

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

The Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CTSI) TL1 Postdoctoral Training Awards are designed to provide promising postdoctoral fellows with the opportunity to be mentored in research-intensive multi-disciplinary settings toward the goal of developing careers in translational research.

The National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS), 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 change.

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

Emphasis of CTSI postdoctoral training awards are to move findings from basic laboratory and clinical research (referred to as T1 research) toward the development of new treatment options/interventions (referred to as T2 research) and eventual dissemination and implementation (T3+ phases of translational research). The goal of the CTSI is to make awards at all of these stages.

It is important that the translational research have clear applications to human disease and health outcomes. To that end, postdoctoral 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.

In addition to the traditional TL1 Postdoctoral Training Award described above, applications will be accepted for Entrepreneurial Fellowship Training Awards under this TL1 funding mechanism. The CTSI is offering an opportunity for CTSI member institution postdoctoral fellows for directed training in advancing innovations into commercialization and entrepreneurship. The CTSI postdoctoral fellow will undertake a translational research project involving research on the development of life science technology pertaining to health and human disease. The project could include research on the development of therapies, diagnostics, or medical devices. The postdoc will work in an entrepreneurial ecosystem located at one of the four CTSI partner campuses (IUB, IUSM, Purdue, and Notre Dame). The position will have significant opportunity to work with startup companies including, pharmaceutical and medical device companies. The training is experiential, supplemented with seminars and invited talks that will help with the fellow consider a scientific career in industry. The postdoctoral fellow will participate in grant writing and publication submissions.

Funding for all postdoctoral training awards is for up to two years (with the 2nd year of funding contingent upon review and demonstration of satisfactory progress). Benefits include salary support as well as health insurance.

The application process mirrors an abbreviated NIH National Research Service Award (NRSA) for Individual Postdoctoral Fellows (F32). As such, applicants are encouraged to apply for the F32 during their first year of support. More information on the NRSA program is available from the [National Institutes of Health](#).

Criteria for application include:

- Applicants must be located at and mentored by faculty at one of the CTSI campuses, Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis, Indiana University at Bloomington, Purdue University at West Lafayette, or the University of Notre Dame.
- Candidates must have received a PhD or equivalent degree from an accredited domestic or foreign institution. These postdoctoral fellowships may not be used to support studies leading to the MD, DO, DDS, DVM, or similar health-professional degree. Neither may these awards be used to support the clinical years of residency training.
- Candidates may have no more than 36 months combined experience as a postdoctoral fellow at any academic institution or industry by April 1, 2020.
- Per NIH policy, no individual trainee may receive more than three years of aggregate Kirchstein-NRSA support at the postdoctoral level, including any combination of support from Kirchstein-NRSA institutional research training grants and individual fellowships.
- Candidate 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.
- Candidate must have a demonstrated interest in multi- and inter-disciplinary scientific training in translational research consistent with the ongoing work of the primary and co-mentors.
- The primary mentor must have a research program that includes peer reviewed, extramurally funded research.
- U.S. citizen or have permanent resident status.

CTSI trainees are required to attend and present a poster at the annual Indiana CTSI meeting in the fall, attend the national Association for Clinical and Translational Science (ACTS) meeting in Washington DC in the spring, and attend several Indiana CTSI gatherings during the academic year.

Applications must be submitted by December 12, 2019. Awards will start on **April 1, 2020.**

For the traditional TL1 Postdoctoral Training Award, interested candidates needing help identifying an appropriate co-mentor should contact the Indiana CTSI Navigator at their institution:

Indiana University Purdue University - Indianapolis Navigator:
Tammy Sajdyk, PhD, tsajdyk@indiana.edu, 317-278-7488

Indiana University – Bloomington Navigator:
Joel Ybe, PhD, jybe@indiana.edu, 812-856-4882

Purdue University Navigator:
Tommy Sors, PhD, tsors@purdue.edu, 765-494-1678

University of Notre Dame Navigator:
Melanie DeFord, mdeford@nd.edu, 574-631-8805

For the Entrepreneurial Fellowship Training Award, interested candidates needing help identifying an appropriate co-mentor should contact:

Indiana Center for Biomedical Innovation:
Padma Portonova, PhD, pportono@iupui.edu, 317-278-2879

Purdue Research Foundation:
Scott Henderson, Vice President and Chief Entrepreneurial Officer, swhenderson@prf.org
404-725-4441

University of Notre Dame Technology Transfer Office:
James Thompson, Associate Vice President and Executive Director, jthomp22@nd.edu,
574-631-1041

For general questions related to this RFA please contact Patricia McGuire, pcmccuir@iu.edu,
317-278-2824.