

Senior Research Training Fellowship (RT) Program Description

IMPORTANT NOTES

- IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED THAT APPLICANTS READ THE INDIVIDUAL AWARD PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE STARTING AN APPLICATION.
- APPLICANTS WHO ARE DEEMED INELIGIBLE FOR THIS AWARD AND/OR DO NOT FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS ON PREPARING AN APPLICATION WILL BE DISQUALIFIED AND NOT REVIEWED.
- APPLICANTS ARE ONLY ALLOWED TO SUBMIT ONE APPLICATION PER REVIEW CYCLE. ONCE AN APPLICATION IS SUBMITTED ON proposalCENTRAL, IT CANNOT BE CHANGED FROM ONE AWARD TYPE TO ANOTHER.

The objective of the Senior Research Training Fellowship Award is to support the training of MDs and PhDs seeking further academic training as scientific investigators with the goal of pursuing a career in lung-related research. Areas of particular interest to the American Lung Association are:

- > Adult pulmonary medicine research.
- > Pediatric pulmonary medicine research.
- > Lung biology research.

ELIGIBILITY

Education and Experience

The intent of the Research Training Fellowship Award is to provide support for post-doctoral research fellows as they transition toward tenure track faculty positions. Individuals who have been appointed to a tenure track position or equivalent (e.g. commitment of start-up funds, independent laboratory space) are no longer eligible for this award.

At the time of application, an applicant must hold a doctoral degree or have comparable qualifications:

- MD or DO applicants must have completed their clinical training, have some research experience, and be in their 3rd or 4th year of fellowship training. Fellows with small amounts of clinical training to complete or clinical activity are eligible as long as they have a minimum of 75% effort devoted to research.
- PhD applicants must be in their 1st or 2nd year of postdoctoral training.
- Persons with medical degrees, whose credentials show that they are on a career track which will not include the practice of medicine, must be in their 1st or 2nd year of full-time postdoctoral research.
- Applicants must be working in a not-for-profit institution.

*Local Lung Associations may choose to support individuals with a local Junior/Senior Research Training Fellowship Award at somewhat earlier career stages. Please review the **AF** program description for more information on eligibility.*

Citizenship

At the time of application, candidates must be United States citizens or foreign nationals holding one of the following visa immigration statuses: permanent resident (Green Card), exchange visitor (**J-1**), temporary worker in a specialty occupation (**H-1, H-1B**), Canadian or Mexican citizen engaging in professional activities (**TC or TN**), or temporary worker with extraordinary abilities in the sciences (**O-1**). Non-citizens must submit a notarized copy of proof of possession of a **Green Card or J-1, H-1, H-1B, TC, TN or O-1** visas. At the time of application and throughout the award, an applicant/awardee must be employed by a U.S. institution.

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Sponsorship

The sponsor or scientific mentor should be a recognized authority in the applicant's field of research and possess the necessary laboratory and training resources. The sponsor must have an academic affiliated appointment and must be working in a not-for-profit institution. The sponsor's biosketch must be included in the application.

AWARD INFORMATION

Award Structure and Allocation

Senior Research Training Fellowships are for up to \$32,500 per year. Funds are to be used only for salary and fringe benefits.

Duration

Senior Research Training Fellowships are subject to annual review and may be granted for up to two years. The second year of support is based on demonstrating satisfactory progress as well as the availability of American Lung Association funding.

Activities

Senior Research Training Fellows are expected to devote their fulltime, and in no case less than 75% of their time, to research training. This award does not permit the recipient to engage in the private practice of medicine during the support period.

