

## Pelotonia Graduate Fellowship Eligibility And Scoring Criteria

Pelotonia is a grassroots bike tour with one goal: to end cancer. 100% of the funds raised by this groundbreaking event go to innovative and lifesaving cancer research at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute. In its first 10 years, Pelotonia has raised over \$184 million and \$2 million per year has been dedicated to train our most promising students who will help cure cancer.

Cancer is a complex disease and curing it will take a multidisciplinary effort. So, no matter what your field of discipline, the Pelotonia Graduate Fellowship Program wants YOU to help contribute to the fight against cancer. For your contribution, the program will support your graduate studies by committing fellowships for 2 years that will provide a competitive stipend plus tuition and fees.

**Mission:** The mission of the Pelotonia Fellowship Training Program is to provide fellowships 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 candidacy exam has been successfully completed
- Two-years fellowships are available to all Ohio State University graduate students in any field of discipline (from astronomy to zoology) and a cancer related proposal. We highly encourage **ALL** students who are interested in cancer research to apply, including those in fields we have not previously funded. The Award will begin in August.
- Applicants must propose a cancer related project and the project must be written by the applicant

### Scoring Criteria

Your Application will be critically reviewed based on the following criteria:

- Applicant research productivity and academic record (40%)
- Mentor/advisor's qualifications and mentorship (training) record (40%)
- Innovativeness and impact of the project relevant to cancer research (20%)

**Matching Fee:** A \$6,000 annual matching contribution to The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center's Pelotonia Fellowship Program will be required for each awarded fellowship. 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)

**Pelotonia Participation:** If awarded, the fellow and their mentor will be expected to ride in Pelotonia. The student may register as a student rider for the discounted fund raising minimum. If

the fellow or mentor is unable to ride in Pelotonia, they are still required to register as a rider with the same fundraising expectations.

Publications: Fellows should make all research results available to the public without restriction, except as is required in the interest of national security. Fellows understand that all abstracts, publications, and presentations resulting from research supported by the Pelotonia Fellowship Program must contain the acknowledgment, "This work was supported by the Pelotonia Fellowship 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 Fellowship Program."

Other Fellowships / Scholarships/Employment: Fellows generally may not receive funds concurrently from any other fellowship, scholarship, employment 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 minor compensation to cover travel, relocation, and local cost of living expenses.

Research Support Funding: Fellows 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.

Graduate Fellowships: As a Pelotonia fellow, you must be enrolled for a minimum of three credit hours each semester you are on appointment. It is expected that enrollments will be limited to research and departmental seminars; however, fellows may register for other degree-related coursework with adviser approval. The Pelotonia Fellowship may not be used to support any coursework taken for another degree program. While on appointment you may not hold any other type of employment/appointment. Eligibility for a Pelotonia Graduate Fellowship is contingent upon the Graduate School providing fee authorizations to cover payment of your academic tuition and fees (learning technology fees, student activity fees, parking and/or other "special" fees are not included).

Early Termination: This fellowship 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 fellowship program director. The university may terminate for any reason in its sole discretion, including, but not limited to, Fellow's loss of his or her work authorization or move to a visa classification that cannot support a fellowship title.

Income Taxes: Your stipend becomes available on the last day of each month and is subject to federal and state income taxes. Specific questions regarding taxation of fellowship funding should be referred to the US Internal Revenue Service. Fellows must bear the responsibility of paying any tax, domestic or foreign, when due. Fellows are not in any sense salaried employees of The Ohio State University. Fellows may find it helpful to consult Internal Revenue Service Publications No. 520, Scholarships and Fellowships, No. 920, and, if abroad, No. 54, Tax Guide for U.S. Citizens and Resident Aliens Abroad, and also. These are available at <http://www.irs.gov>

Progress Reports: All active fellows are expected to be making progress on their project and are required to submit an Annual Progress Report. These reports 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.

Annual Symposium: All fellows and their mentors will be required to participate in an annual symposium that may include posters, presentations and guest lecturers.

Change in Field of Study or Research Plan: Minor changes in a fellow's research project may be made without the approval of the Fellowship Program. A major change in a project -- one that alters the project to the extent that it is significantly different from that originally submitted with the Fellowship application (e.g., a change in major field of study) -- requires the prior approval of the Pelotonia Fellowship Program. If a fellow changes labs, they need to end their fellowship and recompile with the new mentor/project.

Graduates who are awarded a fellowship may apply for a Post-Doctoral award later in their training. Many trainees have received multiple awards.

For more information: [cancer.osu.edu/pelotoniafellows](http://cancer.osu.edu/pelotoniafellows)

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