

Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Resident Research Year

The Pathology resident research year is a focused one year translational or basic research experience under the guidance of a faculty mentor. *The primary purpose of this program is resident career development - to enhance the ability of our residents to successfully compete for outstanding fellowship and faculty opportunities in academic Pathology programs.* A secondary goal is to strengthen research programs within the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. The expectation is that the proposed work would lead to one or more first-authored peer-reviewed publications. The primary focus of this research year is the accomplishment of the proposed research, but in the interests of maintaining clinical skills, the resident would take part in a reduced schedule of on-call rotation, conference attendance, and educational activities related to resident or medical student teaching. For this year, there is the opportunity for one resident research position to be awarded for an application judged as outstanding. If a research award is made, an additional resident recruitment will be targeted in the match to maintain an appropriate balance of educational and service activities for all residents.

Requirements:

- All current pathology residents may apply for the program beginning the following July 1.
- The faculty sponsor should have an active translational or basic research program. Since the primary goal of this initiative is resident career development, if the most appropriate sponsoring faculty is not a member of our department, such an application would be equally considered by the review committee.

Application Process:

- Applicants should identify a faculty sponsor and prepare an application of no more than two pages, including: 1) specific aims, 2) significance, 3) research plan, and 4) budget.
- Application due date for this year is **January 10, 2004.**
- Maximum budget for non-salary expenses (supplies, small equipment, etc) is \$20,000. The department will cover resident's salary and benefits for the year.
- Proposals should be submitted by email to the department chair.
- All proposals will be reviewed by the Pathology Department Steering Committee and the Residency Program Director.
- Notification of awards for this year will be made before **January 31, 2005.**

Award Criteria:

- Scientific quality of the proposal:
 - 1) Does the study address an important problem?
 - 2) Is the research design clearly described and designed to address the aims of the study?
 - 3) How novel are the concepts, approaches and methods?
- The resident applicant:

The most important criterion is the resident's performance throughout their residency program to that point, based on faculty evaluations, presentations, and projects accomplished by the resident. The department is supportive of both residents with past research experience, and those who wish to develop their research skills.
- The faculty mentor:

Criteria will include the academic record of the sponsoring faculty mentor, availability of relevant laboratory/clinical resources to achieve the specific aims, and whether the experiments will obtain preliminary data supportive of additional funding mechanisms.
- Awards will be made to support an outstanding proposal that has the strongest scientific rationale, applicant and sponsor. The department will only make an award for an outstanding application, so that it is possible that no award may be given in some years.