FACTORS CONSIDERED IN EVALUATING APPLICATIONS

Factors considered when reviewing applications include:

- Scientific merit, innovation, and feasibility of the research plan and its relevance to the mission of the American Lung Association
- Applicant's education, experience, career plans, publications, and letters of recommendation.
- The sponsor's program, including the record of training academic scientists, the research productivity of the faculty and the quality of the research training program proposed for the applicant. The sponsor must specifically identify the availability of sufficient funds to complete the proposed research project.
- The likelihood that the applicant will engage in an ongoing career in lung or critical care research.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

The deadline for online submission is **September 5, 2008, 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time.**

Applicants are also required to submit one signed original plus two copies of all application materials to the following address:

**Research and Program Services
American Lung Association
61 Broadway, 6th Floor
New York, NY 10006**

Applications must be post-marked by the deadline date of September 5, 2008.

ASSISTANCE WITH APPLICATIONS

American Lung Association national office staff members are available to assist with questions regarding programs, eligibility, policies, terms and conditions or application instructions. However, the American Lung Association **strongly recommends** that applicants first read through the descriptive program and application materials before contacting staff.

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For questions, please contact:

Evita Mendoza: E-mail: emendoza@lungusa.org; Phone: 212-315-8793

or Elizabeth Lancet, MPH: E-mail: elancet@lungusa.org; Phone: 212-315-8788.

For help with the electronic application process, please contact the help desk for proposalCENTRAL: E-mail: pcsupport@altum.com; Phone (toll-free): 1-800-875-2562.

PEER REVIEW RESULTS

The American Lung Association will provide results of the peer review process to each applicant in February 2009. Applicants will receive a letter from the American Lung Association with the final outcome and reviewer critiques will be available via proposalCENTRAL. Telephone or e-mail requests for results are not provided. **Funding results for last review cycle are as follows:**

Program	Applications Received	Percentile Funded To	Number Funded
Alpha-1 Research Grant	1	41.1	1
Biomedical Research Grant	100	29.5	16
Career Investigator Award	21	28.6	6
Clinical Research Grant	11	10.9	2
Dalsemer Research Grant	5	14.0	2
Diane Emdin Sachs Award	6	16.7	1
Lung Cancer Discovery Award	19	15.8	3
Lung Health Dissertation Grant	11	14.3	1
Senior Research Training Fellowship	70	23.5	13
Sleep Fellowship	5	40.0	1
Social Behavioral Research Grant	12	13.2	2

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Following are the Terms and Conditions that apply to the American Lung Association Senior Research Training Fellowship Award:

Animal Use

The American Lung Association allows animal use in biomedical research only when no other means of obtaining scientifically sound, valid, and useful results are available. Applicants must ensure that only the minimum number of appropriate animals required to obtain and validate results shall be used. In cases requiring the death of an animal, only the most appropriate and humane form of euthanasia shall be used consistent with the purpose of the research.

Whenever animal use is a part of an American Lung Association research funded project, applicants must provide the American Lung Association with institutional endorsements that the research facility, its research and employees adhere to the:

- Animal Welfare Act.
- USDA rules.
- National Research Council *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*.
- Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.

In addition, applicants must send a copy of the following documents with the original paper copy of the application (not included electronically):

- Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) accreditation
- Institutional Animal Care and Use of Committee (IACUC) approval.

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If your research proposal involves animals and your institution does not have accreditation from the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC), **or** does not hold a current Public Health Service (PHS) Animal Welfare Assurance, **or** does not have accreditation from the United States Department of Agriculture, **or** does not have accreditation from the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), **you are not eligible to apply.**

Authorized Award Holders

The American Lung Association grants research awards only to individuals and not institutions. No award may be held or transferred to another individual.

Award Structure and Allocation

The Senior Research Training Fellowship is \$32,500 per year. Funds are to be used only for salary and fringe benefits.

Award Payments

The American Lung Association issues award payments twice a year – July and January.

Biohazards

Biohazards are broadly defined to be recombinant and/or infectious and tumor materials that may be deleterious to normal organisms upon controlled exposure. Research involving biohazards requires one copy of the appropriate institutional committee approval.

