



CASE  
COMPREHENSIVE  
CANCER CENTER



## **Brian Werbel Memorial and Cancer Center Summer Research Training Program**

2017 Request for Applications

### **OVERVIEW**

The Brian Werbel Memorial summer research training program was created to train and support medical students interested in cancer research. In addition, the cancer center values the experience gained by extensive direct experience in laboratory research during medical school. Through these two funding sources, trainees will receive financial support in addition to valuable experience. Those chosen for the Brian Werbel Memorial Fund must attend the annual golf outing.

### **APPLICATION**

The application will consist of the following:

1. Applicant's curriculum vitae.
2. Letter of support from the applicant's project mentor.
3. Letter (email) from your medical school confirming status as a current student in good standing.
4. 1 page describing applicant's interest in cancer research and proposed mentor/ area of research.
5. 1 page outline of proposed project including not more than 2 aims, background and rationale.

**Submit completed RFA materials to Damian Junk at [Damian.Junk@case.edu](mailto:Damian.Junk@case.edu) by the specified deadline.**

### **SUBMISSION DEADLINE**

**The application must be submitted on or before March 31, 2017, 5:00 PM Eastern time.**

### **ELIGIBILITY**

To be eligible, applicants must:

1. Be enrolled in medical school at either Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine or Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University.

2. Mentors must be members of the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center, on the faculty of Case Western Reserve University, and agree to the expectations noted below.
3. Have completed one or more years of medical school PGY but not have graduated
4. In good program academic standing
5. Use of this research experience to satisfy partial requirements for research for the MD degree is preferred

### **DURATION OF THE AWARD**

May 22, 2017 - July 28, 2017

### **FINANCIAL AWARD**

The Research Training Grant will provide a stipend of \$3,000 for 8 weeks as support for the research trainee, and \$500 for the mentor laboratory to offset costs of training. Funds must be used entirely for summer stipend and research materials. Students are encouraged to extend this period.

### **THE TRAINING SITE OF THE MENTOR**

The training site should conduct cancer research. The site should have an established research program as indicated, for example by, the following: **1)** successful extra- and or intramural competitive grant funding; **2)** current IRB-approved clinical, or laboratory investigations; **3)** research presentations at national or international meetings; **4)** publications in peer-reviewed journals; **5)** dedicated funds, space, and support personnel available to ensure completion of projects in which the applicant will participate.

### **THE MENTOR**

The mentor(s) must be members of the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center. The mentor(s) should be well-established and have **1)** mentoring experience with former trainees which have productive scientific careers, **2)** expertise in the proposed area of research, and **3)** expertise in research methodology. The mentor(s) must commit the necessary time to provide both specific and general research training for the trainee, supervise the trainee's research project, and provide the necessary equipment and resources to carry out the research project.

### **EXPECTATIONS**

The training and research expectations are as follows:

1. The trainee will meet with the mentor or designee on a weekly basis.
2. The trainee will design or participate in one or more investigation projects.
3. The trainee will submit two progress reports to the mentor outlining the work being performed over the 8-week program (5<sup>th</sup> week and 8<sup>th</sup> week).

4. The trainee will complete a responsible conduct of research module, and safety modules, preferably prior to the start of the research period.
5. The trainee will attend department seminars to further develop understanding of the field.
6. Acknowledge the support of the training grant in all posters, presentations that come out of the work in this program with either **“Supported by a grant from the Brian Werbel Memorial Fund”** or **“Supported by a grant from the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center”**.

#### **REVIEW CRITERIA**

- Scientific merit of the project
- Mentor responsibility to meet expectations for training as outlined above
- Quality of the research project summary
- Evidence of commitment by the trainee

#### **PROGRAM DIRECTORS AND PROGRAM STAFF**

**Stanton L. Gerson, MD**

Director, Case Comprehensive Cancer Center

Ph: 216.844.8565

**Damian J. Junk, PhD**

Assistant Director, Cancer Training and Education

Ph: 216-286-9191