

## 2022 Endowed Fellowship Research Awards

### Call for Applications

The Endowed Fellowship Research Awards (Research Awards) recognize the research contributions of our Postdoctoral Fellows and GME Trainees to MD Anderson’s mission of eliminating cancer. Applications for twenty-eight awards listed below will be accepted from eligible research and clinical trainees at MD Anderson. Research Awards may be restricted to certain topics, disease sites, or departments, as indicated below.

Awards	Postdoctoral Fellows	GME Trainees
Harold C and Mary L Dailey Endowed Fellowship <sup>1</sup>	2,000 (3 awards)	2,000 (3 awards)
Thomas H and Mayme P Scott Fellowship in Cancer Research <sup>2</sup>	2,000 (3 awards)	2,000 (3 awards)
Daniel Benedict Gazan Award in Sarcoma Research	1,000 (1 award)	-
Jeffrey Lee Cousins Fellowship in Lung Cancer Research	2,000 (2 awards)	2,000 (1 award)
Jesse H. Jones Fellowship in Cancer Education <sup>2</sup>	2,500 (1 award)	2,500 (1 award)
Linda K. Manning Fellowship in Ovarian Cancer Research <sup>3</sup>	2,000 (1 award)	2,000 (2 awards)
Ann Eastland Spears Fellowship in Pancreatic Cancer Research	1,000 (1 award)	1,000 (1 award)
Sheskey Family Fellowship in Breast Cancer Research	-	1,000 (1 award)
A Somberg Fellowship in Stem Cell Transplantation or Therapy	2,000 (2 awards)	2,000 (2 awards)

<sup>1</sup>No restrictions on research topic. Open to applications that are not directly or immediately applicable to cancer.

<sup>2</sup>Open to any field of cancer research.

<sup>3</sup>Restricted to applications from the Department of Gynecologic Oncology and Reproductive Medicine.

### Eligibility

- Applicants must hold appointments as postdoctoral fellows (job titles: Postdoctoral Fellow or Odyssey Fellow) or GME trainees (job titles: Resident or Fellow) on the application deadline. MD Anderson must be the primary affiliation of the trainees. Applicants holding “Visiting” or “Rotating” job titles are not eligible.
- Recipients of 2021 Endowed Fellowships are not eligible to apply. Individuals who received Endowed Fellowships prior to 2021 may participate in the 2022 competition, but will be judged based on accomplishments that they have made since receiving their previous award.
- The trainee must be in good standing (i.e., No performance or discipline issues).
- Trainees may apply to be considered for more than one Research Award, however, no trainee will receive more than one award.
- There are no citizenship restrictions.

## Important Dates

Call for Applications published	Mon, Dec 6, 2021
Application system opens	Mon, Jan 3, 2022
Application system closes	Mon, Jan 31, 2022 at 11:59 pm CST
Awards announced	Thu, March 31, 2022

Link to the application system

<https://submit.mdanderson.org/?event=356c355d-26ff-4b42-9dd1-d8cb49b5eb0b>

**Do not submit applications prior to Mon, Jan 3, 2022. Any applications submitted before Mon, Jan 3, 2022 will be deleted from the application system.**

For questions regarding the application guidelines and/or instructions, please contact:

- [ForPostdocs@mdanderson.org](mailto:ForPostdocs@mdanderson.org)
- [Ryan Udan, PhD](#), Program Dir—Academic Ops, Office for Postdoctoral Fellows
- [Lynn Ned](#), Program Coordinator, Office for Postdoctoral Fellows

## Application

A common application will be used for all Endowed Fellowship Research Awards and consists of a completed online form and supporting documentation uploaded as a single PDF. The supporting documentation required are as follows:

**Description of Research Contributions, Career Objectives and Plans (2 pages max).** This summary must provide a succinct description of the applicant's:

- Scientifically impactful research project, discovery, or invention;
- Plans to continue pursuing this project, discovery, or invention; If the project has been concluded, describe plans for publication and future directions.
- Career goals/objectives
- Career development plan that includes current and proposed activities (e.g., those that will lead to new and/or enhanced research skills and knowledge, as well as related skills such as grant-writing, communication, leadership, and laboratory management) specifically tailored to meet the career goals and needs and how they relate to the applicant's career goals and objectives

*If the applicant was a previously a graduate student at the MD Anderson UTHealth GSBS, he/she needs to clearly delineate between what was accomplished as a Postdoctoral Fellow or GME Trainee, and work that was done as a graduate student. Only work done as a Postdoctoral Fellow or GME Trainee at MD Anderson will be considered.*

*If the applicant previously received an Endowed Fellowship Research Award, he/she should state which Research Award and the year he/she received it. Applicants must then describe work done since the previous Research Award was received.*

**Institutional CV in MD Anderson Format.** Visit [this page](#) for a template and [this page](#) for more information.

## Letter of Support from the Applicant's Current Primary Mentor (3 pages max)

Combine the documents into a single PDF in the following order and upload into Submit:

- Description of Research Contributions, Career Objectives and Plans
- Institutional CV in MD Anderson format
- Letter of Recommendation

Please adhere to the page limits and formatting guidelines. No other materials should be included in the application. Applications that fail to adhere to page limits and formatting guidelines will be administratively withdrawn.

