

# **Centennial Travel Award**

in Basic Science Tropical Disease Research

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

**AWARD:** \$25,000









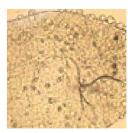
















**Application Deadline: August 2, 2023** 









## **2022 Centennial Travel Award Recipient**



Kelsey Adams, PhD Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, United States Madagascar





I am drawn to the opportunity the Centennial Travel Award provides to promote the exchange of resources, knowledge, and technology; critical components in the fight against tropical disease. I am interested in how the evolutionary pressures placed upon mosquitoes by insecticides continue to shape mosquito biology and malaria transmission and field studies will be an important component of my future research. This opportunity will be instrumental in establishing a network of collaborators in malaria endemic regions."

Kelsey Adams, PhD

## About the ASTMH Centennial Travel Award in Basic Science Tropical Disease Research

The Centennial Travel Award was established in 2003 to commemorate ASTMH's 100th anniversary. This centennial milestone is honored with this award that fosters international collaboration in the basic science of tropical infectious diseases.

This award also provides physicians and scientists the opportunity for field experience in combination with laboratory studies of parasitic, bacterial or viral infectious diseases in endemic developing countries.

In an effort to stimulate interest in tropical infectious diseases and build international collaborations, ASTMH seeks applications from physicians and scientists for this international career opportunity focused on benefiting underserved populations in locations in the world where the burden of disease is high.

## Centennial Travel Award At-A-Glance

- Full-time post-doctoral fellows (PhD, MD, DVM, degrees or the equivalent) with positions at accredited U.S. or Canadian institutions
- Studies focusing on any tropical infectious disease in one or more of the following disciplines or related areas: immunology, genetics, molecular biology, biochemistry, cell biology and entomology
- The project to be carried out in the year 2024
- Financial support of \$25,000 US
- A minimum of six months to be spent at the overseas site
  - Preference given to ASTMH Post-doc/Fellow (\$25 annual dues)
  - Award notice sent in late September 2023

Application August 2, 2023



The Centennial Travel Award Committee will select the recipient of this highly competitive award based on academic credentials, recommendations, quality of proposal, feasibility of completing the project, potential for enhancing international collaborative possibilities and demonstration of deep commitment in a career in international tropical infectious disease research. It is expected that the recipient will use this funding for career development.

Applicants will be notified of decisions in late September 2023.

- Applicant must be a full-time post-doctoral fellow (with PhD, DVM, or MD degree or the equivalent) with a position at an accredited U.S. or Canadian institution.
- Applicant must study a tropical infectious disease in one or more of the following disciplines or related areas:
  - immunology

- molecular biology
- · cell biology

genetics

biochemistry

- entomology
- Co-mentors must be identified at a U.S. or Canadian institution and an overseas institution. Each co-mentor must submit a letter of support that details locally available support, resources and availability for supervision (whether personally or by collaborating personnel).
- Sponsoring U.S. or Canadian and international institutions are responsible for assuring that the proposed studies are compliant with contemporary regulations, including those related to human subjects and biohazards.
- A minimum of six months must be spent at the overseas site.
- The project should be carried out in the year 2024.
- Preference will be given to:
  - ASTMH member-sponsored applications
  - ASTMH Post-doc/Fellow members (\$25 annual dues)

## **Funding and Award Administration**

The awardee's institution will receive financial support of \$25,000 US for a research experience in the tropics to leverage further career development.

The award will be made to the recipient's home institution, which will be responsible for administering this funding. The home and overseas institutions must certify that planned studies are fully compliant with human subjects, biohazard and other regulatory issues.

No institutional overhead will be provided.

## **Online Application Site**

The application site opens July 5, 2023



## **Application Process and Requirements**

Applicants are encouraged to gather all application materials prior to online submission. Although it is possible to edit the application prior to the August 2 deadline, the submission process will be more efficient if the application is completed in one session.

## **Application packet must include: Curriculum Vitae**

Information from CV regarding education, training, work experience, prior research experience, any publications or abstracts, honors and awards.

## **Research Plan**

A research plan in a modified NIH grant format must include the following information:

- Clear aim(s) with a brief and clear statement of a specific, testable hypothesis (1/2 page).
- Background and significance, including how the project will lead to further research career development (1 page).
- Preliminary data, if available (1/2 1 page).
- Experimental design and methods (2-3 pages).

It is important that the project clearly describes how it will provide the basis for further career development, e.g., that the data obtained from the supported project be the basis of NIH K08, K23, K01 or equivalent career development awards.

## **Career Interests**

- Brief summary explaining your interest in this work and your career interests (not to exceed 1,500 characters).
- Description of how the Centennial Travel Award will enhance your career development in tropical medicine and hygiene (not to exceed 1,500 characters).



The Centennial Travel Award will give me the opportunity to conduct plague-related research in my home country and will provide more opportunities for local students to receive high-quality training in tropical disease ecology."

