

# 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

An independent clinical research project with relevance to human disease or health is the focus of the fellowship. Fellows work on clinical and translational research studies that will ultimately impact patient care. World-class scientific mentorship is provided by NIDCR clinical and translational scientists as well as other NIH Institutes as appropriate for the individual topic. Research programs include, but are not limited to, the evaluation and treatment of salivary gland dysfunction, oral immunology/microbiology, periodontal disease, oral manifestations of chronic graft-versus-host disease, novel approaches to pain, bone metabolic abnormalities and fibrous dysplasia, bone regeneration, bone marrow stromal stem cell therapy, and craniofacial anomalies. Fellows may serve as Chief Fellow and, in their final year of fellowship, give a capstone presentation on their research. They are encouraged to author papers, apply for early-career grants, 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 have modest clinical service responsibilities and are credentialed through the NIH Clinical Center. Clinical competence is expected as the Fellowship is NOT an advanced clinical 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**

The individualized curriculum supports professional development tailored to the goals of each Fellow. Fellows participate in weekly Clinical Case Conferences, Grand Rounds, career development workshops, and lab-based journal clubs which highlight current research on a wide range of oral and craniofacial conditions and give fellows the opportunity to interact with experts in their fields. Fellows develop a Clinicopathologic Conference based on their work and may engage in additional training and education in grant writing, research design and management, pharmacology, biostatistics, regulatory aspects of clinical research, and bioethics through the NIH Clinical Center. Fellows also have the option of participating in the NIH-Duke Master's Program in Clinical Research, which is one of the nation's first training programs in clinical research. A Master of Health Sciences in Clinical Research is awarded by the Duke University School of Medicine upon completion of required coursework in research design and management, medical genomics, and statistical analysis.

### **Eligibility**

Qualified applicants must have a DDS/DMD (or equivalent dental degree) along with prior research experience 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 on a time-limited federal government appointment with pay per the federal postgraduate year (PGY) scale. A full range of benefits is available, including health insurance, dental, and vision coverage. Fellows may be eligible for the NIH Loan Repayment Program that repays up to \$50,000 of educational debt annually.

# How to apply

Application materials are due August 31 of each calendar year, no exceptions.

Submit basic application materials to NIDCRclinicalFellow@nidcr.nih.gov:

Curriculum vitae, personal statement detailing research interests and career goals, copy of active dental license (notarized translations if documents are not in English), statement with description of clinical activity over past 6 years, statement of citizenship or visa status, dental school transcripts (translated if not in English), and three letters of reference (dated within 6 months on official letterhead).

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## More information is available through the NIDCR web page:

https://www.nidcr.nih.gov/careers-training/dentists-physicians/clinical-research-fellowship



