



Robert E. Shope International Fellowship in Infectious Diseases

Who: Individuals with doctoral-level degrees who seek fellowship funding to support travel, living and research expenses to work in laboratories in the tropics to pursue studies in arbovirology and/or emerging tropical infectious diseases.

What: Financial support for a short-term research experience in the tropics.

When: Application deadline – May 20, 2009

How: Submit the materials listed below

Background

The American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene has established a fellowship to memorialize Robert E. Shope, M.D., a past president and beloved member of the Society. The intent of the Robert E. Shope International Fellowship in Infectious Diseases is to provide international training opportunities in arbovirology and emerging diseases for those with an M.D., D.V.M., Ph.D. or related doctoral degree.

Bob Shope was a clinician, virologist, epidemiologist and more. The recipients of the Robert E. Shope International Fellowship will be expected to involve themselves, as would Bob, in aspects of studies of arbovirology and/or emerging diseases, from clinical to field to laboratory studies.

The award recipient will be selected by the Robert E. Shope International Fellowship committee and will provide \$25,000 to help defray travel costs, living expenses and/or research abroad. The Robert Shope Fellowship recipient will be required to prepare a report describing his or her experiences, with the potential to be invited to make a presentation at the society's annual meeting.

Eligibility

Full-time post-doctoral fellows (Ph.D., D.V.M., M.D. degrees or the equivalent) with positions at North American institutions who study any tropical infectious disease in arbovirology and/or emerging tropical infectious diseases. Co-mentors must be identified both at a North American institution and at an international institution or site. Sponsoring North American institutions are responsible for assuring that the proposed studies are compliant with contemporary regulations, including those related to human subjects and pathogens. A one-page research plan should be submitted. Applicants should be sponsored by an ASTMH member.

Selection Criteria

Applicants will be selected based on academic credentials, recommendations, quality of the research proposal, feasibility of completing the project, potential for enhancing international collaborative possibilities, and demonstration of serious interest in continuing to pursue international research in tropical infectious diseases in the future.

Application Instructions

Deadline for submission: **May 20, 2009**

You must begin your project after August 1, 2009. Please provide specific dates for participation.

Submit your application on line via link posted at <http://www.astmh.org/funding/index.cfm> beginning April 15, 2009.

Collect all application materials prior to submitting them to the online awards system. Although you will be able to edit your award submission prior to the May 20 deadline, the submission process will be much easier if you collect all application materials prior to submission.

Applications materials include:

1. Information from your curriculum vitae regarding education, training, work experience, prior research experience, any publications or abstracts, honors and awards. The application will solicit your institutional affiliation, department and specialty if applicable, and student status.

2. A research plan describing:

- Scientific objectives of the project (approximately 1,000 character limit)
- Expected outcomes (approximately 1,000 character limit)
- Relative roles of the North American and international co-mentors (approximately 1,000 character limit)
- Brief consideration of how this experience will enhance international research collaborations (approximately 1,000 character limit)

3. Letters of recommendation from:

The North American faculty co-mentor

The overseas research co-mentor

A current or former teacher or supervisor who can attest to your academic and/or research abilities and potential

Very important...These three individuals will be required to upload their letters (in pdf or Microsoft Word format) directly to your application site. The submission site will ask you to provide the name, mailing address, phone, fax and e-mail for each of these individuals. The submission program will then generate an e-mail to these individuals with instructions to upload their letters to your application site.

It is very important that you gather the contact information for these individuals prior to beginning your online submission. It is then your responsibility to communicate with these three individuals to ensure that they have received the e-mail generated by the submission site and that they have uploaded their documents by the May 20 deadline.

After May 20, any applications that do not include all three letters of recommendation will be considered incomplete and will not be forwarded to the review committee.

4. A letter from your home institution confirming that your planned study is fully compliant with human subjects, pathogen and other regulatory issues.

Very important...You are responsible for uploading the letter from your home institution as a pdf or Microsoft Word file to your application site. Please obtain this document from your home institution before you begin your online application.

Applications sponsored by an ASTMH member will receive increased weighting during the review process. Applicants are encouraged to join ASTMH.

Finalizing your application...After entering all information into your online application and after all document uploads have been made, go to the REVIEW SUBMISSION page and scroll down to the bottom. If all information has been entered correctly, you will see a drop-down menu at the bottom of the page. Select the response of COMPLETE in the drop-down menu and press SAVE. Your application will then be complete and ready for review.

Review Process

Recipients will be selected by the Robert E. Shope International Fellowship Committee. Awards will be made to the applicant's home institution, which will be responsible for administering this fellowship. Home institutions need to certify that planned studies are fully compliant with human subjects, pathogen and other regulatory issues. No institutional overhead will be provided.

Reporting Requirements

A research report is to be submitted near the end of the award year to info@astmh.org, in time for the report to be available to the selection committee prior to the next ASTMH annual meeting. The recipient's sponsor will be expected to see to it that the report is well-written and appropriately informative.

Questions? Contact:

ASTMH Robert E. Shope International Fellowship Committee

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