

ACMGF/Tm Bioscience Award Request for Applications

Tm Bioscience and the American College of Medical Genetics Foundation (ACMGF) have entered into an agreement to make an award(s) to an ACMG member(s) to undertake activities aimed at promoting safe and effective genetic testing and services. The award will support one applicant for \$100,000 for one year beginning on or before September 1, 2006 and is aimed at promoting the safe and effective integration of genetic testing and services into health care such as the development of research guidelines.

Purpose of the Request for Applications

Medical geneticists should play a crucial role in translating genetic science into medical genetic services and in defining and promoting the integration of genetics into health care. This program will provide awards to medical genetics professionals to assist them in undertaking activities aimed at promoting safe and effective genetic testing and services.

Project Topics

Project topics may include, but shall not be limited to:

- a. Medical genetics research
- b. Research on healthcare economics related to medical genetics
- c. Medical education and training in medical genetics
- d. Development of medical genetics standards and guidelines

Award Deadline/Notification

For application information, visit www.acmg.net to download an application. Applications are due to ACMGF headquarters by December 1, 2005. The award recipient(s) will be announced during the 2006 Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting, March 23-26, 2006 in San Diego, California.

Save the Date: March 23-26, 2006 Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting; San Diego, CA

Program Highlights

- Four plenary and twelve invited speaker sessions featuring a distinguished group of world-renowned experts who will present on advances in diagnosis and treatment and important policy information regarding practice and research in clinical and medical genetics.
- Selected scientific poster and platform presentations highlighting original scientific research on a variety of topics including Clinical Genetics, Molecular Genetics, Cytogenetics, Perinatal Genetics, Biochemical Genetics, Genetic Counseling/Education, Public Health, Legal and Ethical Issues and New Technology.
- The 37th Annual March of Dimes Clinical Genetics Conference: "The Genetics of Sexual Differentiation,"
- Industry-Sponsored Breakfast Symposia
- Exhibit Hall and Exhibit Laboratory Theaters featuring the latest products and services

Important Dates to Remember

- Preliminary Program and Call for Abstracts Released: October 2005
- Online Abstract Submission Opens: October 2005
- Early Bird Registration Ends: February 10, 2006

New CD-ROM: Medical Genetics Concepts

Are you looking for an innovative, experiential approach to teaching medical genetics concepts? A New CD-ROM available from the American College of Medical Genetics may be right for you. *Experiencing the Future: Discover the Power of Genetics* was originally developed for The Endocrine Society's 2002 Annual Meeting as an interactive way to introduce attendees to the experience of discussing genetic information and receiving genetic test results through live, simulated genetic counseling encounters with experienced genetic counselors. This recently revised and expanded program includes seven disease-specific modules (cystic fibrosis, fragile X syndrome, breast cancer, colon cancer, sickle cell disease, hemochromatosis, and multiple endocrine neoplasia type II) and all supporting materials for faculty and participants (such as participant case scenarios with personal and family histories and pedigrees; information on the indications for genetic testing based on individual and family medical history; several types of test results, and all characteristics of the gene that has been tested). All materials on this CD-ROM are formatted to be adapted for use at meetings or with classes of various sizes and audiences. An order form can be found at www.acmg.net. The cost of the CD-ROM is \$25, excluding shipping and handling.

ACMGF/Genzyme Announce Biochemical Fellowships

The ACMG Foundation is pleased to announce the "Genzyme Clinical Genetics Fellowship in Biochemical Genetics" Award Program. The purposes of the program is to advance education, research and standards of practice in medical genetics; develop and expand clinical and laboratory expertise in medical genetics in the United States; initiate and develop a broad-based infrastructure for industry funding of high quality projects in the fields of medical genetics. Below is information on the Fellowships.

Background Newborn screening programs are rapidly expanding in the United States. However, there is a deficit of physicians specifically trained in the diagnosis, management and treatment of individuals with the metabolic diseases identified in the programs. It is expected that these programs will continue to expand as more conditions such as the lysosomal storage diseases are added into newborn screening. Clinical Geneticists, of whom there is a subset who focus on biochemical genetic disorders, are often the physicians involved in the coordination of care of these patients. The ability of medical genetics to adapt to the evolution of therapeutic approaches to genetic diseases will be critical to its sustained success. Genzyme/ACMGF seeks to support a robust national fellowship program to promote and encourage the recruitment and training of clinicians for this purpose. To provide an in-depth clinical experience at a premier medical center with expertise and significant clinical volume in the area of biochemical genetics, including lysosomal storage diseases, as well as in therapeutics and clinical trials involving patients with these and other metabolic diseases and, thereby, to increase the number of medical geneticists with interest, knowledge, and expertise in this field.

Award Program The Award Program is designed to support the sustainable development of clinically interested and qualified Clinical Geneticists with expertise in biochemical genetics. Each trainee-applicant and his/her sponsoring institution will submit a joint application to the ACMGF committee for the sponsorship of the trainee through the Award Program to focus the trainee-applicant's first year of fellowship following his/her residency in a genetics fellowship on biochemical genetic diseases.

Activities Fellowship activities of the Awardee will focus on significant clinical care of patients with biochemical genetic disorders. The Awardee will design a research project to be conducted over the course of the Fellowship Year, which will be clinical in nature, and may relate to any area of current or future therapy for metabolic diseases. This Research Project may include work with registries, clinical trials, investigator initiated work, or other areas of clinical investigation. The ACMGF will provide a platform for the presentation of the Awardee's work at the appropriate time in the Fellowship Year.

Award Process Trainee-applicants and institution-applicants will submit their joint applications at the beginning of the trainee-applicant's second year of residency, with selection occurring in October, notification of the Awardee in December, and announcement of the Awardee at the ACMG Annual meeting which will be held in March. The Fellowship Year will commence on July 1st.

For application and criteria information, please visit www.acmg.net