The Lasker Clinical Research Scholars Program at the NIH

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Overview of the Program

• Goal – To grow the diminishing pool of talented clinical/translational researchers.

• Total program duration 8 years:
  • Years 1-5: NIH Intramural Research Program full support (salary and research support)
  • Years 6-8: salary and/or research support of up to $500,000/year at outside institution, OR continuation in Intramural Research Program

• Candidates – Early stage clinical researchers, within 10 years of completing core residency, with the ability to conduct independent research.

• Next Application deadline: August 27, 2015

• http://www.nih.gov/science/laskerscholar/
Program Candidates

• Clinical researchers within 10 years of completing their core residency program;

• Competitive for tenure-track positions;

• Ability to do independent research
Benefits to Scholars

• Protected time during intramural phase to conduct research.
  • Fully funded by NIH intramural program
  • No burdensome service obligations
  • In some cases, can maintain affiliation with previous institution while at the NIH

• Extramural component provides options for Scholars
  • 3 years of support at a research institution for scholars who successfully complete the intramural phase
  • Documented success in a peer-reviewed program

• Lasker Foundation benefits
  • Attendance at Lasker awards luncheon
  • Highlighted in Lasker reports and on website
Selection of Lasker Scholars

• Recommended that applicants contact NIH in advance
  • Programmatic advice for suitability of research area to the intramural research program
• Applicants submit a full application through grants.gov
  • Candidate Information
  • Letters of Reference
  • Research Proposal
• Initial review of candidates by NIH Review Panel
  • Review by extramural clinical investigators
• Top-rated candidates eligible for consideration by Intramural Scientific Directors
  • On-campus interviews, seminar, chalk-talk
Application Process for 2015-16 Program

- **Full Application**: Due August 27, 2015.
- **Initial Review**: Extramural peer review, Fall 2015
- **Second Review**: Intramural on-campus interviews and seminar, late 2015
- **Final Decisions**: Expected in Winter / early spring, 2016
- **Start Date**: Flexible
Current Lasker Scholars

- **Hans Ackerman, NHLBI.** The effects of metabolic and genetic factors on blood flow in people with sickle cell disease, emphasizing stroke and kidney injury in adults.

- **Andrea Apolo, NCI.** Development of new treatments for urologic cancers.

- **Jessica Gill, NINR.** Identification and treatment of combat trauma and traumatic brain injury.

- **Nehal Mehta, NHLBI.** The role of innate immunity and inflammation in the development of cardiovascular and metabolic diseases.

- **Falk Lohoff, NIAAA.** The role of genetic background on the onset, progression, and treatment of alcohol-use disorders and addictions.
Program Partners

- **Lasker Foundation**: Financial support for program launch; travel and lodging for incoming Scholars to attend Lasker Awards ceremony, and annual Scholars and mentors meeting. Scholars will be highlighted on Lasker website, reports and publications, as appropriate.

- **Intramural NIH Support**: Institute/Center financial support for salary and research operating budget.

- **Extramural NIH Support**: Institute/Center based financial support for up to 3 years of independent support (salary and/or research operating budget).