

Milstein Medical Asian American Partnership Foundation 2020 Fellowship Award in Stem Cell Research and Regenerative Medicine

Milstein Medical Asian American Partnership (MMAAP) Foundation invites the submission of applications for its **Fellowship Award in Stem Cell Research and Regenerative Medicine** in the amount of \$85,000 to support one year of training at a prominent sponsoring institution in the US for one applicant from China. The aim of the foundation is to build enduring partnerships between the US and China as well as greater Asia through the training of future Chinese academic leaders and to encourage long-term collaborations between the two continents. The award will provide \$60,000 to cover the fellow's expenses and \$25,000 to cover research expenses at the US sponsoring institution. No indirect costs will be allowed.

The Applicant must have a career goal to become a distinguished investigator and leader focusing on challenges of stem cell and regenerative medicine. The successful application should include an innovative research proposal and commitment to the development of a long term partnership between the Chinese home institution and the US sponsoring institution

Applicant cannot use the same proposal to apply for both fellowship and research project awards. Applicant must inform MMAAP Foundation if the same research proposal is funded or chosen to be funded by another grant and, if so, s/he will not receive this award.

ELIGIBILITY:

Applicant should come from a major academic medical center in China with demonstrated excellence in stem cell research and regenerative medicine; be at the rank of instructor or above with an MD or PhD; have significant research experience with a distinguished publication record and commitment to research; demonstrate leadership skills, excellent English proficiency, and have the agreement from a US institution to provide him/her the training.

Note: Applicant should contact the US sponsoring institution to determine if the sponsoring laboratory receives funding from NIH and, if so, whether there are established policies to address the relationship between NIH-funded research and the proposed research in the application.

The ideal candidate should be coming from China at the beginning of the funding period by MMAAP Foundation. After application submission, applicant must provide updates to MMAAP Foundation if there are any changes in their professional or personal situation.

CONTENTS OF APPLICATION:

All applications must be prepared in one PDF document with contents in the following order. The PDF should contain both English and Chinese versions:

- 1) **Title page** including applicant's name, name of applicant home institution, title of proposal and name of the US sponsoring institution. **Title page** and **checklist** (both in Chinese and English) can be downloaded from the website mmaapf.org.
- 2) **A letter from the applicant stating:**
 - a) career goals and plans for achieving these goals
 - b) the relevance of MMAAP Foundation fellowship to achieve these goals
 - c) plan for collaboration and partnership building
 - d) acknowledgement of the requirement to submit periodic progress reports (written in layman's language) every 6 months and an expenditure report at the end of the grant period
 - e) acknowledgement of the requirement to list **MMAAP Foundation** support in all presentations and publications
 - f) acknowledgement to keep MMAAP Foundation informed of current and future dates of presentations and/or publications
- 3) **A curriculum vitae** (up to 6 pages) including date of birth, education, training, academic appointments, key publications, and other research support.
- 4) **A recommendation letter** either from the President of applicant's home institution or the Chair of applicant's home department. This letter must evaluate a) quality of previous and proposed research; b) commitment of the applicant and his/her department and institution to clinical investigation; c) applicant's ability to understand, write and speak English; d) willingness to continue the research project after returning to China and collaboration with the US sponsoring institution; e) a guaranteed faculty position at applicant's home institution upon returning to China; f) provision of the time for the fellow upon return to China to resume research within 6 months; g) guaranteed access to facilities and support allowing applicant to continue the research begun in the US without interruption. This includes provision of consumable supplies and access to necessary equipment.
- 5) **A letter from US sponsoring institution** to accept the applicant to work on the research detailed in this application, and to address the relationship between NIH-funded research, if any, and the proposed research in this application. If the applicant cannot identify a US sponsoring institution, s/he is advised to review the mentor list and their research areas on MMAAP Foundation's website under the tab "US Experts" and directly contact them to seek mentorship if appropriate.
- 6) **A curriculum vitae of the US responsible faculty/mentor.**
- 7) **A research proposal** (3-5 pages including key references) prepared by the applicant detailing the title, aims, significance, approach, and projected results. The proposal must be typed in **Arial 11 pt. type with 1-inch margins**. Note: Human and/or animal use must be approved by the Institutional Review Board or equivalent and documented before funding begins.

DEADLINE:

Deadline for receipt of application is on Monday, February 3, 2020 at 11:59 PM (China time). Decisions will be announced with funding available in mid 2020. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Applications need to be uploaded to mmaapf.org. Please contact info@mmaapf.org or call +1 (212) 850-4505 with any questions.

PEER REVIEW PROCESS:

Applications (Chinese version) will be first reviewed by Chinese experts in stem cell research and regenerative medicine. The selected top applications (English version) will then be reviewed by the US experts in stem cell research and regenerative medicine. One application with the highest quality will be selected through this two-step peer review process with final approval by MMAAP Foundation.

ABOUT MMAAP FOUNDATION, A 501 (c) (3) NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATION

MMAAP Foundation was established by the Milstein family to contribute to the improvement of world health by developing mutually beneficial partnerships between the US and China as well as greater Asia. Its goal is to bring together and fund exchanges between the best medical and research talent and institutions of both regions and to produce medical and scientific progress with integrity and efficiency.