Carry Over or Extensions

Requests for carry over or award extensions require prior approval by the American Lung Association. *All requests must be in writing and directed to the Assistant Vice President, Research and Program Services Division.* The written requests for carry over and/or extensions must be received by the American Lung Association 30 days prior to the award's official termination date. When requesting a carry over, the awardee must indicate: the amount, from what budget-line and to what budget-line the monies are being applied. In the case of supply or equipment budget, all items must be itemized. *Awardees can only request a carry over or extension once per award.*

Change of Budget

Requests for changes in budget require prior approval by the American Lung Association. *All requests must be in writing and directed to the Assistant Vice President, Research and Program Services Division.* When requesting a change in budget, the awardee must indicate: the amount, from what budget-line and to what budget-line the monies are being transferred. In the case of supply or equipment budget, all items must be itemized.

Change of Status

Transfer of an American Lung Association award from one institution to another requires prior approval by the American Lung Association. *All requests must be in writing and directed to the Assistant Vice President, Research and Program Services Division. All unexpended funds must be returned to the American Lung Association within 45 days of transfer approval.* Once the American Lung Association receives the unexpended funds, they will be reissued to the new institution.

Correspondence

The American Lung Association national office directs all correspondence to the awardee. As such, **it is the responsibility of the awardee to ensure institutional personnel are copied** on American Lung Association replies to correspondence.

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Equal Employment Opportunity

American Lung Association awards will be awarded to individuals working in institutions identified as Equal Opportunity Employers.

Equipment Expenditures

Not available for this award.

Equipment Repair & Service Contracts

No award shall be used for repair or service contract costs for institutional equipment.

Financial Report

At the conclusion of the award period, the American Lung Association requires a complete financial disbursement report covering the entire award period. The American Lung Association issues the disbursement report to the person receiving the award funds. The disbursement report must reflect the award expenditures as approved by the American Lung Association. *Any funds used for unauthorized expenditures or unexpended funds must be returned to the American Lung Association, with the disbursement report, 45 days after the award has terminated.*

Human Subjects

Whenever human subjects are a part of an American Lung Association research funded project, the following documents must be received by the time of award notification:

- A copy of the Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval and approved patient consent forms. The American Lung Association encourages applicants to submit their projects to the appropriate human subjects Institutional Review Board at the time of application.
- Research involving human adult stem cells or use of human fetal tissue requires one copy of the appropriate institutional committee approval.

If the proposed research project involves human subjects, the population sampled shall be inclusive of the general population, of relevance to the scientific question posed, without restriction in regard to gender, race, age, and socioeconomic status. Proposals that intentionally restrict the population sampled must include a compelling scientific rationale for such design.

If the IRB approval and approved patient consent forms are not provided to the American Lung Association at the time of award notification, the award will be withdrawn: there are no exceptions.

Malpractice Liability

The American Lung Association will not assume responsibility for and the institution will indemnify and hold the American Lung Association harmless from any lawsuit, claim, judgment, damages, awards, or malpractice arising from research or investigations related to an award.

Other Funding

No other fellowship or another American Lung Association award may be held concurrently with the American Lung Association Senior Research Training Fellowship Award. A fellow who has previously received an American Lung Association Fellowship of any kind is not eligible for additional national Senior Research Training Fellowship support. *The American Lung Association research funds will not be awarded to supplement or duplicate any work that is being supported by other funding agencies.*

Overhead/Indirect Costs

Overhead or indirect costs are not permitted.

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Patent Policy

Inventions and discoveries from research performed during the term of an American Lung Association award will be subject to the current American Lung Association patent policy as well as to the patent policies of the institution where the work is performed.

Progress Reports

Periodic progress reports may be requested and must be completed to assist the American Lung Association in shaping future policies with respect to its award program.

Project Support Expenditures

No award shall be used for the purchase of furniture, computers, the construction or renovation of facilities, payment of honoraria or membership dues, purchase of textbooks or periodicals, or payment for secretarial support.

