Histochemical Society Education Committee

Proposal to Expand Capstone Grants

December 2018

The success of the HCS's undergraduate Capstone grants has led to the HCS Executive Council requesting an expansion of the program to add Cornerstone Grants supporting graduate medical research (residents and fellows) and graduate students on a Thesis-Based Master's or PhD track.

To better engage all trainee research grant recipients with the Society, the Education Committee will require all awardees (including Undergraduate Capstone) to submit an abstract for presentation at the HCS Annual Meeting. We would also kindly request that the Awards & membership Committee consider expanding travel awards, or to reserve one travel award for each of the Society's trainee research grant programs.

Cornerstone Grant: Graduate Medical Trainee and Graduate Student Proposal

The Education Committee requests annual funds for $2,000 research grants to be awarded to graduate medical trainees (residency or fellowship), graduate students pursuing a PhD, or a thesis-based Master's degree, or students in combined degree programs (MD/PhD, DVM/PhD, DDS/PhD). The number of awards available for each year will be determined by the amount of funds available during that fiscal year.

Description of Award:

The purpose of the Histochemical Society's Graduate Medical Trainee and Graduate Student Cornerstone Grant is to encourage interest in histochemistry and histochemical-based research techniques in early-career physicians and scientists. This grant will provide funds to assist graduate medical trainees and graduate students in conducting research involving immunohistochemistry or histochemical techniques and in situ hybridization. Award recipients will be given approximately one year to perform the research. Grant recipients will be required to report their findings to the Histochemical Society Education Committee upon the completion of the project. Recipients will also be required to submit an abstract for presentation at the Histochemical Society's Annual Meeting, and encouraged to apply to the HCS Travel Awards to aid in attendance.

Applicant Requirements:

Applicants must be graduate medical trainees (residency or fellowship), graduate students (PhD or thesis-based Master's), or combined degree program students (Possibilities include but are not limited to MD/PhD, DVM/PhD, DDs/PhD, MD/MS.) All awardees must be members of the Histochemical Society before funds will be disbursed.

Evaluation:

Applications will be evaluated on the effective and necessary use of immunohistochemistry or other histochemical techniques toward completion of the project. Likelihood of successful completion of the project (based on availability of appropriate laboratory space, equipment and institutional support) and significance of the question being addressed will also be considered. Both basic and translational or clinical research proposals are eligible.

Reporting:

Successful applicants should submit a summary of their project in the form of a scientific manuscript. This should be submitted within 2 months of the project's completion date. In addition,

Proposed Timeline:

April 1 to June 30: Application site open
July & August: Applications reviewed
Late August: Applicants notified
September 30: Funds disbursed
September 30 of following year: Project completion
October 31 of following year: Report submitted to the HCS Education Committee
November of following year: Abstract submitted to HCS Annual Meeting/Experimental Biology

Proposed Research Plan Format

To apply, you will be asked to submit a Research Plan (4 page limit). Please include the following:

a. Hypothesis
b. Rationale, including why IHC techniques are necessary for project success
c. Previous/Supporting Data
d. Methods, including description of proposed of IHC techniques
e. References
f. Submission Guidelines
    i. 4 Page Limit, excluding references
    ii. Margins should be no smaller than 1"
    iii. Font should be 10pt. Arial or Times New Roman
    iv. 1 Figure may be included
    v. Submit in PDF format