

# Graduate Fellowship Program Request for Applications

## Purpose and Overview

The Medical College of Wisconsin Cancer Center Fellowship Program is designed to train exceptional cancer scientists. The goal is to recruit and train the next generation of leaders in cancer research. Applications from basic, clinical, and population sciences are welcome. This prestigious program funds fellowships for both pre and postdoctoral trainees. This RFA is for Graduate (PhD student) fellows. The MCW Cancer Center Graduate Fellowship provides research fellowships to support the development of highly promising and accomplished PhD trainees with the potential to become independent cancer research scientists. Due to the complexity of cancer, finding ways to prevent and cure this disease requires

## Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be assigned to a minimum of two reviewers who have substantial expertise in cancer research and reviewing grants. These reviewers will score applications based on standard NIH criteria for fellowships

- x Applicant strengths and research potential.
- x For senior mentors, their track record of training will be evaluated. For more junior mentors, potential as a mentor will be considered. All mentors will be judged by their commitment to the career of the trainee and planned training experience as documented in their Sponsor Statement (see below).
- x Significance, innovation, impact, approach, and cancer relevance of the project.

## Application Instructions

- x Application Format: Use standard 12 point font, single space, and half inch margins throughout the application. Consecutively number all pages.
- x Face Page: Completed through online application portal.
- x Career Development Plan (4 page limit). This section is to be written by the applicant and mentor and should reflect career plans and aspirations after the completion of training, including the steps that the applicant plans to take to support the transition to the desired career path in cancer research
- x Response to Prior Critique

- x Letters of Support (if needed) Letters from collaborators to state the specific activities that the collaborator and their group will contribute to the training of the applicant and feasibility of the proposal. These are distinct from Letters of Recommendation or Sponsor Statement (see below).
  - x NIH Biosketch (5-page limit for each): Submit one biosketch for the fellow and one for the mentor, both in the NIH format.
  - x Letters of Recommendation Letters should be submitted in confidentiality to [MCWCCResearchPrograms@mcw.edu](mailto:MCWCCResearchPrograms@mcw.edu) with a subject line "Graduate Fellowship: 'applicant name' Letter of Recommendation"
- Two letters of recommendation are required 1) the sponsor statement (aka mentor's letter of recommendation, see below) and 2) one additional letter.
- x Sponsor's Statement (2-page limit) should include

- x Final progress report summarizing project results, consulting publications, and grant applications submitted and planned.
- x Fellow and mentor will be asked to participate in MCW Cancer Center sponsored philanthropic endeavors.