

Request for Applications

SCTR T32 Pre-doctoral Training Program in Translational Research

LEADERSHIP

Program Director: Carol Feghali-Bostwick, PhD

Associate Director: Andreana Benitez, PhD

The SCTR T32 is a two-year, **NIH-funded mentored research training program for pre-doctoral students** in PhD or dual-degree programs, **pending award notification**. Once awarded, this National Research Service Award (NRSA) T32 will replace SCTR's first-year TL1 (T32) in Translational and Team Science. It is designed to foster the development of clinical and/or translational scientists by stimulating interest from doctoral students in health- and disease-related disciplines who will become future translational scientists and research leaders. The program provides early exposure to clinical and translational research methodology through experiential training opportunities and an instructive curriculum, along with many professional development opportunities.

T32 trainees devote **100% time and effort** to research training and may not work outside of their research area during the appointment period (24 months).

BENEFITS

Trainees in the T32 program receive annually:

Research Funding

- Annual spend per [NRSA-established levels](#) for predoctoral trainees (trainee department must supplement difference between T32 and CGS-specified spend)
- Tuition fees up to **\$16,000** for PhD students (Fall & Spring only); up to **\$21,000** for dual-degree students
- **\$4,750** of project funds & training expenses (includes health insurance)
- **\$1,500** in travel funds to attend the national Association for Clinical and Translational Science (ACTS) meeting. Trainees supported for a second year may attend the national meeting of their choice at the program's expense.
- **\$3,000** in childcare costs for each trainee in addition to training funds
<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-24-116.html>

Research Career Development

- Customized Individual Development Plan (IDP) to guide career progress
- Support with writing a competitive extramural fellowship grant application
- Training and support in preparing scientific presentations

CURRICULUM

The T32 program expands on the CGS curriculum through research-focused coursework and experiential learning. Along with standard courses in proposal writing, rigor and reproducibility, and basic concepts in biomedical science, **T32 trainees take supplemental courses to expand their translational research training experience.**

Research Experience

- Real-world clinical exposure working alongside clinical mentors in their field of research
- A novel team-based journal club that explores the translation of basic science into practice
- Opportunities to present your research before peers and thought leaders
- Attendance and networking at the annual ACTS meeting

Research Guidance

- Mentorship in your area of research
- Support and regular updates with program leadership
- Access to SCTR services and support staff, including free research navigation consults

Trainees in the T32 program do not incur any extra time for completion of their graduation requirements and successfully complete their degree programs in the same amount of time as non-T32 trainees (5 years).

ELIGIBILITY

Students must be **enrolled in a program leading to a PhD or combined degree (MD/PhD, PharmD/PhD*, DMD/PhD*)** and have a strong interest in clinical and/or translational research. Students in the last year of graduate school are ineligible to apply. All appointees must be **citizens, non-citizen nationals, or lawful permanent residents of the United States.**

Letter of intent: While not required, a letter of intent that includes the project title, your mentor's name and department, a 2-3 sentence narrative and a list of your dissertation committee members is highly encouraged to be sent to the program coordinator, burgstei@musc.edu by **March 14, 2025**. Submitting a letter of intent will allow the Steering Committee enough time to identify reviewers with appropriate expertise.

** T32 trainees are not eligible to hold two SCTR grants that have scientific overlap and/or propose the same specific aims (i.e. T/K Collaborative grant). Students are ineligible if they are in their first or last year of graduate school, or if they have already received a doctoral degree as part of a dual-degree program. Please contact Kristen Briggman (burgstei@musc.edu) prior to applying if you are in the PharmD/PhD or DMD/PhD program.*



KEY DATES

Release Date: **February 2025**
Letter of Intent: **March 14, 2025** (*optional, but strongly recommended*)
Application Deadline: **April 25, 2025 @ 11:59 pm**
Notification by: **June 13, 2025**
Appointment Term: **July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027** (*2 years*)

APPLICATIONS

All applications will be submitted online using the InfoReady application portal. **Prior to submission, all candidates must create a study in SPARC and obtain a Study ID.** Detailed information about the steps to obtain a Study ID can be found on the T32 webpage under “How to Apply”.

Submission Requirements

- Current NIH biosketch (5-page limit)
- Updated CV
- Primary mentor’s NIH biosketch (5 pages) and training table
- Summary of Undergraduate/Graduate Research Experience
- Career Development Plan (1 page)
- Research Plan (3 pages)
- Letters of Support from primary mentor and department division chair (1 page/each)
- Essay of Interest (1 page)

For more information about the T32 program, requirements, expectations, and application process, visit:
<https://research.musc.edu/resources/sctr/funding-opportunities/training-program>

CONTACT

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