

# CIRM TRAINING PROGRAM

## CALL FOR FELLOWSHIP APPLICATIONS

The UCSF CIRM-funded training grant is seeking applications for up to 4 predoctoral, 7 postdoctoral, and 2 clinical fellow slots.

**GOAL** To train scholars of all backgrounds including predoctoral students, postdoctoral fellows, and clinical fellows in stem cell, gene therapy, and regenerative medicine.

**WHO MAY APPLY** Eligibility requirements:

- Already in lab or committed to start in lab by start date of funding (December 1, 2021).
- Predocs should currently be in the second or third year of training. Postdocs and clinical fellows may apply starting in the first year of training but should have less than three years of training.
- Cannot be combined with other fellowships.

**WHAT IS SUPPORTED**

- Stipend, health insurance and tuition and fees for up to 3 years for predocs contingent on annual renewal of progress.
- Stipend and health insurance for up to 2 years for postdocs and clinical fellows contingent on annual renewal of progress.
- The training program will provide a small research supply and travel allowance to all trainees.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE** 5:00 p.m., October 31, 2021

**HOW TO APPLY** Submit all application materials online at [https://ucsf.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_bknzXJv3iIJ2uiy](https://ucsf.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bknzXJv3iIJ2uiy)

Reference letters may be submitted separately by email to Lisa Magargal, CIRM Training Grant Program Coordinator  
Lisa.Magargal@ucsf.edu

Applications will not be considered complete until all materials are received.

**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT**

Applications will be reviewed by the training program's steering committee. Notifications will be delivered as soon as possible based on volume received.

**REQUIREMENTS OF TRAINEES WHO RECEIVE AWARD**

All funded fellows will be expected to:

- Take for credit or audit Development Stem Cell Biology (DSCB257) course (can be waived with proof of similar prior coursework)
- Monthly presentations at gatherings of trainees and their mentors
- Participation in Quarterly Translation/Ethics Discussions
- Participation in at least one community outreach event per year. A list of available options will be provided.
- Submission of annual Individual Development Plan (IDP)
- Annual meeting with secondary mentor (one will be assigned)
- Attendance and presentation (oral and/or poster) at annual IRM retreat
- Attendance at monthly Jonah Platt IRM seminar series
- Participation in at least one Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) course/event per year. A list of available options will be provided. (can be waived if already undertaken at UCSF.)

**ANTICIPATED START DATE**

December 1, 2021

**APPLICATION PROCESS**

The CIRM Training Grant is being administered by The Eli & Edythe Broad Center for Regeneration Medicine and Stem Cell Research at UCSF; therefore, application materials **should not** be routed through UCSF's Office of Sponsored Research, Contracts & Grants.

The application consists of:

- ONLINE APPLICATION: [https://ucsf.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_bknzXJv3ilJ2uiy](https://ucsf.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bknzXJv3ilJ2uiy)
- APPLICANT'S CURRICULUM VITAE or NIH-STYLE BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH  
The applicant's current CV or NIH-style Biographical Sketch will be acceptable. This must be attached to the online application.
- APPLICANT'S RESEARCH PLAN  
The research plan is limited to two pages (excluding the bibliography). Margins should be one-half inch and the font should be Arial, 11pt. Figures and tables must stay within the page limit. This must be attached to the online application.

While the research plan has no formal, required sections, it should provide a clear and concise summary of the applicant's research goals. The committee pays particular attention to the plan's

clarity, originality, scope and feasibility. Priority is given to projects with clear relevance to the basic biology of stem cells as well as translational and clinical applications.

- **MENTOR'S TRAINING PLAN/REFERENCE LETTER**

The mentor's training plan/reference letter is limited to one page. Margins and fonts should be those described for the research plan. The training plan/reference letter should indicate how the mentor intends to support both the applicant's research and educational goals during the fellowship period. If the mentor already has a CIRM fellow, additional information is required (see QUALIFICATIONS below). This letter may be uploaded into the application or submitted separately via email to [Lisa.Magargal@ucsf.edu](mailto:Lisa.Magargal@ucsf.edu) no later than 10/31/2021.

- **MENTOR'S NIH-STYLE BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Please include a copy of the mentor's current NIH-style biographical sketch. This biosketch may be uploaded into the application or submitted separately via email to [Lisa.Magargal@ucsf.edu](mailto:Lisa.Magargal@ucsf.edu) no later than 10/31/2021.

- **ONE ADDITIONAL LETTER OF REFERENCE**

This reference letter should be included from an evaluator who is not the applicant's mentor. This letter may be uploaded into the application or submitted separately via email to [Lisa.Magargal@ucsf.edu](mailto:Lisa.Magargal@ucsf.edu) no later than 10/31/2021.

- **CURRENT IRB APPROVAL LETTERS**

Include copies of all current CHR/GESCR or IACUC approval letters for research using stem cells. CHR/GESCR approvals are required for any research involving human stem cells. Pending or lapsed approval may result in delay or interruption of funding. Approval letters may be uploaded into the application or submitted separately via email to [Lisa.Magargal@ucsf.edu](mailto:Lisa.Magargal@ucsf.edu) no later than 10/31/2021.

