

Cooley's Anemia Foundation Research Fellowship Grant Application 2021-2022

The Cooley's Anemia Foundation invites national and international clinical and basic science investigators (postdoctoral or junior faculty) to apply for its prestigious fellowship program. Applications should be focused on the understanding or treatment of thalassemia or a complication that is related to thalassemia. The areas of interest include, but are not limited to, studies of globin gene regulation, globin gene transfer and expression, fetal hemoglobin production, hematopoietic stem cell research, bone marrow transplantation, iron chelation and iron overload, endocrine and cardiac disorders in thalassemia, and transfusion therapy and its complications.

Postdoctoral applicants must have adequate preceptorship and guidance by an experienced investigator. The sponsor of a postdoctoral fellow should be an investigator with adequate experience and at an institution with adequate research facilities. The application is expected to be the original work of the candidate but should reflect the close advice of the interested and involved sponsor. Postdoctoral applicants must have an M.D., Ph.D., or equivalent degree, and cannot hold a faculty position.

Junior faculty applicants must have an M.D., Ph.D., or equivalent degree, and must have completed less than five years at the assistant professor level at the time the applications are due. Junior faculty members do not require sponsors.

Fellowships are awarded to the medical institutions where the research is to be undertaken; thus, each application must be approved by and administered through the appropriate administrative representative at the institution. Assurance must be given that adequate laboratory facilities exist and are available to conduct the research project and, in case of investigations involving human subjects, that the project has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate committee or governing body on human research. The research may not be conducted at a for-profit laboratory.

Preference will be given to applicants who have not yet achieved R-01 funding from the NIH.

Awards are for a one-year period, beginning **July 1, 2021** and running through **June 30, 2022** and are renewable for a second year upon application and consideration of progress made in the first year and the research plan for the second year. Continuation of fellowships for year two will also be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Interested individuals are invited to complete and return applications and letters of reference in PDF format via email (info@thalassemia.org) no later than **Monday, February 1, 2021**. Notification will be given to applicants by **June 30, 2021**.

Please note the following:

- Fellowship awards are limited to a maximum of \$50,000/year and may be renewable for a second year upon reapplication, as described above.
- Postdoctoral fellows may use award funds for salary support. Junior faculty applicants may use award funds for either salary or non-salary purposes. In both cases, the administrative cost is limited to 10% of the total amount granted.
- Payment of fellowship funds will be issued in quarterly checks, made out to the financial officer of the institution. The financial officer may establish an account from which junior faculty fellows may draw expenses allowed under the terms of the fellowship. Should the project not be initiated, should the project be stopped before completion or should the fellow either voluntarily or involuntarily leave the institution before the completion of the fellowship year, the institution agrees to return all unused funds for non-salary support during that award year and to forgo remaining quarterly payments.
- All publications resulting from CAF sponsored fellowships should bear the statement: This study was supported by a grant from the Cooley's Anemia Foundation.
- The Foundation and its Medical Advisory Board regret that it is not possible to provide critiques to applicants.

General Advice:

- 1) Be sure to directly explain how your work will benefit patients with thalassemia
- 2) Make sure the scope and timeline of the proposed work fits with the timeframe of this award.
- 3) Provide potential pitfalls and alternate approaches to each aim.
- 4) If innovative or novel work, or new techniques or procedures, are being proposed for which there are no or minimal preliminary data available, then there should be sufficient description to convince reviewers that this approach will be successful.

GUIDELINES FOR COMPLETING RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION

A scanned completed application in PDF format is to be e-mailed to: info@thalassemia.org
Please include the following:

COVER PAGE

Please complete and attach the form provided on pages 5 and 6.

ABSTRACT (Not to exceed 250 words)

It is imperative in presenting your abstract that you offer an explicit explanation of the relevance of your proposal to thalassemia and that you use language easily understandable by a non-technical reader.