Publications

All publications and/or presentations at scientific conferences and meetings based on research conducted from this award should acknowledge the support of the American Lung Association. Reprints of abstracts, manuscripts, or other articles that reflect research done after award acceptance must be submitted to the American Lung Association.

Publication Expenditures

Not available for this award.

Renewals

Renewal of an American Lung Association award is based on a demonstration of satisfactory progress and the availability of funding. Awardees are required to complete an American Lung Association Renewal Application form for each year the award is subject to renewal. The Renewal Application form is mailed out to awardees in the early fall.

Tobacco Funded Research

The American Lung Association will not provide research or other funding to investigators who are currently receiving direct funding or funding from agencies of the tobacco industry.

Travel Expenditures

Not available for this award.

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION PATENTS AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- a. All inventions or intellectual property made with support in whole or in part by research or training grants or awards from the American Lung Association must be reported at the earliest practical time to the Research and Program Services Division. The grantee institution or individual awardee agrees to notify the American Lung Association immediately of the decision to apply for letters patent or other legal protection for intellectual property, and to consider seriously and in good faith any comments or objections the American Lung Association may have concerning such applications. The Association agrees to keep all information confidential and to not release any information relating to such inventions, intellectual property or applications. All patenting expenses shall be borne by the grantee institution or individual awardee.
- b. Title to any invention or intellectual property shall reside in the grantee institution to the extent that such title is claimed by the institution under its patent policy or procedure and paragraphs c-h shall apply. If a grantee institution has no established patent policy or procedure for administering inventions or intellectual property, or if the institutional patent policy or procedure does not claim rights for the institution or individual inventor, then the American

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Lung Association shall have the right to determine the disposition of invention or intellectual property rights and paragraphs c-f shall not apply.

- c. Distribution of income derived from an invention or intellectual property which might include equity disposition shall be according to the policies of the grantee institution, although the American Lung Association would expect to participate in income derived from the invention or intellectual property to the extent and at a rate of remuneration determined by mutual agreement between the grantee institution and the American Lung Association no later than six months after first receipt of income. Such agreement shall be guided by the principle that the Association's proportion of sharing in the income shall be reasonably related to the Association's proportion of support for the invention or intellectual property.
- d. If any invention or intellectual property is made with the joint support of the American Lung Association and other organizations, it is expected that income distribution shall be in accordance with the provisions of the policy. Should an exception be taken to this provision, the grantee institution, the American Lung Association, and other sponsoring agencies will confer to reach a mutually satisfactory disposition of invention or intellectual property rights.
- e. No patent, patent application or other type of protection shall be abandoned without first notifying the Research and Program Services Division. At such time, the grantee institution and individual awardee shall give the American Lung Association the opportunity to take title to the invention or other intellectual property.
- f. The grantee institution shall agree that when it licenses any invention or intellectual property it will obligate the licensee as follows: The licensee agrees to exert its best efforts to commercialize or cause to be commercialized the invention or intellectual property as rapidly as practical, consistent with sound and reasonable business practices and judgment. In the event that the licensee has failed to commercialize the invention or intellectual property within the number of years determined to be reasonable for the invention or intellectual property, the grantee institution upon conferring with the Association shall have the right to convert an exclusive license to a non-exclusive license or to terminate a non-exclusive license. If the licensee or grantee institution has an ongoing and active research, development, manufacturing, marketing or licensing program as appropriately directed toward the production and sale of the invention or intellectual property, the same would be deemed to be sufficient evidence that the licensee or grantee institution has commercialized the invention or intellectual property.
- g. The American Lung Association reserves the right to public acknowledgement for inventions or intellectual property resulting from support by the Association; however, the American Lung Association name and logo may not be used in association with an invention or intellectual property without prior approval of the Association.
- h. The American Lung Association may have use of inventions or intellectual properties without payment of royalties or fees, but solely for use within the Association for intramural purposes and not for any of its grantee institutions or individual awardees.