



**Weill Cornell
Medicine**

**Clinical & Translational
Science Center**

Clinical & Translational Science Center

A Weill Cornell Medical College Multi-Institutional Consortium with:

Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences / New York Presbyterian Hospital / Cornell University, Ithaca / Cornell University Cooperative Extension, New York City / Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center / Hospital for Special Surgery / Hunter College of the City University of New York / Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing / Hunter School of Urban Public Health / Hunter Center for Translational and Basic Research / Animal Medical Center and Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine

1300 York Ave, Box 149, New York, NY 10065 • Tel: 646-962-8302 • Fax: 646-962-0534 • www.med.cornell.edu/ctsc

CTSC TL1 TRAINING AWARD FOR *PRE & EARLY* POST-DOCS

Request for Applications

DUE BY 5PM ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2019

\$30,024 for one year (Pre-docs)

Up to \$60,538 for one year* (Post-docs)

**Depending on level of experience*

Year 1 Funding Dates: July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Possible 2nd Year Renewal Period: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

[CLICK TO INITIATE APPLICATION](#)

[View Eligibility Requirements](#)

[View Application Instructions](#)

The goal of the CTSC TL1 Training Award is to support career development among pre- and early post-doctoral trainees near the beginning of their careers by providing rigorous training and mentoring to conduct translational team research across disciplines and institutions.

TL1 projects must have a translational or clinical research focus; *basic research proposals will not be funded*. Pre-clinical studies should have *near-term potential to translate into patient-oriented research*. Emphasis is placed on precision medicine, drug discovery, targeted therapeutics, biomarker or device development and novel technologies; projects focusing on health needs of LGBTI and underserved populations and/or directly impacting health outcomes in the community; pediatric and women's health studies; life course studies of disease; and studies incorporating biostatistical methodologies and design.

TL1 Trainees pursue research training *on a full-time basis, defined by NIH as 40 hours per week (100% time and effort)*. Appointments are normally made for 12 months (no less than 9 months). Trainees receive:

- Stipend coverage at the NIH approved level
- Funding for supplies and research support including educational expenses
- Funding for travel to present at national conferences and symposia
- Access to research support services to facilitate conducting C/T research
- Multi-level mentoring support
- C/T research training
- Professional skills and career development training

INVESTIGATORS FROM ALL DISCIPLINES—PRE-CLINICAL, CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL—ARE WELCOME TO APPLY.

INDIVIDUALS FROM UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS, FROM DISADVANTAGED BACKGROUNDS AND/OR WITH DISABILITIES ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.

Questions? See [CTEP FAQs](#), or email CTSC-Education@med.cornell.edu

EDUCATIONAL AND PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

<i>Pre and Post-doctoral MDs</i>	<i>Pre and Post-doctoral PhDs</i>
TL1 awardees that currently hold a medical degree or are medical students are required to enroll in either the Advanced Certificate (if funded for 1 year) or the Master's in C/T Investigation program (if funded for 2 years).	TL1 awardees that are enrolled in, or currently hold doctoral-level research degrees (PhD) are eligible to enroll in the fast track program for the Advanced Certificate or Master's Degree in C/T Investigation.

Upon completion of the TL1 program, the following are required:

- A scientific article, with first authorship, submitted to a high-quality scientific journal **OR** if appropriate, a clinical & translational grant proposal submitted to a federal (i.e., K award or other NIH funding mechanism) or other funding agency requiring peer-review with the trainee named as Principal Investigator
- Abstract submission and poster presentation of the TL1 supported research project at the annual [Translational Science National Conference](#)
- Presentation of the TL1 supported research project at a local, national or international scientific conference
- Presentation of the TL1 supported research project at a Research-in-Progress networking lunch
- Completion, within the last four years, of human subjects protection training such as the Responsible Conduct of Research training course

Questions? See [CTEP FAQs](#), or email CTSC-Education@med.cornell.edu



CTSC TL1 PRE & EARLY POST-DOCTORAL AWARD APPLICATIONS

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Applications must comply with eligibility and submission requirements

Documents or information that are missing or incomplete will disqualify application for review

Program Eligibility - All Candidates

Must be **US Citizens, Non-Citizen Nationals, or Permanent Residents** (proof of legal status required)

Must have the ability to devote full-time (**100% effort**) to the program

Must have a **primary appointment** with a **Weill Cornell CTSC partner institution**.