Adélaïde Miarinjara, PhD Emory University, United States Madagascar



2021 recipient

APPLICANTS - Individuals with doctoral-level degrees who seek travel to laboratories in the tropics to pursue studies in molecular, cellular or immunological aspects of tropical infectious diseases.

Application site opens: July 5, 2023 Application deadline: August 2, 2023 Notice of award: September 2023

## **Letters of Recommendation**

Three letters of recommendation are required, submitted as PDF or Word files on institutional letterhead.

The letters must include detailed, careful descriptions of infrastructure, additional financial support, intellectual, scientific and clinical environment and other resources necessary for success of the project. The letters of recommendation should indicate which mentors are ASTMH members

After August 2, 2023, applications without the required three letters of recommendation will be disqualified.

Letters of recommendation are required from:

- 1. The U.S. or Canadian faculty co-mentor, detailing local available support, resources and availability for supervision (whether personally or by collaborating personnel).
- 2. The overseas research co-mentor, detailing local available support, resources and availability for supervision (whether personally or by collaborating personnel).
- 3. A current or former teacher or supervisor who can attest to the academic and/or research abilities and potential of the applicant.

## **Applicant Responsibility**

The application site will prompt the applicant to provide the name, postal address, phone, fax and email for each of the individuals providing letters of recommendation. The application site will then generate an email to these individuals with instructions to upload their letters to the application site. Applicant must inform the three individuals providing letters of recommendation that they must upload their respective letters directly to the application site.

It is important that the applicant gather the contact information for these individuals prior to beginning the online application. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that each individual has received the email generated by the application site and has uploaded their respective letters by the August 2 deadline.

## **Regulatory Compliance Documentation**

- A letter from an appropriate authority from applicant's home institution confirming that the planned study
  is fully compliant with federal, state and local requirements for human subjects, animal care and use,
  biohazards and other applicable regulatory issues.
- A letter from an appropriate authority from the overseas institution confirming that the planned study
  is fully compliant with government and local requirements for human subjects, animal care and use,
  biohazards and other applicable regulatory issues.

## **Applicant Responsibility**

The applicant is responsible for uploading the regulatory compliance documentation from the home institution and overseas institution to the application site. Applicants are encouraged to obtain these documents prior to posting to the online application.



## **Finalizing the Application**

After entering the required information into the online application and all document uploads have been made, proceed to the REVIEW SUBMISSION page and scroll to the bottom. If all information has been entered correctly, a drop-down menu will display at the bottom of the page. Select the COMPLETE response in the drop-down menu and press SAVE. The application will then be complete and ready for review by the Centennial Travel Award Committee.

## **Final Report**

A maximum three-page report must be submitted within 30 days outlining the travel experience and lessons learned. Periodically, awardees may be invited to present their reports at the ASTMH Annual Meeting. Final reports should be submitted to Rhonda Schultz, Manager, Board and Fellowships at rschultz@astmh.org.

## Notice of Award

Award notice will be sent in late September 2023.

# **Application Checklist**

**V** CV information

Career Interests

Recommendation letter from overseas co-mentor

Questions about online application process: **Contact Rhonda Schultz** Manager, Board and Fellowships rschultz@astmh.org

**Application timeline:** 

Application site opens: July 5, 2023 Application deadline: August 2, 2023 Notice of award: September 2023

## **Awardees and Overseas Study Locations**

### Adelaide Miarinjara, PhD 2021

**Emory University** 



Madagascar

### **Kathleen Dantzler** 2020

Stanford University



## **Camila Coelho**

2019

NIAID/NIH, Maryland



## Mali

## **Katherine Siddle**

2018

Harvard University, Massachusetts



Senegal

## **Melissa Conrad**

University of California, San Francisco



## **Usheer Kanjee**

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health



## **Heather Glasgow**

Albert Einstein College of Medicine



## **Brie Falkard** 2015

Massachusetts General Hospital



### Anna Babakhanyan 2014

Case Western Reserve University



#### Sarah-Blythe Ballard 2013

Johns Hopkins University



## **Amy Bei** 2012

Harvard School of Public Health



\* Senegal

## **Anne Frosch** 2011

University of Minnesota



### **Amma Semenya** 2010

CDC



## **Robert Comer** 2009

Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center



#### Jessica Lin 2008

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

## **Cambodia**

### **Judith Denery** 2007

Scripps Research Institute



## **Rhoel Dinglasan**

Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health



### Sanjay Mehta 2007

University of California, San Diego



### **Amber Read** 2007

University of New Mexico



## **Erika Lamb** 2006

Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences



### **Stephen Popper** 2006

Stanford University



Laos

## **Scott Westenberger** 2006

Scripps Research Institute



Peru

### **Annette Kraus** 2005

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill



Sri Lanka

## **Gnanasekar Munirathinam**

University of Illinois College of Medicine, Rockford



#### **Kristine Peterson** 2004

University of Virginia



Katie Kurkjian 2003

CDC



## **Myiang Nyung**

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

