REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Research Training Grant - Medical Students

OVERVIEW

The National Center for Regenerative Medicine (NCRM) builds upon leading research and clinical programs at its founding institutions, Case Western Reserve University (CWRU), Cleveland Clinic (CC), University Hospitals Case Medical Center (UHCMC), Athersys, and The Ohio State University (OSU), in heart disease, cancer, genetic disorders, and neurodegenerative diseases, coupled with a 35-year history of research on non-embryonic stem cells at these institutions. This combination of outstanding clinical and research programs, combined with tested and proven experience using non-embryonic stem cell transplantation to treat patients, makes this center unique in the United States.

The NCRM summer research training program was created to support local medical students interested in stem cell and regenerative medicine research. Trainees are provided opportunities for scientific growth by working with our renowned members.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Applicant must be enrolled in medical school at:
   - Case Western Reserve University, School of Medicine
   - Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University

2. Applicant must be in good academic standing

3. Applicant should have completed at least one year of medical school

4. Applicant’s mentor should be faculty/staff at one of NCRM’s founding institutions

5. Applicant’s project should satisfy partial research requirements for the MD degree, preferred

APPLICATION

A completed application will consist of the following materials.

1. Applicant’s curriculum vitae
2. Letter of support from project mentor
3. Project proposal (2-3 pages) describing:
   - Applicant’s interest in stem cells and regenerative medicine research
   - Project overview
   - Estimated time commitment required for proposed project
   - Contribution to student’s overall educational goals
**SUBMISSION DEADLINE**

Applications must be submitted on or before **February 19, 2016**. Submit completed application to Charlene Mitchell, Training & Education Program Manager at **clm25@cwru.edu**. **Decisions will be made no later than March 18, 2016.**

**DURATION OF THE AWARD**

The duration and start/end dates will vary based on each institution’s research curriculum guidelines.

**TRAINEE AWARD**

NCRM will award 4 research training grants. Each award will total $3,500.00. A portion of the award ($500.00) will be given to the laboratory for research materials and supplies.

**TRAINING SITE**

The training site should conduct research in the area of stem cells and regenerative medicine. The training site should have an established research program as indicated, for example by, the following:

1) successful extra- and/or intramural competitive grant funding;
2) current IRB-approved clinical, or laboratory investigations;
3) research presentations at national or international meetings;
4) publications in peer-reviewed journals;
5) dedicated funds, space, and support personnel available to ensure completion of projects in which the applicant will participate.

**THE MENTOR**

The mentor(s) should be well-established and possess the following:

1) mentoring experience with former trainees whom have productive scientific careers,
2) expertise in the proposed area of research, and
3) expertise in research methodology.

The mentor(s) must commit to the necessary time to provide both specific and general research training for the trainee, supervise the trainee’s research project, and provide the necessary equipment and resources to carry out the research project. **In addition, mentors are required to match the award in the amount of $500.00.**

**EXPECTATIONS**

The training and research expectations are as follows:

1) The trainee will meet with the mentor or designee on a weekly basis.
2) The trainee will design or participate in one or more investigation projects.
3) The trainee will complete a responsible conduct of research module, and safety modules, preferably prior to the start of the research period.
4) The trainee will attend department seminars to further develop understanding of the field.
5) The trainee will submit two progress reports to the mentor outlining the work being performed over the duration of the project.
6) Acknowledge the support of the training grant in all posters, presentations that come out of the work in this program. The following statement should be used:

“Supported by an ENGAGE training grant from the National Center for Regenerative Medicine.”

REVIEW CRITERIA

Each proposal will be reviewed based on the following scientific merit.

1) Mentor’s ability to meet expectations for training as outlined above
2) Quality of the research project summary
3) Evidence of commitment to the trainee

PROGRAM DIRECTORS AND STAFF

Stanton L. Gerson, MD
Director, National Center for Regenerative Medicine
Ph: 216.844.8565

Jeremy N. Rich, MD, MHSc
Co-Director, National Center for Regenerative Medicine
Ph: 216.636.1010

Charlene Mitchell, MBA
Training and Education, Program Manager
Ph: 216.368.4928
Email: clm25@case.edu