No candidate may apply or hold concurrently a CTSC Seed Funding Award. If awarded, no other Federal funding support is allowed

No TL1 Trainee may be named as PI (or trainee) on more than one active CTSC application

Pre-doctoral Candidates

Must have received a **baccalaureate degree** by date of appointment and be one of the following:

- Pre-doctoral medical (**MD**) student in 3rd or 4th year
- **Graduate student** enrolled at a **CTSC partner institution**
- **Nurse** candidate enrolled in a **DSN or DNP** program
- Dental (**DDS**), pharmacy (**PharmD**), or veterinary (**DVM**) student

Individual trainee may receive no more than 5 years of aggregate NRSA support at the pre-doctoral level

Transitioning from pre-doc to post-doc during the funding period is **not allowed by the NIH**

Post-doctoral Candidates

Must be *early* post-docs (no more than 4 years removed from terminal doctoral degree) and have received a **PhD, MD, DDS, DVM, DO, DNSc, DNR, DNP** or comparable doctoral-level degree by date of appointment. May include:

- Residents and fellows (e.g. Medical, Surgical) in a research pathway

Individual trainee may receive no more than 3 years of aggregate NRSA support at the post-doctoral level

Questions? See [CTEP FAQs](#), or email CTSC-Education@med.cornell.edu

B. Biosketches	Completed
1. Biosketches: Upload individual PDF files for the applicant and mentors; note the new NIH Biosketch format is required for all key personnel.	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Supporting Documents – Please Upload Attachments as individual PDF files.	Completed
1. Research Proposal: Projects must have a translational or clinical research focus. Pre-clinical studies should have near-term potential to translate into patient-oriented research. Clinical Trials (phases I or II) are permitted. Emphasis is placed on drug discovery, targeted therapeutics, biomarker or device development and novel technologies; projects focusing on comparative effectiveness and health disparities research, health needs of LGBTI and underserved populations and/or directly impacting health outcomes in the community; pediatric and women’s health studies; life course studies of disease; and studies incorporating biostatistical methodologies and design. Basic research proposals will not be funded. Limited to 3 single-spaced pages (at least ½ inch margins, no smaller than 11pt Arial font) to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hypothesis and specific aims • Scientific background for the study, citing appropriate references of work in the area by the investigator(s) and others • Significance of the research (relating specific aims to future studies to be generated) and importance of funding to feasibility of the project • Research Plan (research team to be involved, experimental design, methods, statistics, timeline, innovation, human subjects and animal issues, if applicable) • References and supporting tables, figures, 2-3 additional pages • First Name, Last Name in the upper left hand corner 	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Career Statement (1 page or less) – Discuss your short and long-term goals and how this award would impact your career and professional development. Please include your First Name, Last Name in the upper left hand corner.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Letters - Must be addressed to “TL1 Admissions Committee”, on departmental letterhead, signed, and emailed directly from the department to ctsc-education@med.cornell.edu : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Department Chair/Division Chief Letter: Must indicate that the applicant will be guaranteed 100% protected time and effort. b) Mentors Letters: Required from all mentors and the designated primary mentor’s letter must include a mentoring plan (click link for instructions). 	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Proof of Legal Status: Provide verification of legal status (scanned copies acceptable): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • US Citizen: U.S. Passport, Birth Certificate, Certificate of Citizenship, or Naturalization Certificate • Non-Citizen National: a notary’s signed statement certifying that you have legal verification of such status • Lawfully Admitted Permanent Resident: a notary’s signed statement certifying that you have legal verification of such status and scanned copy of Permanent Resident Card (USCIS Form I-551) 	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Transcripts and Test Scores – Upload digital copies of test scores and transcripts with application submission. Upon award acceptance, official documents will be required in hardcopy. Test scores include: MCAT, GRE and TOEFL. Transcripts from Undergraduate, graduate and/or medical school.	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Submitting Your TL1 Application	
1. Return to the “ Application Status Page ” (link in the upper left hand side of the page) and click on the blue “ Submit Application ” button.	
2. If you do not see the “ Submit Application ” button and feel that your application is complete, please click on the “ Run Detailed Completeness Check ” link to find out what is still missing, complete the missing items and repeat “step 1”.	

