

**Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society and  
St. Jude-Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society  
Fellowship Awards Program**

**Application Deadline: Friday, April 1, 2022 (5 PM Eastern Time)**

The Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (PIDS) is now accepting applications for the 2022 cycle for two awards: the *Stanley and Susan Plotkin and Sanofi Pasteur Fellowship Award* and the *St. Jude-PIDS Fellowship Award in Basic and Translational Science*.

The goal of these two programs is to foster the development of highly trained physician-scientists in Pediatric Infectious Diseases. Applicants are encouraged to pursue opportunities to conduct cutting-edge clinical, translational, and basic science research in fields such as public health, epidemiology, clinical trials of antimicrobials, outcomes research, pharmacokinetics, pathophysiology, molecular pathogenesis, vaccine development, and other fields relevant to Pediatric Infectious Diseases.

**Stanley and Susan Plotkin and Sanofi Pasteur Fellowship Award**

Established through the generosity of Stanley and Susan Plotkin and Sanofi Pasteur, these fellowship awards support outstanding basic, translational, or clinical research in Pediatric Infectious Diseases. The two-year grants are available for Pediatric Infectious Diseases fellows-in-training enrolled in certified US and Canadian programs. Two of these awards will be available for 2022.

*Eligibility:*

- Candidates must possess a MD or MD/PhD or equivalent and be at least a first-year fellow in a Pediatric Infectious Diseases program in North America at the time of application.
- During the fellowship award period, the applicant is expected to devote the majority of effort (approximately 75%) conducting the research project under the direct supervision of a mentor.
- The primary or co-mentor must be a current PIDS member.

*Support:*

- The award provides \$50,000 in total costs per year for 2 years, with the 2nd year of support dependent upon satisfactory research progress.
- If the award is given to a candidate in the final year of fellowship, only year one of support will be awarded.
- The award may be used at the discretion of the applicant, such as salary support, purchase of small equipment, technical support, or research supplies. Indirect costs are not permitted.

**St. Jude-PIDS Fellowship Award in Basic and Translational Science**

Funded by St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and jointly sponsored by PIDS and St. Jude, the goal of this program is to develop an enhanced cadre of physician-scientists who are trained to conduct rigorous, high-quality, basic or translational research studies in the field of Pediatric Infectious Diseases. This award provides support for 3 years to maximize research

time. Applicants are encouraged to consider mentors outside their Division of Infectious Diseases. A one-month rotation on the Infectious Diseases service at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is offered to provide an intensive experience in care of patients with compromised immunity. Collaboration with St. Jude investigators is encouraged but not mandatory. Award recipients will present their research each year at the St. Jude/PIDS Pediatric Infectious Diseases Research Conference. Questions regarding this award can be addressed to Dr. Joseph W. St. Geme, III (215-590- 2766).

*Eligibility:*

- Candidates must possess an MD or an MD/PhD or equivalent and be a first-year fellow in an accredited pediatric infectious diseases fellowship training program in North America.
- During the fellowship award period (July 1, 2022-June 20, 2025), the applicant is expected to devote the majority of effort conducting the research project under the direct supervision of a mentor –approximately 75% during the first year of support, increasing to approximately 90% during the subsequent 2 years.

*Support:*

- Support will begin July 1, 2022 (in the second year of fellowship). The award provides a total of three years of support.
- The award provides \$70,000 of salary support during the first year of support, with an incremental increase of \$5,000 for each subsequent year.
- An additional \$15,000 per year is provided 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**

A single application process is used for both award mechanisms. All applications from candidates eligible for the St. Jude-PIDS Fellowship Award (focused on basic or translational research) will be reviewed by the St. Jude Review Committee in an initial round of review. All applications, including those not selected for the St. Jude-PIDS Fellowship Award, will then be reviewed by the Fellowship Awards Committee to be considered for the Stanley and Susan Plotkin and Sanofi Pasteur Fellowship Awards. Applicants will learn about funding decisions by June 1, 2022. Announcement of the awardees will be made at ID Week in October 2022.

Applications for these awards must include the following items (please see following paragraphs for additional instructions):

1. Completed application form (attached)
2. Applicant's biosketch in current NIH format (5-page limit)
3. Mentor's biosketch in current NIH format (5-page limit)
4. Personal statement from the applicant
5. Research proposal (5-page limit, including the statement of overall hypothesis and specific aims and not including references)
6. Letter of support from the applicant's division director or fellowship program director
7. Letter of support from the prospective research mentor, which should include a detailed career development plan for the applicant
8. Letter of support from an additional individual who can comment on the applicant's

potential for success

This application form and all other components of the application (see list below) should be combined into a single pdf and sent to Christy Phillips in the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society Office at [pids@idsociety.org](mailto:pids@idsociety.org) by **5 PM Eastern Time on Friday, April 1, 2022**.

### **Additional Instructions**

*Personal Statement:* The personal statement from the applicant should include a summary of career goals, reasons for applying for a fellowship award, and career development plans for the award period.

*Research Proposal:* The primary hypothesis of the research proposal and specific aims designed to address that hypothesis should be described clearly and concisely. The applicant should summarize the significance of the proposed research, relevant background information, and any available preliminary data. The experimental methods to be employed and plans for statistical analysis, including consideration for sample size (e.g., power analysis), should be described in detail. Implications and possible applications of results of the proposed project to the care of children should be discussed.

- Use Arial, Helvetica, Palatino Linotype, or Georgia typeface and a font size of 11 points or larger. Type density, including characters and spaces, must be no more than 15 characters per inch. Type may be no more than six lines per inch.
- Use at least one-half inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right) for all pages.

*Division Director Letter:* The statement from the applicant's division director or fellowship program director should summarize the applicant's qualifications and potential for success and provide support for the applicant's choice of research mentor and research project. This statement should also document the division's commitment to preserve the appropriate amount of protected time for the fellow to conduct research during the award period.

*Mentor Letter:* The letter of support from the research mentor should include a brief description of the current projects in their research program, a list of current research personnel, a summary of the applicant's proposed research project, and documentation of the commitment to directly supervise the fellow. The mentor should also describe in detail a specific plan to foster the applicant's career as a physician-scientist during their fellowship.

### **Progress Report**

Recipients of the Stanley and Susan Plotkin and Sanofi Pasteur Fellowship Award or the St. Jude-PIDS Fellowship Award in Basic and Translational Science must prepare a progress report at the end of each year of support. 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. Reports should be submitted 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](mailto:cphillips@idsociety.org)).

**Final Report**

At the completion of the award period, fellows must generate a final progress report summarizing their 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 Stanley and Susan Plotkin and Sanofi Pasteur Fellowship Award or the St. Jude-PIDS Fellowship Award in Basic and Translational Science must acknowledge the program in all publications that result from the research supported by the award.