

SPECTRUM: The Stanford Center for Clinical and Translational Education and Research

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Spectrum, the Stanford Center for Clinical and Translational Education and Research, is a Stanford independent center supported, in part, by the National Institutes of Health Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA), under the leadership of the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS).

In keeping with its core educational mission, Spectrum offers various opportunities for clinical and translational research (CTR), including funding for multiyear degree-granting programs. Please visit <http://spectrum.stanford.edu/education-mentoring/> for details.

SPECTRUM EDUCATION PROGRAM OFFERINGS

KL2 Mentored Career Development Program

Through a KL2 award, the Spectrum Mentored Career Development Program provides advanced training in clinical and translational research to senior fellows and junior faculty from all health professions. The KL2 award provides complete tuition support and partial salary support (37.5% of the applicable Stanford postgraduate-year stipend scale) for a guaranteed period of two years. (Longer-term support, while possible, is contingent on budget and number of appointed scholars in any given year.) KL2 awardees will pursue a mentored research project in their area of expertise. It is expected that the research performed within the KL2 program will provide the basis for an independent NIH award (e.g., K23, K08, or R01).

KL2 awardees will receive advanced training in multiple disciplines, including biostatistics, epidemiology, study design, genetics, bioinformatics and bioethics. Though we encourage our scholars to complete a curriculum toward a master's degree, pursuing a didactic element within the program need not lead to a degree, and applicants who already have earned an advanced research degree are still eligible.

Awardees may pursue a master's degree in any CTR-related field, though the two primary programs are offered by the [Health Research and Policy](#) department, in Epidemiology and Clinical Research or Health Services Research. If not pursuing a degree, KL2 awardees may develop a tailored didactic plan that fulfills the mission of the CTSA program and provides the awardee optimal training in his/her CTR career objective. All Spectrum awardees can participate in Spectrum educational activities, such as the Intensive Course in Clinical Research, training in Leadership and Team Science, the Responsible Conduct of Research course and professional development workshops.

TL1 Predoctoral and Postdoctoral Training Program

Spectrum provides a TL1 award program similar to the KL2 award described above, that is tailored to predoctoral and selected postdoctoral trainees who seek formal training in CTR-related methods. The program requires at least one year of full-time instruction leading to a degree. Applicants for the TL1 award must be enrolled in a doctoral-level program, either in a CTR-related area (e.g. PhD in Bioinformatics) or in a combined doctoral program that includes an advanced CTR-related degree (e.g., a master's degree in a CTR field in addition to an MD). The TL1 award provides limited tuition (up to \$16,000/yr) and stipend support (up to \$22,032 per year for predoctoral trainees and from \$39,264 to \$54,180 per year for postdoctoral trainees).

The TL1 program is open to:

- Medical students interested in obtaining a research methods degree along with a medical degree (e.g., a master's in epidemiology and clinical research or a master's in health services research).
- Doctoral candidates in non-clinical sciences interested in obtaining a concomitant CTR-related master's degree, or interested in partial support of their CTR-related PhD program.
- Doctoral candidates in non-clinical sciences interested in the Master of Medicine (MoM) program.
- Clinical or non-clinical postdoctoral fellows interested in formal degree-granting work in a CTR-related field (although the KL2 program may be more appropriate for clinical fellows).

KL2 and TL1 Mentoring and Program Oversight

Each awardee will have at least two mentors — a research mentor, who serves as a guide for their research project, and an academic/career mentor, who provides career/academic oversight and professional advice. The academic/career mentor will be assigned by the Spectrum program director. Mentors are accomplished investigators in clinical and translational research with a track record of success in training new investigators and fostering their success as independent researchers. In addition to the research and career mentors, the KL2 awardees will be assigned a faculty-level methods adviser who can assist with study design questions and analytic plans.

APPLICATION PROCESS & DEADLINES

KL2 Applications

Deadline: Friday, August 9, 2013.

(If including a master's of science degree in your training, please apply directly to that specific program as soon as possible. The application procedures are separate, but you can indicate that you are applying to both training programs when you apply there.)

Eligibility: US citizen, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents. Junior faculty or enrollees in eligible Stanford programs, as previously described.

We will contact selected applicants for interviews by August 16, 2013. Final funding notifications are targeted for mid-September.

All KL2 applications must include:

- **Candidate Personal Statement** (education, career experience, short- and long-term goals, reasons for applying to the KL2 program and how it will further professional objectives). Limit your response to 800 words.
- **Educational and Mentoring Plan** (description of planned didactic activities, including nature and frequency of interactions with primary research mentor; and how this will enhance your research project) Limit to 400 words.
- **Research Plan**
Limit the total of the following subsections to 1,600 words:
 - o **Structured Abstract** (title, background, research question, study design, methods, outcome measures, potential implications of

- work and innovation)
- o **Overall Research Question(s) and Specific Aims**
- o **Background / Significance**
- o **Preliminary Data** (if relevant) and feasibility assessment: If the project is in the early stages of development, describe any strategy to assess feasibility, and address the management of any high risk aspects of the proposed work.
- o **Approach / Methods** (including key measurements, primary outcome measures and analytic plan)
- o **Nature of Originality / Innovation**
- o **Potential Implications / Contribution of Work**
- o **Research Timeline**, with key progress benchmarks
- o **References**
- **Current Curriculum Vitae and Transcripts** (from college, medical school, and any advanced degree programs).
- **Signed Letter of Support** from the department chair or division chief guaranteeing 75-percent protected time to pursue the educational and research goals of the KL2 program. If the proposed training period is longer than the guaranteed funding period of 2 years, an additional letter of support is required from the department chair or division chief assuring continued funding support for the years that are not supported by the KL2 award.
- **Research Mentor's NIH Biosketch.**
- **Signed Letter of Recommendation** from the prospective research mentor (description of the mentor's anticipated interactions with the trainee, the research environment, their own qualifications to serve in this role, and list of mentees within 3 years, with their current positions).
- **Two Additional Letters of Recommendation** from colleagues with whom the candidate has worked. (One letter could be substituted for the one from the proposed mentor above, if the mentor has worked with the applicant before.)

Please note: Proof of citizenship or permanent residency will be requested.

Please submit your application materials as a single PDF file. Recommendation letters can be included, or sent by the recommenders separately. All materials should be sent to Anandi Krishnan, PhD, at anandi.krishnan@stanford.edu.

TL1 Applications

Deadline: Friday August 9, 2013.

We will notify selected applicants by early September, 2013.

All TL1 applications must include:

- **Statement of Intent** describing the general area of research focus, educational plan, including research mentors and environment where appropriate, translational research career aspirations and recognition of NIH service payback requirements. (See NIH Grant Policy statement for details: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps_2012/nihgps_ch11.htm). Limit your response to 1,600 words.
- **Current Curriculum Vitae and Transcripts** (from graduate studies)
- **Mentor's NIH Biosketch**
- **Signed Letter of Support** from the student's advising dean or training program director attesting that the trainee can devote full-time to their TL1-supported studies for at least one academic year.
- **Two Letters of Recommendation** from colleagues with whom the candidate has worked.

Please note: Proof of citizenship or permanent residency will be requested at a later date and interviews may be required in the winter quarter of 2013.

Please submit your application materials as a single PDF file. Recommendation letters can be included, or sent by the recommenders separately. All materials should be sent to Anandi Krishnan, PhD, at anandi.krishnan@stanford.edu.

Questions?

For questions about any of the Spectrum education programs or the application process or materials, please contact Anandi Krishnan, PhD, at 650.723.0125 or anandi.krishnan@stanford.edu