

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS (revised)
INTRAMURAL AIDS RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS FOR
POSTBACS, GRADUATE STUDENTS, AND POSTDOCS
2009

A major mission of the NIH Intramural Research Program and the Office of AIDS Research (OAR), part of the Office of the Director, is to train the next generation of researchers to continue the battle to halt the AIDS pandemic. To expand our efforts to build this workforce, the Office of AIDS Research, the Office of Intramural Research, and the Office of Intramural Research & Training will provide competitive fellowships to encourage the recruitment of new researchers from other scientific disciplines to the broad field of AIDS research.

Postbaccalaureate trainees in the NIH Intramural Research Program (all of whom must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents) and predoctoral (students in the NIH Graduate Partnerships Program) and postdoctoral trainees in the IRP, both U.S. citizens and individuals from abroad, whose work is directly applicable to HIV/AIDS research, will be eligible for support.

Please visit the FY 2009 Trans-NIH Plan for HIV-Related Research accessible on <http://www.oar.nih.gov/strategicplan/fy2009/index.asp> to learn more about the breadth and scope of NIH AIDS research, a unique and complex multi-Institute, multi-disciplinary, global research program. Perhaps no other disease so thoroughly transcends every area of clinical medicine and basic scientific investigation, crossing the boundaries of the NIH Institutes and Centers (ICs).

This comprehensive portfolio of basic and clinical research includes: natural history and epidemiology; etiology and pathogenesis; therapeutics research; vaccines; microbicides; and behavioral and social science research to address HIV infection and its associated coinfections, opportunistic infections, malignancies, and other complications. The research focuses not only on the critical elements of the epidemic in the U.S., particularly among racial and ethnic populations, but also on the global pandemic. Fellowship proposals focusing on one or more of these scientific disciplines would be considered for potential support under this new initiative.

While all tenure-track and tenured investigators in the NIH Intramural Research Program are potential mentors for this program, the awarding of one of these fellowships will be in recognition of strong science and an outstanding mentoring record. The application process will include a rigorous evaluation of the mentor's training record and will require a comprehensive training plan, written by the mentor on behalf of the trainee. The training plan should include a commitment on the part of the mentor to encourage trainee participation in appropriate IC- and OITE-sponsored training activities.

AIDS Research Fellowship (ARF) awards will include full stipend support, health insurance, and limited tuition support (for predoctoral fellows). Trainees supported by these awards will also be considered for travel support to AIDS meetings. Initial funding of ARF awards will be for one year, but awards may be renewed for a second year pending availability of funds and evaluation of scientific and career development progress.

Funds for this program must be committed, and the trainee must begin his/her tenure at the NIH in FY 2009. Applications will be evaluated on a rolling basis; there is no deadline. Mentors may apply for support for current or new trainees. Applications that will support trainees from disadvantaged populations are particularly encouraged.

To apply, PIs should submit the following documents to the Office of Intramural Training & Education, Building 2, Room 2W23, Attn: Dr. Pat Sokolove:

1. A brief (one page, double-spaced) statement outlining the trainee's specific qualifications for this award
2. A research plan describing the research to be conducted during the applicant's year of ARF support. This research plan should be no longer than one page, double-spaced. The research plan must show clear relationship to the Trans-NIH Plan for HIV-Related Research.
3. A career development plan specifying the experiences that are planned for the trainee, including opportunities for interaction with other groups and scientists, opportunities to present ongoing research, and training activities offered by the IC or the OITE. The relationship of these activities to the long-range plans of the applicant should also be discussed. The skills that the trainee will learn, both at and away from the bench, should be described.
4. A letter from the proposed mentor describing prior mentorship of postbacs, graduate students, and/or postdocs, the research environment and facilities available to the trainee, and the relationship of the research experience to the trainee's career goals.