pm ET on Thursday, April 1, 2021.**

The personal statement from the applicant should include a summary of career goals and reasons for applying for a Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society-St. Jude Fellowship in Basic and Translational Research. The research proposal from the applicant should be hypothesis-based and should include a list of specific aims, a paragraph on the significance of the proposed research, a summary of relevant background information and preliminary data, a description of the research design, and a list of references. The proposal may NOT exceed 5 pages (typed single space 12 pitch, font size 12 point, 1 inch margins) (references are not counted toward the page limit). The statement from the nominating division director should summarize reasons for nominating the applicant and reasons for selection of the particular research mentor. In addition, this statement should document the commitment to oversee the fellow's training experience and to provide fully protected time to conduct research (after the initial clinical year). The letter from the prospective research mentor should include a brief description of the current projects in his/her research program, a list of current research personnel, an outline of the proposed project for the fellow, and documentation of the commitment to directly supervise the fellow.

Applications will be reviewed by a committee comprised of members of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (including one from St. Jude Children's Research Hospital) as well as outside scientists. The awardee must also be approved by the St. Jude Fellowship committee. Announcement of the awards will be made at the spring meeting of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (at the Pediatric Academic Societies Meeting).

Progress Report: Fellows supported by the program must prepare a progress report during each year of research and submit the report by May 1 to Christy Phillips in the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society Office (PIDS Headquarters, 4040 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22203 or cphillips@idsociety.org). The report should summarize experimental results, indicate problems encountered, and detail any alterations in the original protocol. In addition, the report should include a list of publications, pending publications, and presentations at scientific meetings.

Final Report: At the completion of the research period, fellows must furnish a final summary of accomplishments. The report should be sent to Christy Phillips in the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society Office by August 1 following expiration of the award.

Acknowledgement: Recipients of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society – St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Fellowship in Basic and Translational Research must acknowledge the program in all publications that result from the research supported by the award.

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED ELECTRONICALLY BY THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2021.

Questions regarding the program can be addressed to Dr. Joseph W. St. Geme, III (215-590-2766).

Nominating Division Director: _____

Institution/Medical School: _____

Address: _____

Phone/email address: _____

Prospective Research Mentor: _____

Institution/Medical School: _____

Address: _____

Phone/email address: _____

Proposed Starting Date of Research Training: _____

State any current sources of funding and the duration of commitment for this funding.

State any pending sources of funding, the period for which this funding is requested, and the date that a decision is anticipated.

Names and addresses of two medical/scientific professionals (other than nominating division director) providing letters of reference:

1. _____

2. _____

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Division Director: _____ Date: _____

An acknowledgement of your completed application will be sent via email

Please send an electronic file to: Christy Phillips at pids@idsociety.org

Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society-St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Fellowship Program in Basic and Translational Research Application

CHECKLIST

PLEASE COMPILE IN THE PRECISE ORDER INDICATED.

1. Completed application form
2. Personal statement from applicant*
3. Research proposal from applicant**
4. Statement from nominating division director[#]
5. Letter from research mentor^{##}
6. Research mentor's NIH Biographical Sketch (two page or modular three page)
7. Curriculum vitae from applicant (listing publications, honors, awards)
8. Medical school transcript from applicant
9. Letters of reference (2)^{tt}

* **Personal statement from applicant** should include a summary of career goals and reasons for applying for a PIDS-St. Jude Basic and Translational Research Award.

** **Research proposal from applicant** should be hypothesis-based and should include a list of specific aims, a paragraph on the significance of the proposed research, a summary of relevant background information and preliminary data, a description of the research design, and a list of references. The proposal may NOT exceed 5 pages (typed single space 12 pitch, font size 12 point, 1 inch margins; references are not counted toward the page limit).

Statement from nominating division director should summarize reasons for nominating the applicant and reasons for selection of the particular research mentor. In addition, this statement should document the commitment to oversee the fellow's training experience and to provide fully protected time to conduct research (after the initial clinical year for incoming fellows).

Letter from research mentor should include a brief description of the current projects in the research program, a list of current research personnel, an outline of the proposed project for the PIDS-St. Jude fellow, and documentation of the commitment to directly supervise the fellow.

tt **Letters of reference** should be sent by the writers directly to Christy Phillips via email at pids@idsociety.org.