REVIEW CRITERIA

Upon submission to the online application module [ePAR](#), your application will undergo review based on several [Application Review Criteria](#).

APPLICATION PROCESS & TIMELINE

Applications are due by 5pm on Wednesday, January 31, 2019. Candidates will be notified by May 2019 of their applications final disposition. At that time, if selected for funding, the applicant will complete additional required regulatory and compliance documents within 30 days. Funding is contingent on submission of this information and failure to do so will result in disqualification. Upon submission of this additional information, the CTSC will prepare an award agreement. Once the award agreement is signed by the appropriate institutional business official(s), WCMC Office of Sponsored Administration will review and sign the agreement and notify the CTSC that funds can be released.

BUDGET NOTES

- A budget is not due at the time of application
- Tuition and fees are not supported by the TL1 Award
- TL1 trainees cannot receive stipend support from any other federal grant
- Items not allowed: 1) Capital or depreciable equipment over \$2500; and 2) Computer hardware (laptops, desktops, etc)
- Only supplies of consumable nature that are directly related to the project are allowed
- Funding requests for travel and/or other supplies must be directly related to the project and clearly outlined in the budget justification
- Each year of funding is contingent on satisfactory participation in the CTSI TL1 activities and progress toward the scholar's individual career goals, and continued support from the Scholar's mentors and department
- This is an institutional career development award granted to the CTSC at Weill Cornell Medical, and it is non-transferable; scholars who leave the CTSC Consortium will not be able to continue receiving TL1 funding from the Weill Cornell CTSC

For a fast start on spending your award funds:

No expenditures related to human subjects or animals will be permitted until the CTSC is provided with a copy of the official IRB/IACUC letter of approval. Investigators are **strongly encouraged to submit IRB and/or IACUC protocols early** in order to avoid significant delays in project initiation. Applicants must also be current on institutional compliance regulations.

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MENTORING PLAN INSTRUCTIONS:

(Each mentor's letter not to exceed 3 pages)

Please provide a detailed mentoring plan for the Candidate that describes the approaches to be used such as frequency of one-on-one and group meeting; oral scientific presentations; instruction on how to critically evaluate the literature and experimental design; training in scientific writing (e.g., grant proposal preparation, manuscripts, and abstracts); designing experiments, etc. Plans to enhance the candidate's research capabilities should include:

1. Specific skills to be acquired during the mentoring experience
2. Milestones that will be reached during the mentoring experience (e.g., acquisition of preliminary data, new research skills, presentation of research findings at local/national meetings, and publications)
3. Describe how the Candidate will be supported and guaranteed protected time, including how they will ensure that the project will be done in a timely manner
4. Opportunities to interact with research team; The role of other investigators who will contribute to the research mentoring should be described in the application
5. The mentoring plan must include guidance in the ethical conduct of research (including training in animal and human subjects' protection, if applicable)
6. A plan to acquire presentation and publication skills, and participation in poster or oral presentations in at least one scientific meeting during the award period
7. A plan on how opportunities will be provided for the Candidate to participate in writing and publishing scientific papers
8. Describe any planned outside laboratory experiences or collaborations for the Candidate
9. How this experience will help the candidate move toward achieving her/his stated career goals
10. Mentors and candidate must provide a projected time line delineating specific research milestones and other activities that will be undertaken in an attempt to secure independent research funding (i.e., anticipated publications, training in grantsmanship, timeframe for grant submissions and type of independent research support the candidate seeks)
11. Mentors should provide evidence of mentoring experience and success. Please provide a list containing: (1) Current Trainees, (2) Past Trainees (≤ 10 years). For each of the individuals listed, please provide their current positions and name of institution, outcomes of the prior trainees. Describe how these prior mentoring experiences influenced the development/mentorship plan proposed for the current candidate

