Dental Clinical Research Fellowship

The National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) Dental Clinical Research Fellowship prepares dentists for careers as academic clinician-scientists, offering training in the latest clinical, translational, and basic research methodologies. NIDCR is one of 27 Institutes and Centers at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

THE FELLOWSHIP

Each fellow will work to complete an independent research project. Fellows are mentored by a team of basic and clinical/translational scientists from the NIDCR as well as other NIH Institutes as appropriate. Clinical and translational research studies complement ongoing basic science laboratory projects. Research programs include, but are not limited to, the evaluation and treatment of salivary gland dysfunction, studies on the natural history and treatment of fibrous dysplasia, bone regeneration, endocrine conditions that impact bone metabolism, oral microbiology and immunology, graft versus host disease, novel approaches to pain, and craniofacial development and anomalies. Fellows will be invited to give a presentation on their research at the end of the training program. They will also have the opportunity to author papers and present at national conferences.

Fellows work in the Dental Clinical Research Center, which is housed in the NIH Clinical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. The NIH Clinical Center is the world’s largest research hospital dedicated entirely to clinical research. With its world-class scientists, state-of-the-art technologies, and unique architectural design, the Clinical Center’s rich environment makes it possible to rapidly translate scientific observations and laboratory discoveries into new clinical approaches for preventing, diagnosing, and treating disease.
Clinical Service

Fellows may have modest clinical service responsibilities and are credentialed through the NIH Clinical Center. Clinical competence is expected as the Fellowship is NOT an advanced training program.

Duration and Timing

The NIDCR Dental Clinical Research Fellowship is a 2-3 year full-time program. The fellowship begins on July 1st of each calendar year.

Didactic Curriculum

Fellows participate in weekly Clinical Case Conferences. In addition, regular Clinicopathological Conferences, Grand Rounds, and lab-based journal clubs will highlight current research on a wide range of topics and oral and craniofacial conditions, and give fellows the opportunity to hear from experts in their fields. Training courses in grant writing, research design and management, statistical analysis, and bioethics are also available through the NIH Clinical Center.

Eligibility

Qualified applicants must have a DDS/DMD or equivalent dental clinical degree, prior research experience, and/or masters and doctoral level education beyond clinical training. U.S., Canadian, or equivalent clinical licensure must be approved by the NIH Clinical Center Credentialing Committee.

Stipend and Benefits

Fellows are provided with a generous stipend commensurate with experience, and may be eligible for the NIH Loan Repayment Program that pays up to an additional $35,000 per year. A full range of benefits is available, including health insurance, dental, and vision coverage.

How to apply

Application materials are due September 15 of each calendar year.

Interested applicants should forward their curriculum vitae, dental school transcripts, and dental license (notarized translations if documents are not in English), a statement of research interests and career goals, and three letters of reference to:

Janice S. Lee DDS, MD, MS
NIDCR Clinical Director
10 Center Drive, Bldg 10
Room 5-2531 MSC 1470
Bethesda, MD 20892

For more information contact - James Melvin PhD, DDS
Email: james.melvin@nih.gov
Telephone: (301) 827-1647

More information is available through the NIDCR web page:
https://www.nidcr.nih.gov/careers-training/dentists-physicians/clinical-research-fellowship

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