

# **REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS**

# PREDOCTORAL STUDENT & POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW TRAINING PROGRAM IN TRANSLATIONAL BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE

Georgetown-Howard Universities Center for Clinical and Translational Science (GHUCCTS) is now accepting a letter of interest form for its predoctoral student and postdoctoral fellow training program in Translational Biomedical Science (TBS Program). The final application is DUE June 1, 2024. The TBS Program is supported by the NIH TL1 award mechanism and accordingly, follows the same eligibility requirements, stipend structure and NIH restrictions of Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (NRSA) including F30, F31, F32 and T32 mechanisms.

The goal of the GHUCCTS TBS program is to prepare predoctoral students (PhDs & dual MD-PhDs) and postdoctoral fellows (MDs & PhDs) to become the next generation of leaders in the translation of basic science into improved outcomes for health, aging and disease. Trainees are taught how to build and lead transdisciplinary collaborative research programs through engaging in dual-mentored training experiences in preclinical and clinical research. Students and fellows receive didactic education in human health and disease that takes advantage of existing courses, seminars, and workshops through GHUCCTS-sponsored activities and training programs including the master's program in Clinical and Translational Science. TBS Scholars are also trained in: human subject research methodology & bioethics; grant writing & peer review; community engagement & team science; negotiation & networking; as well as other career enhancement skills that are tailored to the TBS Scholar's Individualized Career Development Plan.

The TBS Program capitalizes and expands upon the GHUCCTS established track record in cross-institutional training and research and leverages the rich partnerships that GHUCCTS has established among Georgetown University Medical Center (GUMC), Howard University College of Medicine (HUCM), MedStar Health Research Institute (MHRI), the Washington DC Veterans Affairs Medical Center (DC VAMC) and Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). The TBS Program provides rich opportunities to study several of the greater Washington, DC area pressing medical problems since GHUCCTS institutions play key roles in multiple aspects of human health in this diverse and predominantly disadvantaged population.

The TBS Program complements existing PhD programs at GU and HU. Students and postdocs interested in complementing their discipline-specific training with supplemental training in translational biomedical science are encouraged to apply.

Applications which propose inter- or multi-disciplinary and collaborative research projects, within the T1-T4 translational research continuum will be considered. We anticipate funding 4 predoctoral student and 4 postdoctoral fellow applications in this cycle. For further details regarding the TL1, visit our website.

## **ELIGIBILITY:**

- Candidates must be a US citizen, non-citizen national, or a US permanent resident;
- Applicants must be able to commit to 1 full year in the TBS Program, regardless of funding changes;
- Pre-doctoral students must have passed their qualifying exam/been admitted to candidacy and be in good standing within their PhD program;

- Postdoctoral fellows must have full-time employment at a GHUCCTS institution for <u>at least **one** month</u> at the time of award activation:
- No applicant may have a US government training award including a National Research Service Award for more than 2 years;
- Applicants must have a primary mentor from a GHUCCTS institution who has sufficient research funding and resources to support the applicant's research for the duration of the training period at the time of award activation; and,
- All candidates must demonstrate a commitment to translational biomedical research.

#### **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Please see **Program Page** on website.

<u>Mentor Qualifications</u>: All mentors must be committed to the applicant's individualized career development plan throughout the total period of this award. At least one member of the mentorship team must have a track record of successful trainees who have gone on to productive independent careers in biomedical research.

**Primary mentors** must be from a GHUCCTS institution and have sufficient research resources (including funding, facilities, space, collaborations, access to key populations, technologies, and reagents) that will enable the trainee to conduct their research for the duration of this award and they must be able to fund the applicant for the entire duration of their project.

**Co-mentors** need to enrich the applicant's training across the clinical translational research continuum (T1-T-4) by providing complementary <u>experiences</u>, guidance, support, and perspectives that differ from the primary mentor's discipline, specialty, or translational stage.

The applicant and mentors need to describe the rationale for selection of the mentoring team (must have <u>at least</u> 1 co-mentor) and how the team will function to promote, facilitate and advance the applicant's career development plan in translational biomedical science.

Submit both Interest Form and FINAL applications are electronically completed via the TBS <u>website</u>. FINAL application will need include a SINGLE PDF file of required documents. Please visit the <u>Program Page</u> for more details.

## **Interest Form**

- Interest form is not required
- Those who complete form will be given a chance to have one on one meeting with the TBS review committee to help them shape their applications
- A draft of the trainee and mentors NIH biosketches will be required, along with a draft of the project's Specific
  aims page [Note: these documents are just a draft and will be used to help shape and strengthen the
  trainee's application]

# Final Applications DUE June 1st, 2024

- Applicants, mentors will receive notification of award status (funded or not-funded) in early July via email.
- If awarded, the applicant will need to complete all compliance documents within 30 days. Funding is contingent on submission of this information and failure to do so could result in disqualification.
- Upon submission of this additional information, the TBS Executive Committee will prepare an award agreement/letter. Once the award agreement/letter is signed, the TBS Executive Committee will review and approve the agreement so that funding can be achieved.