

Duke-UNC Immunotherapy Training Grant

Application Deadline: June 15, 2020 at 5 p.m. ET

The **Duke-UNC Immunotherapy Training Grant (DUNC-IMTG)** is a NCI-funded T32 training program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH) and Duke University (Duke). The DUNC-IMTG trains postdoctoral fellows in pre-clinical and/or clinical research focusing on tumor immunotherapy and/or stem cell transplantation immunology. All Duke and UNC-CH postdoctoral researchers and clinicians interested in this area are eligible to apply. Non-UNC/Duke postdoctoral candidates may also apply.

Terms of the Program

The DUNC-IMTG training program supports up to six MD, MD/PhD and PhD trainees per year at UNC-CH and Duke. We have identified 23 faculty mentors with outstanding qualifications in vaccine design and vector generation, adoptive cellular therapy, novel approaches to understand the function of checkpoint inhibitors, the role of immune cells in the tumor microenvironment and enhancing our understanding of the biology of immune cells in stem cell transplantation. Training support lasts for a maximum of two years with support in the second year contingent upon progress made in the first year of support.

DUNC-IMTG offers a novel mechanism for training with an emphasis on didactic coursework in statistical design, bioinformatics and proteomics, and seminar courses. Importantly, all trainees take these courses together, which allows access to trainees of each institution to world-class instructors from both institutions. All trainees will participate in Immunotherapy Working Groups, which are translational teams that assist in the development of novel immunotherapies, in understanding how to generate products in a cGMP-compliant manner and to ensuring compliance with government agencies for the generation of products under an individual or institutional IND,.

Eligibility

Postdoctoral candidates who have already been accepted into a research laboratory or clinical fellowship program at Duke or UNC-CH are eligible to join the DUNC-IMTG program after completion of at least one year of postdoctoral training. All individuals who are supported must be a citizen or noncitizen national of the United States of America or have been lawfully admitted for permanent residence at the time of the appointment.

External applicants may also apply. Highly qualified candidates will be invited for in-person interviews.

DUNC-IMTG has a strong commitment to diversity. Women and minorities are highly encouraged to apply.

Criteria

Applicants will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Academic qualifications and previous research experience
- Desire to do clinical or translational immune-based transplant/stem cell biomedical research
- Mentor support and funding

Review

Review will be conducted by the DUNC-IMTG Steering Committee with applications being evaluated within 1-3 months of acceptance.

Application Format

Proposals must include (in this order):

- A **Cover Letter** outlining the your past research experience, future goals and expectations of the program
- **Biosketch in NIH format**
- 1-2 page **description of your research project** and *how it relates* to tumor or transplant immunology
- **Mentor Biosketch** (for Duke/UNC-CH applicants)
- **Three (3) Letters of Recommendations** from academic, research or clinical references who have known you for at least 12 months. For Duke/UNC-CH applicants, one of the letters ***must*** be from your mentor for the program.

Submission

Applications for 2020-2021 are due at **5 p.m. ET June 15, 2020.**

To apply, please submit your entire application as a ***single PDF*** via email to **kira_oshima@med.unc.edu**

- Applications missing one or more of the required components will be considered incomplete and will not be reviewed.
- Extensions of the deadline will not be granted.

Questions? Contact Kira Oshima: kira_oshima@med.unc.edu