MUSC Medical University of South Carolina | South Carolina Clinical & Translational Research Institute

Request for Applications

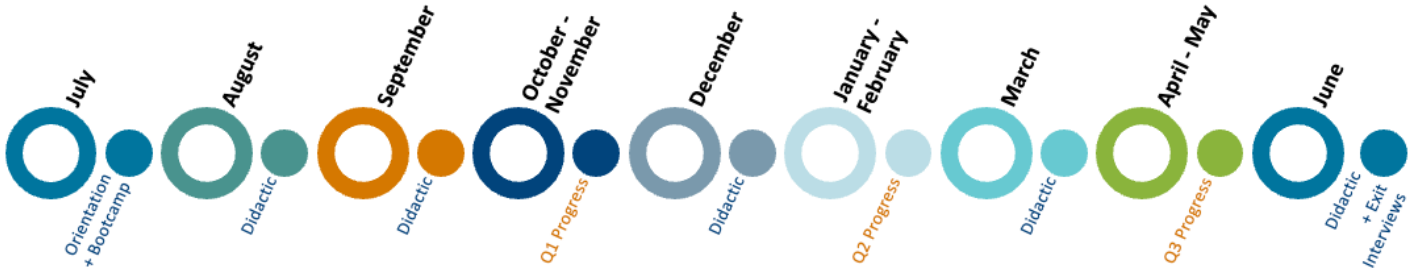
South Carolina Clinical & Translational Research (SCTR) Institute, College of Medicine, Hollings Cancer Center

Clinical Trialist Training Program

Program Director: Andrew Goodwin, MD

The SCTR Institute, the MUSC College of Medicine (COM) and the Hollings Cancer Center (HCC) announce the Clinical Trialist Training Program (CTTP), a funding opportunity for four COM faculty (two must be within the HCC) for 10% coverage for one year of training to become site investigators for multicenter clinical trials that augment their departments' research portfolios.

The goal of the CTTP is to increase the number and variety of impactful clinical trials at MUSC by expanding the pool of clinicians trained to conduct clinical trials as site PIs. The target candidates are clinicians who have no or very limited research effort and would benefit from protected time and dedicated SCTR education and resources to develop a clinical trial portfolio. These faculty typically are not intending to pursue careers as independently funded researchers performing non-clinical trial research. **As such, faculty with K grants or other investigator-initiated grants are not eligible to apply.**



The CTTP will provide both didactic training and hands-on trial experience, including:

1. Participation in an asynchronous online "Clinical Trials Bootcamp" that provides a high-level overview of the processes and resources involved with conducting clinical trials at MUSC
2. Quarterly "Meet the Expert" Didactic Sessions with more in-depth training
3. Quarterly Progress Reviews and ongoing mentoring from program leadership
4. Identification of multicenter trials in which to participate as the site principal investigator (PI)
5. Feasibility and financial assessment of trials to determine likelihood of successful implementation and recruitment at MUSC
6. Contract execution and IRB applications for selected trials
7. Recruitment strategies, tools, and budgeting for selected trials

The faculty selected for the CTTP will take the lead on identification, selection, start-up, and implementation of at least one clinical trial protocol, but will have support from SCTR staff in completing the study activities (listed in 4-7 above). SCTR Research Coordination & Management (RCM) staff are available to assist with subject recruitment and study conduct for selected trials if needed; financial support for RCM would be built into trial budgets. However, awardees may also use their own departmental staff, if available.

The long-term goals for each CTTP awardee are:

1) To engage in new clinical trials by the end of the one-year program that will eventually generate continued salary support for the faculty member (target of at least 10%) and cover all research costs of the trials (e.g., coordinator support, IRB applications, etc.)
2) To develop a clinical trial portfolio as a site PI to fill in strategic trial gaps at MUSC
3) Build team infrastructure to support ongoing and successful participation in high-impact trials.

Key Dates

RFA Release Date:	**December 16, 2024**
Application Deadline:	**February 17, 2025 @ 11:59 pm**
Interviews of Shortlisted candidates:	**March 2025**
Scholar Notification:	**End of March 2025**
Proposed Appointment Term:	**July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026**

Selected faculty will be notified of their acceptance into the program in late March to provide sufficient time for their departments to adjust for the 10% salary support and fringe (of the full salary) when finalizing the faculty members' clinical and other commitments in their 2025 – 2026 contracts

Eligibility

Position and Degree Requirements

- **Full-time clinical faculty appointment** (tenure or non-tenure track) **in the College of Medicine** at the rank of Associate Professor or lower at the time of award.
- **Clinical doctoral degree** – MD or DO (or foreign equivalent); PhD for clinical psychologist; or a dual degree (MD/PhD).
- **Hollings Cancer Center appointment** (if applying for one of the two HCC slots).
- Faculty with K grants or other investigator-initiated grants are not eligible to apply.

Salary and Time Commitment

- Ability to commit **10% full-time professional effort** for program activities.
    - The 10% effort is based on the entire amount of time worked in a typical week and should be proportionate.

Citizenship Requirements

- US citizens, Non-citizen nationals, or lawful Permanent Residents.
- Individuals on **temporary visas are eligible** if they intend to remain at MUSC long-term.

There are no limits on the number of faculty in each department that can apply for these positions.

Underrepresented minority faculty are strongly encouraged to apply.

Application Instructions

All applications will be submitted online using InfoReady:
https://musc.infoready4.com/#freeformCompetitionDetail/1958198

Prior to submitting, all candidates must obtain a Study/Project ID for this funding opportunity in SPARCRequest. A step-by-step instructional video about this process can be found here: https://musc.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=19628ac0-4fad-4a5f-9fb8-ac330167142d.

→ *Please note: If you submit your request as a "Project" rather than a "Study", you will get a Project ID number.*

All candidates are required to submit the documents listed on page 3 as part of their applications.

1) Current CV	This should include, at a minimum: • Previous institution(s) • Degree(s) and year(s) earned • Doctoral thesis title • Residency training institution • Title of specific training • Previous/current funding • *Prior clinical trial experience*
2) Candidate's Letter of Interest	This should address the candidate factors listed below: • Current clinical commitment • Other academic responsibilities (research, teaching, administrative) • Current and prior level of involvement in clinical trials • Level of enthusiasm for becoming a site clinical trialist • Research area(s) of interest to include the patient population(s) of interest to the candidate and their department • Access to the patient population(s) for the candidate's research area(s) of interest • Interest in planning and designing your own clinical trials • Long-term career goals **Maximum 3 pages.**
3) Department Chair Letter of Support	This should include the departmental factors listed below: • Research area(s) of interest • Current clinical trial portfolio • Interest in expanding clinical trials portfolio to other research areas • Gaps in department clinical trials portfolio that this candidate will help cover • Availability of senior site clinical trialists that are willing to mentor awardees • Resources available to support candidates (e.g., coordinator support in department, financial and administrative support, etc.) • Intention to support a long-term position for the candidate at MUSC • *A commitment by the Chair to protect 10% of the candidate's time to participate in the program activities and describe how the candidate's clinical and other commitments would be modified to adjust for the 10% salary support, if awarded.* **Maximum 3 pages.**

More Information

- CTTP webpage https://research.musc.edu/resources/sctr/funding-opportunities/clinical-trialist
- Diana Lee-Chavarria, Program Manager
  leeachar@musc.edu
  843.792.8205