



*Request for Applications*

**ELI LILLY-STARK NEUROSCIENCES  
PRE-DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP IN  
NEURODEGENERATION**

*a joint initiative between*

**ELI LILLY AND COMPANY**

**&**

**STARK NEUROSCIENCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
INDIANA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**

*managed by the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute*

**LETTER OF INTENT DEADLINE – THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 2017**  
(e-mail to [icreate@iu.edu](mailto:icreate@iu.edu))

**FULL SUBMISSION DEADLINE-- MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2017**

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

*The WebCAMP user's guide is also available under the funding announcement here:*  
<https://www.indianactsi.org/funding/all-open-rfps/>

For questions please contact Julie Driscoll at the Indiana CTSI ([icreate@iu.edu](mailto:icreate@iu.edu) / 317-278-2822)

## INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

### GENERAL INFORMATION

The Stark Neurosciences Research Institute and the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CTSI) are seeking applicants for special pre-doctoral training fellowships in translational neurodegenerative disease research. We seek applicants whose research is focused on age-related neurodegeneration, including Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, chronic traumatic encephalopathy, among others. Translational research refers to what is popularly termed as "bench to bedside"; the process by which research in the lab translates into patient treatment. Translational research fosters the multidirectional integration of basic research, patient-oriented research, and population-based research, with the long-term aim of improving the health of the public. Translation can involve everything from basic science discoveries in the lab that directly focus on human disease states, through animal studies and drug development to the development of clinical trials and studies in humans.

Fellowship details:

- Annual stipend (plus applicable health insurance) is aligned with current NIH pre-doctoral fellowships
- Tuition allowance of \$5,000
- Initial funding **duration is for one (1) year**, and is **renewable for one (1) additional year** pending review and demonstration of satisfactory progress
- Up to \$7,500 annually, to be used for travel to scientific conferences, computers, and general supplies
- Applicants will be expected to give a yearly seminar within the Stark Neurosciences Research Institute
- One (1) pre-doctoral fellowship award will be awarded during this cycle

### WHO MAY APPLY

All full-time pre-doctoral research fellows having an appointment within any of the Indiana CTSI-affiliated universities: IU, IUPUI, Purdue, Notre Dame.

### CONSIDERATIONS/RESTRICTIONS

1. Co-mentorship by faculty investigators from at least two different disciplines is highly recommended, as research that is translational in nature takes advantage of the synergism that comes from working at this basic/clinical interface or clinical/community interface.
2. Applications from women and underrepresented minorities are encouraged.
3. Candidates must have completed the 1<sup>st</sup> year of their pre-doctoral training, but cannot have completed their 4<sup>th</sup> year by the time of the award.
4. Applications must be written by the applicant.

### APPLICATION SEQUENCE & SUBMISSION

- The program goal is to foster **\*translational\*** neurodegenerative disease research, including, but not limited to Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, etc.

- A required letter of intent (LOI) is due on Thursday, August 31, 2017 and should be sent to [icreate@iu.edu](mailto:icreate@iu.edu). The purpose of the LOI is for reviewer recruitment only and will not preclude the submission of the full application.

The LOI should include the following information:

1. Name of the Pre-Doctoral Student
  2. Date that the doctoral program was started
  3. Name of the Primary Mentor/Principal Investigator and any collaborators
  4. Proposed title of the fellowship application
  5. Brief summary of the proposed fellowship project (300 word maximum)
- Full application forms are available on the Indiana CTSI website [CTSI Lilly-Stark Pre Doc link](#)
  - Electronic submissions should be uploaded to that site no later than **MONDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2017**.
  - 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, post-doctoral research fellow and contact information, primary mentor/principal investigator(s) and contact information, location where work will be performed 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 Summary

- 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 summary. The information in the summary will posted on the CTSI website should the project be selected for funding. Proprietary information should not be included in the summary, since the website posting will be publicly accessible.

### Page 3. Specific Aims – limited to 1 page. 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 - not to exceed 4 single-spaced pages 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 student, existing data and knowledge, and describe the student's experience in the field.

**Page 8-9. References.**

- Although indicated here as 2 pages in length, there is no page limit on this section. Include what is appropriate to support the research narrative.

**Page 10. Timeline** for studies with milestones for first and second year.

- Indicate a timeline for completing the first and second year milestones and a paragraph addressing the feasibility of achieving the milestones for the first year of the project.

**Page 11-15+. Biographical Sketches.**

The biosketch should be provided in the new NIH format – see sample on Indiana CTSI website.

Include the biographical sketch (5 page maximum each) for:

- The pre-doctoral fellow
- The primary mentor/principal investigator
- Any co-mentors

**Page 16+. Personal Statement** – limited to one page

- Briefly describing 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+. Other Support** for the Pre-doctoral fellow in NIH format.

- Include details of any overlap that this proposal has with active or pending awards.

**Page 18+. Letter of support/recommendation**

- Include letters of support from the pre-doctoral fellow's primary mentor/principal investigator.

**Appendices.** This section is limited to additional support letters and regulatory information.

## **PEER REVIEW AND AWARD SELECTION**

Applications will be reviewed by a joint peer review committee. Awards will be announced in late 2017. Projects should have a start date no earlier than January 1, 2018. Awarded funds will be released following approval verification of all required regulatory compliance documentation.

Available funding will allow for one (1) award to be made under this mechanism in 2017.

## **POST AWARD REQUIREMENTS**

1. All awards will be monitored for progress by the Indiana CTSI as required by the CTSA Annual Progress Report. Progress monitoring generally includes the following:
  - A report at nine months the first year, demonstrating status of milestone progress and documenting external grant submissions/awards, IP, publications, and/or presentations arising from the supported research. This will assist in determining the renewal of the second year.
  - Two six month report submissions the following year.

- Annual follow-up reports upon request 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 Stark Neurosciences Research Institute, Indiana CTSI, and Eli Lilly and Company support in any presentation or publication of work funded by this award as follows:

*This [(publication was made possible) (project was supported)] by the Stark Neurosciences Research Institute, Eli Lilly and Company, and by the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute, funded in part by grant # UL1TR001108 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.*