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

To qualify for appointment, an applicant must have the necessary academic preparation and degree(s) that are appropriate for the level of proposed training. Specifically, a predoctoral fellow must be enrolled in a UCSF basic science doctoral degree program or a medically-related UCSF professional program such as medicine or dentistry. Postdoctoral fellows must have earned a PhD, MD, or equivalent degree.

The training program provides up to three years of support for predoctoral fellows and up to two years for postdoctoral fellows and clinical fellows. Continuation is dependent on satisfactory progress toward accomplishing the overall goals set forth in the research plan (see *PROGRESS REPORT* below).

In general, the training program supports one fellow per mentor. If a mentor already has a CIRM fellow, please include in the mentor letter the date that the current fellow will leave the program. ***Priority will be given to applicants whose mentors do NOT currently have fellows in the program.***

## **STIPEND, BENEFITS & RESEARCH ALLOWANCE**

Depending on availability of funds, the training program will provide postdoctoral and clinical fellows with a stipend commensurate with the individual's experience and level of training (see table). Predoctoral fellow stipends are set at \$36,000. Funds to defray research and travel costs are also included. The CIRM training program provides partial funding to cover health insurance benefits for all trainees as shown in

the chart above. Mentors and/or departments must provide any supplemental funding to ensure trainee stipend and benefits are covered 100%.

Initial appointments are for one-year periods and dependent on satisfactory progress may be extended to three years for predocs and two years for postdocs and clinical fellows.

	Clinical Fellows	Postdoctoral	Predoctoral
Annual Stipend	\$74,000-\$94,000	\$51,000-\$65,000	\$36,000
Annual Tuition/Fees	N/A	N/A	Up to \$10,500
Annual Health Insurance	Up to \$10,500	Up to \$5,000	N/A (included in Tuition/Fees)
Annual Research & Travel	Up to \$2,500	Up to \$2,500	Up to \$2,500

#### **HUMAN RESOURCE (HR) SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS OF FELLOW/MENTOR'S DEPT**

This training program is administered through the Eli & Edythe Broad Center for Regeneration Medicine and Stem Cell Research at UCSF. However, **the human resource administrator from the fellow's home department, clinical department or graduate program must prepare ALL UCSF appointment paperwork such as the stipend appointment form.** Please check with your HR representative to ensure that they are prepared to handle the paperwork, *as failure to do so could result in funding delays or lapses.* Also, the fellow and the relevant HR personnel should understand the differences between a salary and a stipend, which have different IRS reporting requirements.

#### **CHR, GESCR & IACUC APPROVALS**

If the fellow's research needs CHR, GESCR or IACUC approval, CIRM may require the fellow to have continuous coverage for the entire award period with no lapses. Pending, incomplete, or lapsed approval could result in delay or interruption of funding. Approval letters should be attached to the application. Additional information or instructions will be provided to funded trainees as it becomes available.

#### **PROGRESS REPORT**

CIRM requires UCSF to submit an annual progress report that covers both the research and training aspects of the individual programs. Preparing this one-page document is the responsibility of the fellow in consultation with the mentor. The fellow's report is due one month prior to the CIRM deadline. The training program's executive committee will use the report to determine if a fellow receives subsequent funding.

Anticipated due date of fellows' reports for the next progress report is **October 31, 2022.**

It is vitally important that all fellows' CHR/GESCR/IACUC be current and up-to-date by the reporting deadline.

#### **APPOINTMENT FORM**

At the beginning or renewal of a fellowship, an appointment form must be submitted to CIRM. This form requires the fellow to condense the research plan to less than one page once their application is chosen for funding.

#### **END OF APPOINTMENT FORM**

At the end of a fellowship, CIRM requires that a termination form be submitted. This form includes a concise summary of the fellow's experience in the training program.

**ADDITIONAL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS (will be tracked and reported in annual CIRM report)**

Required course:

- DSCB 257 (can be waived if proof of similar course taken in past)

Required participation in:

- Monthly presentations at gatherings of trainees and their mentors
- Quarterly Translation/Ethics Discussions
- At least one community outreach event per year (options will be provided)
- Annual meeting with secondary mentor (one will be assigned)
- Annual IRM retreat (expect to present poster or talk)
- Monthly Jonah Platt IRM seminar series
- At least one DEI course/event per year. A list of available options will be provided to trainees. The requirement will be waived for trainees who have already completed such training at UCSF, such as Grad 202 Racism in Science for first year predoctoral students, or similar trainings for postdoctorates.

**CIRM ANNUAL MEETING**

CIRM holds an annual grantee meeting for fellows (and investigators), which provides an opportunity for them to present their research findings and encourages scientific discussion/collaboration. Barring unforeseen circumstances, trainees will likely be required to attend an annual meeting at CIRM to present their research. Details and a meeting date will be announced at a later date.

**PUBLICATION DISCLOSURE**

Information will be provided to selected trainees about required actions related to publications supported by the CIRM training program. This may include acknowledgement of the support and preparing a public abstract of the paper to be published on the CIRM website.

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS**

For additional information, please contact the training grant program directors or coordinator.

	Director	Associate Director	Program Coordinator
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