W.T. Gill Summer Fellowship Program

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Each year, first year medical students are invited to apply for the W.T. Gill Summer Fellowship stipends to support select summer research internship opportunities at The George Washington University, Children’s National Health System, and the Washington DC Veteran’s Affairs Medical Center.

- The Office of Research Administration oversees the funding and the selection process for the W.T. Gill Fellowship Program, and a limited number of scholarships will be awarded.
- Faculty proposals will be listed within the Gill Fellowship packet which will be distributed to all first year medical students by December 1.
- Students also have the option of identifying additional GW or CNHS faculty mentors and research projects for internships.
- The project must be a minimum of 8 weeks in length and the proposed project objectives or intended outcome must be achievable within that time frame.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The student application will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Quality and organization of the proposed project
  - Objectives are clearly defined
  - Primary research hypothesis is stated
  - The project design makes it likely the objectives will be achieved
  - The project is likely to result in a report of interest to other scholars.

- Educational value of proposed project
  - The project will contribute to the student’s stated educational and career goals
  - The project will positively impact the healthcare community

- Mentor support
  - The student provides evidence of acceptance from the mentor
  - The mentor team is productive and provides a strong scholarly environment.
  - The project is designed to include sufficient support/infrastructure from a mentor/host site.

- The project must already have IRB, IBC, and/or IACUC approval (if applicable) in order to be eligible for Gill Fellowship funding.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

Eligible Students
- First year GW medical students in good academic standing (the award is contingent upon the student’s good academic standing throughout the duration of the accepted program).

Non-Eligible Students
- Students who have previously received SMHS summer program funding.
- Students accepting any other scholarships or fellowships for their proposed summer program (supplemental funding is allowed as long as it provides only minimal support
Student applications must include the following:

- Completed application cover sheet
- Project Description
  - Brief overview of project (1 paragraph)
  - Measurable objectives of project (e.g. number of patient records, assays completed)
  - The main question and the primary hypothesis to be tested
  - Project structure (time frame, breakdown of activities, etc.)
- Educational Value
  - Explain how your project fulfills discovery/original research
  - If you are enrolled in the Scholarly Concentration Program, explain how your project relates to your Scholarly Concentration area
  - Explain what impact your project will have on the healthcare community
  - Explain how you will use this project to further your educational and career goals
- Mentor Support
  - Provide contact information on your mentor and a daily supervisor, as applicable, and location and facilities for the research project
  - Describe the current and previous medical student training by your mentor team
  - Provide applicable IRB, IBC and/or IACUC approval for the proposed project
  - Include up to 3 publications from your mentor team within the last 3 years. A track record of scholarship is essential for Gill fellowship support.
  - Describe the role the mentor will play in helping achieve the project objectives
- Personal Statement: *(not to exceed one page)*
  - Explain your personal interest in the stated project
  - Any relevant past experience related to the project
- Applicant’s CV
- Verification of acceptance from the on-site mentor; this confirmation must be provided on letterhead and the content of the letter must include specific information regarding the project, supervision structure, and the student’s responsibilities.

**REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

- An abstract describing the scholar’s project, including title, authors, methods, results, including any statistics is required by the conclusion of the summer. Due **August 15**.
- A poster, developed in PowerPoint, is required by the conclusion of the summer. This may be updated for use in Research Days or other professional meetings.
- A presentation for a group which may include donors, members of the Dean’s Office, the selection committee, and/or students may be scheduled.
- A completed evaluation by the scholar of their summer program.
- A completed evaluation by the host site of the scholar’s performance.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** March 1