INDIANA UNIVERSITY
INDIANA ALZHEIMER DISEASE CENTER
School of Medicine

Sarah Roush Memorial Fellowship in Alzheimer's Disease Research

Request for Applications

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: December 5, 2024

Please note that you will be submitting through the Indiana CTSI's grants management software WebCAMP. Please allow enough time to be familiar with the system.

The WebCAMP user's guide is also available under the funding announcement here:
https://indianactsi.org/researchers/services-tools/translational-research-development/open-funding-opportunities/

For submission questions please contact Julie Driscol at the Indiana CTSI (judrisco@iu.edu).

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Through a generous donation from James R. and Nancy E. Carpenter, as well as a matching contribution from the Stark Neurosciences Research Institute, the Research Education Core of the Indiana Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (IADRC) established the Sarah Roush Memorial Fellowship in Alzheimer's disease research, an annual supplement that will provide $22,500 *per annum* to enhance current research in the field of Alzheimer's disease or other neurodegenerative diseases. The application can be focused on mechanistic, clinical, neuropsychological, basic, or other specific research on Alzheimer's disease and related disorders.

Fellowship Details:
- Annual award of $22,500 per year which may be used for part of the fellow's stipend or for direct research costs, subject to approval by the mentor and program.
- Funding **duration is for one year.**
- Awardee will be expected to give a one-hour presentation on their research to the donors and scientific community during their fellowship.
- Awardee will be recognized by having their name, project title, and year of fellowship added to a Sarah Roush Memorial Fellowship plaque.
- Typically, one award is made per cycle.

WHO MAY APPLY

- Current graduate or medical student, Postdoctoral appointee/fellow, or early career faculty at any Indiana University campus. Specific criteria per category is as follows:
  - Current graduate or medical student: applicants who will graduate before the beginning of the fellowship (January 1, 2025) with a PhD and/or MD degree (or equivalent).
  - Postdoctoral appointee/fellow: applicants currently in postdoctoral appointee or fellow status at IU. If you are currently funded by another fellowship (NIH, Foundation, CTSI, or other), please check with your grant administrator before applying to ensure compliance with the current funding agency.
  - Early career faculty: applicants within ten years of their terminal degree at the time of award (January 1, 2025).
- Applicants who have sufficient uncommitted time to enable them to fulfill the fellowship requirements for the full year.
- Clinical research trainees are particularly encouraged to apply.
- The IADRC and SNRI strongly encourage applications from women and underrepresented minority candidates.

APPLICATION SEQUENCE & SUBMISSION

- Complete application forms and the link for uploading the application are available on the Indiana CTSI website CTSI Sarah Roush Fellowship Link
- Electronic submissions should be uploaded using the red **Start a Submission** link here CTSI Sarah

[Roush Fellowship Link](#) no later than **December 5, 2024.**

- The application should have at least 0.5-inch margins and a font size of at least 11 point. Font type must be clear and readily legible.

Page 1. Face Page

- The face page should specify the title of the proposal, applicant's contact information, primary mentor/principal investigator(s) and contact information and project summary.
- Department/School support must be indicated by completion of all signatures on the face page(s). As submission will be electronic, facsimile, or electronic signatures are allowed.

Page 2. Project Abstract

- Provide a brief 3-4 sentence general description of the research and its relevance to biomedical research. Include key methodologies/approaches to be utilized in the proposal in this abstract. Proprietary information should not be included in the abstract.

Page 3. Specific Aims – <u>limited to 1 page</u>. Include:

- **Goals & Objectives of the current proposal:** State the overall objective or goal of the proposed research and the expected outcomes/impact on the research field.
- **Specific Aims:** Describe the specific aims of the proposal, the methods of procedure and the rationale behind the chosen approach to the problem. Indicate the reason for the selection of a particular model system, if not using human or conventional animal model (or explain why this is not applicable).