## Review Process

MD Anderson faculty members will serve as reviewers for the Endowed Fellowship Research Awards and will evaluate the applications based on the following criteria/merit descriptors:

### Description of Research Contribution and Career Objectives and Plans

#### Scientifically impactful research project, discovery, or invention

- Has the applicant clearly described the current state of the field and what the overall research program or research project hopes to address? Has the applicant clearly described his/her specific contribution within the larger research program or research project?
- Has the trainee's work at MD Anderson addressed an important problem or critical barrier to progress in the field? How has the trainee's work improved scientific knowledge, technical capability, public health and/or clinical practice?
- For applicants who were an MD Anderson UTHealth GSBS student and continued as a GME trainee at MD Anderson, please consider only work done as a GME trainee when reviewing the application.

#### Plans to continue pursuing this project, discovery, or invention; If the project has been concluded, describe plans for publication and future directions

- Is the proposed future work a logical extension of the research accomplishments of the applicant? Has the applicant identified gaps in knowledge or developed new research questions based on his/her current work?
- Is the proposed future direction of the research project rigorous, significant, and scientifically sound?
- How does the proposed future work move the field forward? How will the current work of the applicant and future directions contribute to obtaining extramural funding?

#### Career goals/objectives and career development plan

- Is the content of the proposed components of the career development plan appropriate and well-justified for the applicant's current stage of scientific and professional development?

- Is the proposed career development plan likely to contribute substantially to the scientific and professional development of the applicant and facilitate the transition to the desired career?

### **Institutional CV in MD Anderson Format**

Does the CV show a track record of scientific contributions? How much promise does the applicant show in advancing their field of research? Is the applicant going to be a compelling candidate for the future position(s) that they are aiming for? Is there any additional evidence of other accomplishments or contributions, such as training and mentoring students?

### **Letter of Support from the Applicant's Current Primary Mentor**

- Does the letter of support clearly describe the capacity in which the author of the letter knows the applicant? How does the applicant compare to other trainees in the mentor's lab/department/at MD Anderson?
- Does the letter of support provide evidence that the research contribution is accurately described in the applicant's two-page summary? Does the author agree with the context and significance of current research contributions and future directions?
- How does the author of the letter of support view the applicant's future research and career plans? Do the proposed research activities and/or the proposed career development plans consistent with the applicant's career interests? While you can consider the author of the letter of support's qualifications, experience, and mentoring track record as context, applicant's should not be penalized for working under the mentorship of an early stage investigator. Likewise, applicants should not receive additional consideration just for being mentored by an established investigator.
- Does the letter of support provide evidence that the research contribution is accurately described in the applicant's two-page summary? Does the author agree with the context and significance of current research contributions and future directions?
- How does the author of the letter of recommendation view the applicant's future research and career plans? Do the proposed research activities and/or the proposed career development plans consistent with the applicant's career interests?
- While you can consider the author of the letter of support's qualifications, experience, and mentoring track record as context, applicant's should not be penalized for working under the mentorship of an early stage investigator. Likewise, applicants should not receive additional consideration just for being mentored by an established investigator.

### **Award Notification**

Applications will be reviewed by a panel of MD Anderson faculty members and recommendations for awards will be made to the Chief Education & Training Officer or their designee. Awardees will be announced during Trainee Research Day (Thu, March 31, 2022) and will receive an award letter via email. The award letter will include instructions for information that the awardees will need to provide the Development Office (i.e., a short description of your work that is written for a layman) for inclusion in an annual report and thank you letter to be sent to the donors who funded the Endowed Fellowships.

Upon receipt of this information, the award funds will be directly deposited into the recipient's bank account on file with payroll services. Endowed Fellowship Research Awards will not be grossed up. Withholding taxes and other mandatory deductions are the responsibility of the award recipient.

## Description of Research Contributions, Career Objectives and Plans

### Formatting Instructions

- Font size: 11 point
- Font: Arial
- Spacing: Single spaced
- Page size: Letter (8-½" x 11")
- Margins: ½-inch margins on all sides
- Applicant's name: Include in the header
- Title of research project: Include in the header
- Page limit: 2 pages
- References: Include as a separate section (Not counted towards the page limit)
- File type: This must be uploaded as a PDF along with the other application components
- Please use the next page as a template. Include the section headers and title of each section (A-D).

**Title of Research Project**

**First Name Last Name, Degree**

- A. Describe your scientifically impactful research project, discovery, or invention initiated or performed while a postdoctoral fellow or GME trainee at MD Anderson. If you have previously received an Endowed Fellowship—Please indicate which fellowship, they year of award, and include only progress made since you received the Endowed Fellowship.**
- B. Plans to continue pursuing this project, discovery, or invention; If the project has been concluded, describe plans for publication and future directions.**
- C. Describe your career goals/objectives.**
- D. Describe your career development plans.**