Howard Hughes Medical Institute

Hanna H. Gray Fellows Program

2020 PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) believes that the biggest challenges in science call for diverse perspectives and original thinking. Through the Hanna H. Gray Fellows Program, HHMI seeks to increase diversity in biomedical science by recruiting and retaining individuals from groups underrepresented in the life sciences. The program will support early career scientists with the potential to become leaders in academic research. Through their successful careers, HHMI Hanna Gray Fellows will inspire future generations of scientists from America’s diverse talent pool.

Fellows will receive funding for their postdoctoral training and may continue to receive funding during their early career years as independent faculty. The program includes opportunities for career development, including mentoring and active involvement in the HHMI scientific community. The Institute will select and support up to 15 fellows in this competition. This grant competition is open to all eligible applicants and no nomination is required. The competition opens September 12, 2019.

Following the "people, not projects" philosophy of HHMI, the competition is open to basic science researchers and physician-scientists in all the biomedical and life science disciplines, including plant biology, evolutionary biology, biophysics, chemical biology, biomedical engineering, and computational biology. Fellows will have freedom to change their research focus and follow their own curiosity during the duration of the award.
ELIGIBILITY:

• The program is open to individuals who:
  • are from gender, racial, ethnic, and other groups underrepresented in the life sciences, including those individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds.
  • are basic science researchers and physician-scientists in the biomedical and life science disciplines.
  • hold a PhD and/or MD (or equivalent), which must be conferred by the start of the grant term.
    • U.S. citizens must have a degree from a research institution in the U.S. (including Puerto Rico) or an international research institution.
    • Non-U.S. citizens and applicants with other nationalities must have a degree from a research institution in the U.S. (including Puerto Rico).
  • have been accepted to join a laboratory as a postdoctoral researcher at an academic research institution located in the U.S. (including Puerto Rico) at the time of the application due date.
  • The postdoctoral training mentor must hold a tenured or tenure-track position (or equivalent) at an institution in the U.S. (including Puerto Rico).
  • Applicants can have no more than 16 months of postdoctoral research experience at the time of the application due date.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Applicants can establish eligibility and submit an application via the HHMI online competition site www.hhmi.org/research/application/fellow2020 beginning September 12, 2019.

The deadline for applications is January 8, 2020, at 3:00 p.m. (ET). Mentor and reference letters must be received by January 15, 2020.

The application includes the following components:

• Summary of the applicant’s educational and training record
  • Personal statement relating past experiences and career goals
  • Overview of the applicant’s prior research experience
  • A publication list with statements of significance
  • Summary of the applicant’s planned research for postdoctoral phase
  • An evaluative statement provided by the applicant’s research training mentor
    • A statement of support with a training plan provided by the postdoctoral training mentor
    • A curriculum vitae and list of prior trainees provided by the postdoctoral training mentor
    • One additional letter of reference

SELECTION OF FELLOWS:

HHMI will assess the applicant’s potential for a career as an independent academic researcher and the quality of the training environment with the selected mentor. Finalists will be selected by late April 2020 and will be invited to make a scientific presentation to a panel of reviewers on June 22-25, 2020. The selection of awardees will be made by the end of June 2020. Awards may begin as early as September 15, 2020, but no later than January 19, 2021.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Further details are available at www.hhmi.org/hanna-h-gray-fellows. For questions, contact HHMI program staff at fellows@hhmi.org.
The goal of the Gilliam initiative is to increase the diversity among scientists who are prepared to assume leadership roles in science, particularly as college and university faculty. The program provides awards to pairs of students and their dissertation advisers who are selected for their scientific leadership and commitment to advance diversity and inclusion in the sciences.

Adviser-student pairs receive an annual award of $50,000 for up to three years of dissertation research, which includes a fellow's stipend, educational allowance, institutional allowance (tuition and fees), and an adviser allowance (diversity and inclusion activities).

Advisers: Engage in thirty-hour, year-long, culturally-responsive training; build a community of advisers through webinars and in-person meetings; receive support to address challenges to diversity and inclusion at the graduate level.

Fellows: Enhance leadership skills in annual training; network with other trainees and senior scientists at the Gilliam annual meeting and at HHMI science meetings; receive support to participate in discipline-specific meetings, advanced courses, and other professional development events and activities.

HOW TO APPLY & TIMELINE

Nominations
Adviser-student pairs from eligible disciplines nominated by the HHMI-designated institutional representative.

Eligibility
Students from racial, ethnic, or other underrepresented groups in the sciences, or alumni of the HHMI EXROP at the appropriate program stage of their PhD training.

Nomination Due October
Application Due January
Fellows Notified June
Award Activation September

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION VISIT www.hhmi.org/gilliam • EMAIL gilliam@hhmi.org
The goal of the Hanna H. Gray Fellows Program is to increase diversity in the biomedical research community by recruitment and retention of individuals from groups underrepresented in the life sciences. The successful academic careers of Hanna Gray Fellows will inspire the next generation of scientists.

**ELIGIBILITY AND TIMELINE**

Open to applicants who:
- Are from gender, racial, ethnic and other groups underrepresented in the life sciences, including those from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Hold a PhD and/or MD (or equivalent);
- U.S. citizens must have a degree from a domestic or an international research institution.
- Non-U.S. citizens must have a degree from a U.S. research institution.
- Have been accepted to join a laboratory as a postdoctoral fellow at a research institution in the U.S.

Note U.S. institutions include Puerto Rico. All degrees must be conferred by the start of the award.

**Competition Opens** September
**Application Due** January
**Semifinalists Notified** April
**Fellows Selected** Late June
**Award Activation** September-January

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION VISIT** www.hhmi.org/programs/hanna-h-gray-fellows-program • EMAIL fellows@hhmi.org