



AGA-CENTOCOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP IN GASTROINTESTINAL INFLAMMATION AND IMMUNOLOGY

DESCRIPTION

This award provides \$50,000 to enable promising young investigators from outside the United States to spend a year at a U.S. institution engaged full-time in research related to the fundamental processes in gastrointestinal inflammation and immunology.

OBJECTIVE

- To provide the opportunity for young investigators from outside the U.S. to participate in basic research on inflammatory disease processes at prominent institutions in the U.S. The award provides salary support for full-time research.
- To initiate future international collaborative research efforts in inflammatory digestive diseases.
- The proposed project should address an important question in such a way as to provide a meaningful answer.

ELIGIBILITY

- At the time of application, candidates are not allowed to hold any other similar research grant.
- These awards may not be renewed.
- No more than one application will be accepted from any institution in a given year.
- Candidates must hold an MD or equivalent degree (eg, MB, ChB, MBBS).
- Applicants should currently be on the faculty of an academic institution outside the U.S.
- Applicants must be AGA members or be eligible for and submit an application for membership.

REQUIREMENTS

- Awards are made for salary support for the recipient. Indirect costs are not allowed. Funds should not be simply an addition to the sponsors' funds already being applied to very similar work, but should fund a new, innovative study or address a different aspect of a study being done by the mentor.
- No more than 10% should be spent on equipment, as the institution should already have any major items needed, or be willing to supply them.
- Applicants must devote 100% time and effort to their project.
- Applicants must demonstrate how they will obtain additional knowledge through the proposed project and how that knowledge may be used in their future research.
- A letter of recommendation from the applicant's department head or supervisor must be submitted.
- A clear timeline for completion of the one-year study, or indication of how it will be completed after the one year of funding, must be provided.
- Upon notification of receipt of this award, awardee must provide approval from the appropriate committee at the institution for use of animals. If approval is not necessary, awardee must provide explanation.
- A complete financial statement and scientific progress report are required upon completion of the program. The recipient will be required to indicate how the funds were used, the accomplishments made during the project and how the additional training contributed to his/her research career development.
- All publications arising from work funded by this program must acknowledge support from Centocor, the AGA and the AGA Foundation for Digestive Health and Nutrition.

SPONSORS

- Applicants must be sponsored by an AGA member (please visit www.gastro.org for membership

information) who is a member of an academic gastroenterology-related unit engaged in research training in a U.S. medical school, affiliated teaching hospital or research institute. The sponsor must ensure that all institutional requirements have been met regarding application for and receipt of research funds and must clearly state that the work submitted by the applicant is that of the applicant and not the sponsor. It is expected that the aims of the application should be distinct from those of the sponsor's research program. Should the experimental objectives of other applications from the sponsor be included in the application for the Centocor award, the applicant will be disqualified from consideration.

- Each applicant must be co-sponsored by the director of a U.S. laboratory who is committed to the training and development of the recipient, prepared to offer the resources of his/her laboratory, and able to spend the requisite time and effort necessary to guarantee a high-quality research and training experience. The co-sponsor must have recognized credentials relevant to the general area of the proposal in order to provide appropriate mentoring. The co-sponsor's biosketch and summary of grant support must also be provided.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Recipients will be selected based on novelty, feasibility and significance of the proposal; attributes of the candidate; the record and commitment of the sponsors; and the institutional and laboratory environment.

REVIEW PROCESS

A Selection Committee, comprised of members of the AGA Research Awards Panel and a representative from the International Committee, will review the application packages and select the recipients in March 2005.

DEADLINE

The deadline for receipt of applications without exception is **January 14**. An electronic copy of the application must be submitted by the deadline to awards@fdhn.org. If the deadline falls on a weekend, applications must be received by midnight the following Monday. Letters of Commitment may be e-mailed by the signatories or mailed to the Foundation for Digestive Health and Nutrition, 4930 Del Ray Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814, postmarked by the deadline.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Copies of applications and complete electronic submission guidelines can be accessed at www.fdn.org. Questions regarding the application submission process should be addressed to the Research Awards Manager by telephone (301) 222-4005, facsimile (301) 222-4010 or e-mail at info@fdhn.org.

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