Pelotonia Undergraduate 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 Undergraduate Student Fellowship Program wants YOU to help contribute to the fight against cancer. For your contribution, the program will pay you a competitive fellowship stipend ($12K) for 1 year. Up to 25 fellowships are available to fund the most promising undergraduate research scientists, including 4 dedicated slots to support Diversity Enhancement.

Mission: The purpose 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 symposia; and interacting with other groups and scientists.

Eligibility Criteria

- Fellowships are available to ANY Ohio State University undergraduate students in any field of discipline (from astronomy to zoology) for 1 year. We highly encourage ALL students who are interested in cancer research to apply, including those in fields we have not previously funded
- Applicants must propose a cancer related project and the proposal MUST be written by the applicant. Only minor editing may be performed by the mentor or any other advisors

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%)

The application portal opens January 15th and closes at midnight February 15th.

Additional Information

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 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: 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.

Early Termination: The 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.

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 Report: All undergraduate fellows are required to submit a progress report before the end of their fellowship. 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 fellow and their mentor will be expected to participate in Pelotonia. 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 ($1250). Exceptions can be made by the program on a case by case basis.

Annual Symposium: All fellows 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 fellow’s research program may be made subject to the approval of the. 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 Fellowship application (e.g., a change in major field of study) -- requires the prior approval of the Pelotonia Fellowship Program.

Undergraduates who are awarded a fellowship are not eligible to apply again for an Undergraduate Fellowship but may apply for the Graduate, Medical or Post-Doctoral awards later in their training. Many trainees have received multiple awards.

Please direct all questions to:
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