NUCATS MULTIDISCIPLINARY TRAINING PROGRAM  
IN CHILD AND ADOLESCENT HEALTH (TL1)  

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Date: April 19, 2021

To: Northwestern University Department Chairs, Center and Institute Directors and Faculty  
Clinical Fellowship Program Directors, Northwestern University  
Engineering and Data Science PhD Program Directors

From: Susanna McColley, MD, Professor of Pediatrics  
Associate Clinical Director for Child Health, NUCATS Institute  
Associate Chief Research Officer for Clinical Trials and Director, Clinical  
and Translational Research, Stanley Manne Research Institute  
Director, NUCATS Institute TL1 Program

Evan Scott, PhD, Kay Davis Professor of Biomedical Engineering  
Director of PhD Admissions, Biomedical Engineering  
Co-Director, NUCATS Institute TL1 Program

Richard D’Aquila, MD, Senior Associate Dean for Clinical & Translational  
Research, Director, Northwestern University Clinical & Translational  
Sciences (NUCATS) Institute

Re: Request for applications for NUCATS Institute Multidisciplinary Training Program in Child  
and Adolescent Health predoctoral fellowship research training program (TL1)

The Multidisciplinary Training Program in Child and Adolescent Health (TL1) is an NCATS-funded training program for clinical fellows, postdoctoral trainees, short-term trainees, and predoctoral trainees. This RFA announces a funding opportunity for up to two predoctoral trainees at the McCormick School of Engineering.

The TL1 program seeks to promote interactions among both mentors and trainees in pediatric science and engineering in order to encourage creative thinking and new approaches in child-adolescent health research.

The TL1 will fund up to two predoctoral students who will benefit from up to two years of funding in the program. Research should have implications for pediatric translational science. In collaboration with the primary mentor in engineering, TL1 leadership will match the trainee with a child health clinician co-mentor.

Child health providers such as pediatricians, pediatric surgeons, and pediatric psychologists care for young people from birth to college age. The TL1 leadership group will design a translational research training program that is highly individualized and applicable to the trainee’s research and career interests to prepare them for jobs in academics and/or industry.
Predoctoral Scholar Application Requirements

All applicants should submit their materials directly to Adam White at adam-white@northwestern.edu.

- Complete the REDCap Data Applicant Form
- A Personal Statement including short- and long-term training, research, and career goals (limit 1 page)
- A Research Project, with a focus on translational research, should include specific aims, what we know and what we don’t about the area, methods that will be used to test the aims and relevance of research to pediatric translational science and improving the health of children, adolescents, and young adults (limit 2 pages)
- Updated CV
- Northwestern graduate program grade report (official transcript not necessary)
- PDFs of any relevant publications
- Two Letters of Recommendations (sent directly to adam-white@northwestern.edu from letter writers)
  - One from Research Mentor
  - One from Associated Faculty

Eligibility Requirements

- U.S. Citizenship or green card
- Appointment requires a 40 hours/week commitment to their training/research/associated career development activities
- Applicants must be in years 2 or 3 of their PhD program with research that may align with pediatric translational science

Award Provisions

- Student stipend
- Tuition support
- Travel to 1 approved conference per year
- Support for approved research supplies
- Access to NUCATS resources
- Training in translational science through mentoring, experiential learning, and workshops

How to Submit a Proposal

- Complete the REDCap data applicant form
- Compile and submit all materials to Adam White at adam-white@northwestern.edu
- Letter writers should send letters directly to Adam White at adam-white@northwestern.edu
Deadlines

- Materials should be submitted to Adam White by May 28th, 2021
- Applicants will be notified of funding decisions by June 30th, 2021
- Tentative Funding Start Date: After July 1st, 2021

Standard NIH NRSA T32 and F-series award eligibility requirements apply.

Awardees will receive prevailing NRSA stipend, health insurance, tuition support, travel expenses, and programmatic support in the areas of qualitative methods, mentor matching, team science training, Responsible Conduct of Research training, grant writing workshops, and access to the Center for Community Health.

All trainees are expected to attend programming on a regular basis and comply with data requests while funded and with annual update requests for 15-years post-funding for NIH reporting.

Mentors are required to participate in career development activities and provide annual updates as requested, as well as provide funding to trainees for research-related expenses.

Applications should be submitted via Competitions. Application Instructions are found on our website.

Process related questions can be directed to Adam White at adam-white@northwestern.edu.

Questions related to selection of mentors or co-mentors and/or potential candidate eligibility or qualification can be directed to Susanna McColley at smccolley@luriechildrens.org.

We look forward to your response to this solicitation.