[Reference NHLBI mentoring guidelines](#)



CTSC TL1 TRAINING AWARD APPLICATION REVIEW CRITERIA

Similar to the NIH process, each proposal is carefully reviewed by at least two independent evaluators for scientific merit based on translational focus and significance. The following criteria are taken into consideration:

- ✓ **Overall Impact Score** - Reviewers should provide their assessment of the likelihood that the proposed research plan will enhance the candidate's potential for a productive, scientific research career in a health-related field, taking into consideration the criteria below in determining the overall impact score.
- ✓ **Candidate:** Does the candidate have the potential to develop as an independent and productive researcher? Are the candidate's prior training and research experience appropriate for this award? Is the candidate's academic, clinical (if relevant), and research record of high quality? Is there evidence of the candidate's commitment to meeting the program objectives to become an independent investigator in research? Do the letters of reference address the above review criteria, and do they provide evidence that the candidate has a high potential for becoming an independent investigator?
- ✓ **Career Dev Plan/Career Goals & Objectives** - What is the likelihood that the plan will contribute substantially to the scientific development of the candidate and lead to a scientific research career? Are the candidate's prior training and research experience appropriate for this award?
- ✓ **Research Proposal** - Is there a strong scientific premise for the project? Are the proposed research question, design, and methodology of significant scientific and technical merit? Has the candidate presented strategies to ensure a robust and unbiased approach, as appropriate for the work proposed? Is the research plan of high quality, and does it have potential for advancing the field of study? Is the scientific and technical merit of the proposed research plan of significance? Will the proposed research lead to an independent line of research for the candidate?
- ✓ **Mentors and Mentoring Plan** - At least 2 mentors are required. Primary and Secondary mentors must be from CTSC partner institutions. Additional mentors may be from any institution. Are the qualifications of the mentor(s) in the area of the proposed research appropriate? Does the mentor(s) adequately address the candidate's potential and his/her strengths and areas needing improvement? Is there adequate description of the mentor's proposed role in providing guidance and advice to the candidate? Is there evidence of the mentors' previous experience? Is there evidence of the mentors' current research productivity and peer-reviewed support? Is there evidence of the mentors' active/pending research funding? Do the letters from mentors document their willingness to participate in the award program? Is the proposed Mentoring plan likely to contribute substantially to the scientific and professional development of the candidate, and facilitate his/her successful transition to a scientific research career? (see [Instructions for Mentoring Plan](#))
- ✓ **Environment & Departmental Commitment:** Is there a strong statement of commitment by the department to the levels of effort required to devote directly to the research and career development

activities described in the application? Is the departmental commitment to the career development of the candidate appropriately strong? Is the environment for scientific and professional development of the candidate of high quality? Is there assurance that the department intends the candidate to be an integral part of its research program?

The following areas receive additional priorities for their special relevance to the CTSC mission:

- **Translational and Clinical Research Focus** – Projects aimed at improving research methods and/or incubating novel technologies to accelerate multidisciplinary clinical and translational research.
- **Pre-clinical studies** should have near-term potential to translate into patient- oriented research, clinical trials (phases I or II) are permitted.
- **Emphasis is placed on:**
 - Drug discovery, targeted therapeutics, biomarker or device development and novel technologies.
 - **Comparative effectiveness and health disparities research** - Projects focusing on health needs of LGBTI and underserved populations and/ or directly impacting health outcomes in the community.
 - **Pediatric and Women’s Health Studies**
 - **Life course studies of disease**
 - Studies incorporating **Biostatistical Methodology and Design**

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