Program Description

The Medical Research Fellowship Program is offered by the Office of International Medicine Programs, School of Medicine and Health Sciences in affiliation with the Medical Faculty Associates at the George Washington University. This program provides international medical graduates with the skills necessary to enhance their research careers and pursue graduate medical education in the United States. Medical, basic sciences, and public health research is available in, but not limited to, the following specialties: anesthesiology, emergency medicine, general and neurosurgery, gastroenterology, genomic medicine, healthcare leadership, health systems and operations, hematology, internal medicine and its sub-specialties, neurology, obstetrics and gynecology, oncology, ophthalmology, pathology, pediatrics, pharmacology, psychiatry, and urology.

Learning Objectives and Outcomes

At the end of the program, research fellows will be equipped with skills, abilities and documents to help them compete for a U.S. residency position. Throughout the program, research fellows will:

• Develop a longstanding relationship with a medical faculty member who will serve as a mentor to provide guidance on career development, and on the process for applying to U.S. residency programs.
• Create a network of professional contacts for future support in international medicine.
• Develop critical thinking and analytical and practical inquiry skills utilizing the latest approaches in U.S. healthcare and medical research.
• Develop a foundation for putting evidence-based medicine into practice and research.
• Increase skills in critical appraisal, research design and understanding of the entire medical research process through participation in journal club with other research fellows.
• Potentially publish articles or abstracts in peer-reviewed journals, or present research posters or papers in conferences.
• Gain first-hand knowledge of the U.S. healthcare system and medical higher education through observation shifts and exposure to the latest techniques and treatment procedures in the clinical area of interest.
• Develop personal and group leadership skills necessary for advancement in clinical practice and research.
• Develop strategies for communicating clinical research and medical information in spoken and written English.
• Gain broad public speaking and presentation experience, and participate in at least one professional conference in field of interest.
• Develop competitive credentials for U.S. residency programs.
• Attain letters of recommendation from GW medical faculty when appropriate.

Eligibility Requirements

Interested and qualified applicants must submit one PDF with the required documents in the following order to IMP (impinfo@gwu.edu):

1. A headshot photo
2. Curriculum vitae
3. A one-page objective statement (12-point Times New Roman font, single-spaced) detailing the applicant’s academic and professional goals and objectives for the program.
4. USMLE Step 1 and Step 2 CK scores ≥ 220; OR USMLE Step 1 score ≥ 220 AND one of the following:
   - Pass USMLE Step 2 CS or
   - TOEFL score ≥ 100 or
   - IELTS overall band score ≥ 7 (with no individual score below 6)
   Applicants who have not taken USMLE Step 2 must present proof, prior to the start of the program, that these tests have been scheduled.
5. A copy of medical degree
6. Medical school transcripts
7. Three letters of recommendation
8. A financial guarantee letter from a sponsoring institution that complies with the dates and duration of the program.

Application Deadline and Program Length

Applications must be submitted no later than January 15th. MRFP is set for a 12-month period starting on May 1st and ending on April 30th.