PROPOSAL

- I. RATIONALE (not more than 1 page)
Explain the theoretical basis of the hypothesis to be tested.
- II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE (not more than 3 pages)
Present a coherent view of the present state of research in the field. If any contributions have been made by you and/or your sponsor, describe these separately.
- III. DETAILED RESEARCH PROPOSAL (not more 5 pages)
Describe the proposed study, including method and references. Be sure to include plans for alternative strategies if initial approaches are unsuccessful.
- IV. FACILITIES AVAILABLE (not more than 1 page)
- V. OTHER SUPPORT OF THE APPLICATION & SPONSOR
Please list title, amount per year and duration of all research support for the applicant and sponsor, including pending applications, whether related to this proposal or not.
- VI. HUMAN SUBJECTS
If human subjects are involved, explain the risk, risk-benefit ratio, and methods of obtaining informed consent and of preserving confidentiality; submit evidence of approval of the project by the human research committee of the sponsoring institution. For drug studies, include documentation of FDA approval for use of an investigational new drug (IND) if applicable.
- VII. BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH AND CAREER PLAN
Submit a biographical sketch for the applicant and, if applicable, for the sponsor. If any previous publication is related to thalassemia identify with an asterisk. Submit a paragraph describing your short-term and long-term career goals.

VIII. REFERENCES

Submit the names of two individuals other than the sponsor of the current application, under whose supervision you have worked or trained most recently. Ask each of them to comment on your knowledge, training, and research ability, as well as your future promise as an independently funded investigator focused in thalassemia or related fields. Scanned reference letters in PDF format are to be e-mailed to:

info@thalassemia.org

Applications will not be considered unless all letters of reference have been received. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the letters of recommendation have been e-mailed by the **Monday, February 1, 2021** deadline. Letters of recommendation submitted with the application will not be considered.

Postdoctoral applicants must also submit an additional letter of recommendation from their sponsors (see below).

IX. SPONSOR'S ENDORSEMENT

If applying as a postdoctoral fellow, your sponsor must acknowledge that he/she has read and approved the proposal and can assure the Foundation that the goals of the project can be achieved within the award period.

In addition, the sponsor must submit to the Cooley's Anemia Foundation a letter of recommendation commenting on the applicant's knowledge, training, and research ability. The letter must comment on the sponsor's appraisal of the applicant's future promise as an independently funded investigator focused in thalassemia or related fields. Letters of recommendation must be submitted directly to the Foundation by the author by **Monday, February 1, 2021**. Letters submitted with the application will not be considered.

Scanned reference letters in PDF format are to be e-mailed to:

info@thalassemia.org

X. BUDGET FOR PERIOD July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

A. Salary

B. Fringe benefits

C. Administrative cost (limited to 10%)

D. Non-salaried support (junior faculty fellows only)

E. Total (not to exceed \$50,000)

Please indicate total salary and all other sources of support, if any.

XI. AGREEMENTS

Please complete applicable sections below (pages 7 & 8) and include these signed and scanned attachments to your application.

COVER PAGE

**2021-2022 APPLICATION FOR
COOLEY'S ANEMIA
FOUNDATION RESEARCH
FELLOWSHIP**

(Please print or type the information)

Title of research proposal:

Applicant (name and title):

Mailing address:

Telephone and e-mail:

Sponsor (Name and Title):

Institution:

Mailing address:

Telephone and e-mail:

Primary Contact for Distribution of funds (Name & Title):

Check Payable to: _____

Institution's Federal Identification Number:

Mailing Address:

AGREEMENT
COOLEY'S ANEMIA FOUNDATION RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Postdoctoral and junior faculty applicants:

Please check to indicate your funding status and to certify

_____ My postdoctoral fellowship will be used exclusively for salary and no more than 10% of the total amount will be used for administrative costs.

_____ My junior faculty fellowship will be used for either salary or non-salary support. No more than 10% of the total funding will be used for administrative costs.

All published reports will acknowledge funding by the Cooley's Anemia Foundation.

I agree with the policies of the Cooley's Anemia Foundation concerning Research Fellowships, and I will assume responsibility for the conduct of the proposed research under the supervision of my sponsor (where applicable).

Applicant Name: _____

Signature of Applicant: _____

Sponsors: _____

I agree with the policies of the Cooley's Anemia Foundation regarding this research fellowship, and I accept Dr. _____ as a fellow for up to two years. I will provide supervision and appropriate facilities for the project outlined in this application, which I have read and approved.

Sponsor Name: _____

Signature of Sponsor: _____

Date: _____

Additional Signatures:

Chairman or Director, Department of:

Telephone: _____

Signature: _____

Administrative Officer (Name and Title)

Telephone: _____

Signature: _____

Financial Officer (Name and Title)

Telephone: _____

Signature: _____

If applicable:

Approved Human Research

Committee Chairman (name):

Date: _____

Signature: _____