



ANNOUNCING THE PARKINSON'S DISEASE FOUNDATION/AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NEUROLOGY FOUNDATION CLINICIAN SCIENTIST DEVELOPMENT AWARD*

**Cosponsored by the Parkinson's Disease Foundation and
the American Academy of Neurology Foundation**

Application Deadline: January 15, 2008

The Parkinson's Disease Foundation (PDF) and the American Academy of Neurology Foundation (AANF) are pleased to announce a three-year Clinician Scientist Development Award to support their mutual interest in training outstanding residency-level clinicians in the field of Parkinson's disease (PD) research.

The PDF-AANF Clinician-Scientist Development Award will foster the development and productivity of young research clinician-scientists who have demonstrated potential to make significant contributions to PD clinical research and thereby help future research to ultimately conquer PD. The intent is to support three years of research training in an environment where talented young clinicians address problems in PD with the most current scientific tools. It is expected that upon completion of the program, participants will be committed to a research or combined clinical/research career in PD and will be in line to direct robust research programs relevant to PD. The three-year award is \$85K annually, depending on results of a progress report (due May 1) from each year's work.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Applicants must hold an MD, DO, or equivalent clinical degree from an accredited institution.
2. Applicants must have completed residency training but be less than seven years from completion of residency when funding begins.
3. There is no citizenship requirement; however, the individual applying for the award must be licensed to practice medicine in the United States at the time of application.
4. May only submit one application per department. The department is considered to be the one at which the applicant's training and research program will occur.
5. Each applicant must agree to a phone interview with a member of the PDF-AANF Advisory Committee, if necessary, during the application review period.

MATERIALS FOR APPLICATION

Please submit one copy of all of the following application materials:

1. A letter of nomination is required from the Director of the Movement Disorders Program which includes assurance that clinical service responsibilities will be restricted to no more than 25% of the awardee's time. Awardees are expected to spend at least 75% of active time engaged in the research activities described in the application. Awardees may spend up to 25% of their time in teaching or clinical duties, if appropriate,

unrelated to the specific aims of the award. Awards made through this program are intended to support training in clinical research and may not be used to support individuals whose primary responsibility is teaching and/or clinical service.

2. A letter of intent to pursue a three-year program indicating the specific clinical focus, the proposed institution and preceptor, and the applicant's future goals. The applicant must arrange a proposed training program with an appropriate mentor and institution prior to submitting an application. Training may occur with the applicant's current institution or may take place at a new institution.
3. A three-page research plan, including brief statements of aims, background, and the contemplated approaches to methodology and data. The research plan should be written by the applicant and should represent his/her original work. However, the applicant is expected and encouraged to develop this plan based on discussion with the proposed mentor. Also include a statement of support from the mentor detailing his/her support of and commitment to the applicant and to the proposed research and training program. Finally, an itemized statement of all financial requirements, including salary and equipment costs. It is appropriate for the proposed work to be specifically related to the mentor's ongoing research.
4. A copy of his/her current curriculum vitae.
5. Three letters of reference supporting the applicant's potential for a clinical, academic research career, and qualifications for the fellowship.
6. A listing of the applicant's and mentor's current and pending support, other than this award, using NIH format.
7. A letter from the proposed mentor detailing his/her support of and commitment to the applicant and the proposed research and training plan. The letter should specifically indicate the mentor's role in the development and preparation of the applicant's research plan. The letter should describe:
 - How the proposed research fits into the mentor's research program;
 - Expertise and experience in the area of research proposed and the nature of the mentor's proposed time commitment to the supervision and training of the applicant; and
 - The mentor's prior experience in the supervision, training, and successful mentoring of clinician scientists.
8. A copy of mentor's NIH biosketch.
9. A document describing arrangements for formal course work to include: quantitative clinical epidemiology, biostatistics, study design, data analysis, and ethics. The documentation must outline:
 - Hours and content of the proposed formal instruction;
 - Availability of tutorial assistance for the research project; and
 - Computer approaches to statistical analysis at the host institution.
10. A document describing the level of interaction between the applicant and subjects in your research project.

EVALUATION AND SELECTION

Applications are evaluated by the Scientific Advisory Committee of the PDF and the Clinical Research Subcommittee of the Science Committee of the AAN based on the following criteria:

- Applicant's ability and promise as a clinician scientist based on previous training and career plan, letters of reference, and curriculum vitae (30%)

- Quality and nature of the training to be provided and the institutional, departmental, and mentor-specific training environment (30%)
- Quality and originality of the research plan (40%)

Evaluations will be forwarded to the AAN Foundation Research Council for final determination of the award.

ANNUAL AND FINAL PROGRESS REPORTS

An annual progress report is due by May 1 of each year. Renewal of the award in years two and three is contingent upon presentation of a satisfactory progress report for years one and two. Additionally, a final research report, expenditure report, and curriculum vitae are due September 1, 2011. The institution must prepare the final expenditure report. The annual report and institutional expenditure report are to be sent to the AANF (see below for full address).

DEADLINE AND ADDRESS

All applications and supporting materials must be received by January 15, 2008, for a July 1 start date. Notification of recipients: April 2008.

Applications should be sent to:

PDF-AANF Clinician Scientist Development Award
American Academy of Neurology Foundation
ATTN: Erin Jackson, Administrator
1080 Montreal Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55116
Phone: (651) 695-2704 / Fax: (651) 361-4804
ejackson@aan.com
www.neurofoundation.org

*Clinical research is defined as “patient-oriented research conducted with human subjects, or research on the causes and consequences of disease in human populations involving material of human origin for which an investigator or colleague directly interacts with human subjects in an outpatient or inpatient setting to clarify a problem in human physiology, pathophysiology or disease. This area of research includes genetic, epidemiologic or behavioral studies, clinical trials, studies of the mechanisms of human disease, the development of new technologies, and health services and outcomes research.”