Page 4-7*. Research Plan - <u>not to exceed **4 single-spaced pages**</u> (unless an additional page is needed to describe how previous review comments have been addressed), in the following sequence:

- **Significance:** What is the potential importance of the proposed research? What is its potential impact on human health and/or how may it be translated to impact human health concerns in the future? Specifically describe its relevance and translational potential. Discuss any novel ideas or contributions that the research offers. How will the project improve scientific knowledge, technical capability, etc.? How will concepts, methods, treatments, or other aspects of this field of research change if the aims are achieved?
- **Innovation:** How does the application challenge or seek to shift the direction of current research in the field? Describe novel approaches, methodologies, instrumentation, etc. and any advantages of the proposed novelty over existing methods. What, if any, novel IP will result?
- **Approach:** Discuss the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses. How will data be collected, analyzed, and interpreted? Discuss potential problems and pitfalls. What alternative strategies will be instituted should these issues arise? Address management of any high-risk aspects of the research. Discuss preliminary studies in the field, preliminary work completed by the Fellow, existing data and knowledge, and describe the Fellow's experience in the field.
- **Resubmission:** If this is a resubmission include an additional page noting how the research plan has been amended.

Page 8-9. References

- Although indicated here as two pages in length, there is one page limit on this section. Include what is appropriate to support the research narrative.

Page 10. Timeline for studies with milestones:
- Indicate a timeline for completing the milestones and a paragraph addressing the feasibility of achieving the milestones for the project.

Page 11-15+. Biographical Sketches
The biosketch should be provided in the current NIH format and include current/pending support. Include the biographical sketch (5 page maximum each) for:
- The applicant.
- The primary mentor/principal investigator.
- Any co-mentors.

Page 16+. Personal Statement – limited to one page:
- Briefly describe why your experience and qualifications make you particularly well-suited for your role as a Fellowship Applicant.
- Address how this training will enhance your career and education.

Page 17+. Letter of Support/Recommendation
- Include letters of support from the applicant's primary mentor/principal investigator. Letters should state that the primary mentor/principal investigator has read the application, approves the content, and confirms that all potential collaborators have been contacted and agreed to assist.

Appendices: This section is limited to additional support letters, regulatory information, and reviewers' comments from previous submissions.

*Pagination may vary if this is a resubmission and requires the additional page of explanation.

PEER REVIEW AND AWARD SELECTION

Applications will be reviewed by a peer review committee. Awards will be announced in late 2024. **Projects should have a start date no earlier than January 1, 2025**. Awarded funds will be released following approval verification of all required regulatory compliance documentation.

Applications will be critiqued on the following items:
- The strength of the research.
- The strength of the mentorship.
- The potential translational nature of the project.
- How well the application addressed the expectations outlined in the RFA.

Available funding typically allows for one award to be made under this mechanism per cycle.

POST AWARD REQUIREMENTS

1. All awards will be monitored for progress by the Indiana CTSI and you will be contacted by them to complete an online report when it is due. Progress monitoring generally includes the following:

- A report every December while the project is active, demonstrating status of milestone progress and documenting external grant submissions/awards, inventions, intellectual property (IP), patents, publications, and/or presentations arising from the supported research.
- Annual follow-up report every December for up to 2 years after the project ends, including but not limited to the following data:
    i. External grant submissions and awards arising from the supported research.
    ii. Intellectual property arising from the supported research including disclosures or patents filed.
    iii. Publications arising from the supported research.
    iv. Additional impacts of the award on your research and the collaboration.

2. Award recipients are reminded to acknowledge receipt of Indiana Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, Stark Neurosciences Research Institute, and Indiana CTSI, support in any presentation or publication of work funded by this award as follows:

This [(publication/project was supported)] by the Sarah Roush Memorial Fellowship in Alzheimer's Disease, The Indiana Alzheimer's Disease Research Center and the Stark Neurosciences Research Institute and made possible by the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute, funded in part by grant # UM1TR004402 from the National Institutes of Health, National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences. The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health or the funding entities."

3. Notify the Indiana CTSI/Stark Neurosciences Research Institute via Stark1@iu.edu if you leave your institution before the project is complete.