

**The Paul D. Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Cooperative Research Center (MDCRC) at UTSW** announces its first Trainee Fellowship Award Competition to support two mentored pilot/feasibility projects relevant to the study or treatment of muscular dystrophies. Both clinically-oriented and basic-science proposals are encouraged.

**1. Award description:** Two grants of up to \$30,000 each will be awarded per year, one supporting a clinically-oriented project and the other supporting a basic-science study. (Funds may be used for salary/benefits in addition to project costs depending on the nature of the project). Emphasis will be put on the testing of new ideas or approaches and the generation of preliminary results that can be used by the trainee in their next step toward an independent career in the study or treatment of muscular dystrophies.

**2. Eligibility:** Applicants will either be: (1) a pre- or post-doctoral trainee; or (2) a clinical fellow in cardiology or neurology, training programs. The mentor can be an individual already directly involved in the Wellstone MDCRC or any qualified scientist (basic or clinical) from any department in the Medical School or Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at UTSW. Both foreign and domestic trainees will be considered. The primary requirements are (a) that the proposed project relates directly to some aspect of the study or treatment of muscular dystrophy and (b) that the mentor demonstrates a willingness to provide appropriate guidance to the trainee, also committing to participation in additional MDCRC activities, including, but not necessarily limited to the annual retreat.

Trainees receiving awards will be expected to attend CRSM seminars and present their work at the end of the year in a Graduate student/ Post-doc WIPs co-sponsored by the Wellstone MDCRC, the Center for Regenerative Science and medicine (CRSM) and Children's Research Institute (CRI).

**3. Questions?:** please direct questions regarding these awards to either Dr. Jaya Trivedi ([jaya.trivedi@utsouthwestern.edu](mailto:jaya.trivedi@utsouthwestern.edu)) or Dr. Beverly Rothermel ([beverly.rothermel@utsouthwestern.edu](mailto:beverly.rothermel@utsouthwestern.edu))

**Application Procedure:** Submit the following to as a single pdf file

- Application cover page (see next page)
- Trainee's CV (2 page max)
- A one-page proposal describing the specific aims and research design of the project. (Single-spaced with 0.5 inch margins)
- A very brief tentative budget outline. Funds may be used to provide support for stipends, fringes, reagents and use of core facilities. This may include travel for an applicant to collect samples, learn a new technique, or visit another Wellstone Center to strengthen a collaborative interaction (provided these are central to the goals of the proposal).
- A statement from the mentor under whose direction the research will be performed. This should include a commitment to participate in the annual meeting of the UTSW Wellstone Center and/or other Wellstone activities such as seminars and WIPS.

Applications are due by midnight Feb. 19, 2016. Review will be based on the following criteria: (1) quality of the research plan, (2) impact of the application on research in muscular dystrophy, (3) training potential of the proposal, (4) quality of the applicant, (5) training environment and commitment of the mentor. Awards will be announced in the second week of March.

Application Deadline: Friday February 19, 2016 11:59pm

• Title of proposal:

• Trainee:

Name:

Department:

Mail code:

Campus Phone:

E-mail address:

Training Level:

Clinical Fellow

Postdoctoral Fellow

Medical Student

Graduate Student

• Mentor:

Name:

Department:

Mail code:

Campus Phone:

E-mail address: