

Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CTSI) TL1 Predoctoral Training Awards in Translational Research

The Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CTSI) is seeking applicants for TL1 Predoctoral Awards in Translational Research. These awards are designed to provide promising predoctoral students with the opportunity to be mentored in research-intensive, multi-disciplinary settings toward the goal of developing careers in translational research.

<https://ncats.nih.gov/translation/spectrum>

The National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS), a component of the National Institutes of Health, defines translation as the process of turning observations in the laboratory, clinic, and community into interventions that improve the health of individuals and the public. This includes a wide range of research that includes diagnostics and therapeutics, medical procedures, and behavioral changes. NCATS is committed to fostering the recognition and growth of translational science as a field, as well as cultivating the next generation of translational scientists.

Research shows that diverse teams working together and capitalizing on innovative ideas and distinct perspectives outperform homogenous teams. Scientists and trainees from diverse backgrounds and life experience bring different perspectives, creativity, and individual enterprise to address complex scientific problems. There are many benefits that flow from a diverse NIH supported scientific workforce, including: fostering scientific innovation, enhancing global competitiveness, contributing to robust learning environments, improving the quality of the research, advancing the likelihood that underserved or health disparity populations take part in, and benefit from health research, and enhancing public trust.

Emphasis of CTSI predoctoral training awards are to move findings from basic laboratory and pre-clinical research (referred to as T1 research) toward the development of new treatment options or interventions or clinical trials (referred to as T2 research) to eventual dissemination or clinical implementation (referred to as T3 research) to studying population health outcomes and health metrics (referred to as T4 research). The phases of translational research may not necessarily be linear and can jump steps depending on the research project and the starting point. The goal of the CTSI is to make awards at all of these stages.

<https://ncats.nih.gov/translation>

It is important that the translational research have clear applications to human disease and health outcomes. To that end, predoctoral training through this CTSI program is viewed as a collaborative endeavor among the trainee, the primary mentor, and the co-mentor. Therefore, the application must be completed by both the primary mentor and the applicant.

Funding is available for pre-doctoral graduate students. Eligibility criteria for application include:

- Candidates must have completed at least one year of a pre-doctoral training program but cannot have completed more than their third year (i.e., applicants must be in the second or third year of their pre- doctoral program when they apply). MD/PhD applicants must be in their first year of study in the PhD portion of their program. Applicants must be from Indiana-Purdue University Indianapolis, Indiana University - Bloomington, Purdue University - West Lafayette, or the University of Notre Dame.
- Candidates must receive interdisciplinary mentorship from a clinician or clinician-scientist with a doctoral degree and a basic or non-clinician scientist with a doctoral degree. This means there must be at least two mentors (i.e. one person cannot fill both roles). Either one may serve as primary mentor.
- The primary mentor must have a research program that includes peer reviewed, extramurally funded research.
- Candidates' proposed research should be translational in nature and take advantage of the synergism that comes from working at this basic/clinical interface or clinical/community interface.
- Per NIH eligibility requirements, only U.S. citizens or permanent residents are eligible to apply.

Funding is for two years (with the 2nd year of funding contingent upon satisfactory progress). Benefits include a stipend as well as health insurance and partial coverage of tuition.

Trainees will be required to attend and present a poster at the National Association of Clinical and Translational Sciences (ACTS) meeting in Washington DC in the spring, attend and present a poster at the annual Indiana CTSI meeting in the fall, and present their work at several Indiana CTSI predoctoral gatherings during the academic year. They will also be encouraged to participate in brief experiential learning opportunities, for example experiences with an industry partner, government agency, community organization, or health research related organization, and other training opportunities provided by the Indiana CTSI throughout the year.

Completed applications must be submitted by 11:59:59 PM November 18, 2021 and awards will start July 1, 2022.

For general questions please contact Patty McGuire: pcmcquir@iu.edu (317) 278-2824 or Dan Foti, TL1 Predoctoral Director, foti@purdue.edu.