

Pelotonia Graduate Scholar Award Eligibility and Scoring Criteria

The Pelotonia Graduate Scholars Program offers students the opportunity to contribute to cancer research. If selected, you will be hired as a Graduate Research Fellow and be paid a monthly stipend of \$34,000. The program will support your graduate studies and cover your tuition and fees.

Mission

The mission of the Pelotonia Scholars Program is to provide funding to promising OSU cancer researchers who have the potential to become productive and successful independent research investigators. The proposed training will offer an opportunity to enhance the applicant's understanding of cancer research by doing research; attending classes, seminars, journal clubs and symposiums; and interacting with other groups and scientists.

Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants may not apply until the candidacy exam has been successfully completed.
- Two-year fellowships are available to all Ohio State University graduate students.
- The award is open to any enrolled Ohio State graduate student at Ohio State and Nationwide Children's Hospital.
- Applicants must propose a cancer-related project, and the project must be written by the applicant.

Scoring Criteria

Applications will be reviewed on the following criteria:

- Applicant strengths and research potential (40%)
- Mentor/advisor qualifications and training record (40%)
- Innovativeness and relevance of project to cancer research (20%)

Matching Fee

A \$6,000 annual matching contribution to The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center's Pelotonia Scholars Program will be required for each award. Options for fulfilling this requirement are numerous. We suggest this be split between the mentor/advisor and the home department of the mentor/advisor but may come from any combination of funds from the college, department, graduate program, student's advisor, mentor's lab or development funds etc. (please contact us if you need additional suggestions).

Additional Information

Publications

Scholars should make all research results available to the public without restriction, except as is required in the interest of national security. Scholars understand that all abstracts, publications, and presentations resulting from research supported by the Pelotonia Scholars Program must contain the acknowledgment, "This work was supported by the Pelotonia Scholars Program. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the Pelotonia Scholars Program."

Other Fellowships or Scholarships

Fellows generally may not receive funds concurrently from any other fellowship, scholarship, or similar award that is intended as the primary or sole source of research support. Additional awards that are intended as supplemental or partial funding may be acceptable. This may include off-campus activities that provide compensation to cover travel, relocation, and local cost of living expenses. This policy exempts gifts or loans of any kind.

Research Support Funding

Scholars are permitted to solicit and accept support from any appropriate sources for research expenses connected with fellowship activities such as laboratory supplies, travel, conference fees, or subscriptions.

Early Termination

The award may be terminated early by the fellow without penalty, but any unpaid stipend will be forfeited. Intent to terminate a fellowship must be communicated immediately to the Pelotonia Scholars Program manager. The university may terminate for any reason in its sole discretion.

Progress Report

All graduate scholars are required to submit a final report before the end of their award. This report should normally be brief and informative. Detailed descriptions of research protocols are not necessary. Major highlights such as publications, awards, patents, or discoveries are particularly useful.

Yearly Updates

Awardees are expected to submit yearly updates to the program. The award is a cancer research training program, and it is critical to our funding that we track your success.

Pelotonia Participation

If awarded, the scholar and their mentor will be expected to participate in Pelotonia. If either scholar or mentor is unable to participate as a rider, they may register with

Pelotonia as a challenger. As a registered challenger, the mentor may choose activity goals to pursue instead of the bike ride and shall have the same fundraising expectations as a traditional bike rider (\$1,250). As a registered challenger or volunteer, the scholar may choose activity goals to pursue instead of the bike ride, shall raise \$100, and shall volunteer on one of the Pelotonia ride days and wear the official red Pelotonia shirt while volunteering.

Annual Symposium

All scholars and their mentors will be required to participate in an annual symposium that may include posters, presentations, and guest lecturers. Details of this program will be forthcoming.

Change in Field of Study or Research Plan

Minor changes in a scholar's research program may be made subject to the approval of the Pelotonia Scholar Program. A major change in a program -- one that alters the program to the extent that it is significantly different from that originally submitted with the Scholar application (e.g., a change in major field of study) -- requires the prior approval of the Pelotonia Scholars Program.

Please direct all questions to:

Marie Gibbons, Sr. Administrative Manager, Pelotonia Scholar Program

Marie.Gibbons@osumc.edu