

CURE JM CLINICAL TRAVEL BURSARY/IMMERSION PROGRAM IN JUVENILE MYOSITIS

1. Invitation to Submit Proposal

CureJM is fostering education in JM through the awarding of an immersion program, where a successful recipient would receive funding for a 1–4-month placement at recognized JM center. For those applicants that are unable to allocate this amount of time CureJM is offering a flexible travel bursary for a 1 day-2-week placement at a recognized JM center. Cure JM aims to award pediatric rheumatology fellows the opportunity for either a 1–4-month immersion, or a 1 day–2-week placement in globally recognized JM centers. The aim of the program is to foster deep awareness of clinical or translational research in JM. The immersion and bursary programs will be awarding grants to clinicians who are in a recognized pediatric rheumatology fellowship program and are looking to have a sub-specialty in JM. The immersion programs will allow awardees to complete up to 4-month placements, while the travel bursary will allow awardees to spend 1 day -2-week placements in globally recognized JM clinics and foster a life-long interest in JM within their future clinical practice.

2. Eligibility

Those eligible to apply must address the following criteria

- Must have been awarded an MD/DO, completed an appropriate residency program and be in year 2-3 of recognized pediatric rheumatology fellowship program.
- Grantees must be in US based institutions/hospitals.

Each awardee needs to be under the guidance of a mentor from the host institution. The qualifications and experience of the mentor will be considered in the evaluation of the application.

3. Proposal Submission Details

To submit a proposal for consideration, please review all submission details below:

Email completed proposal to: andrew.heaton@curejm.org.

Submission is on a rolling basis during the calendar year, with 1 immersion and up to 3 bursary awards per calendar year.

4. Project Purpose and Description

The program is focused on Cure JM's strategic priorities with an expectation that the host institution and mentor has demonstrated expertise in one or more of the following areas:

- Genomics and proteomics of JM.
- Environmental factors.
- Mechanisms of disease.
- Discovery and development of biomarkers of disease, biomarkers of disease flare and pharmacodynamic markers of response.
- Translational research initiatives.
- Clinical trials and drug repurposing programs.
- JM diagnosis and consensus treatment protocols.
- Mental health in JM patients/families.

The programs are merit based from applicants that demonstrate a commitment to JM as a significant specialty/sub-specialty in their future clinical career. The award seeks to develop clinicians who will impact JM with direct short-term benefits, arising directly from the hands-on exposure and knowledge gained from their time at the host institution as well as an enduring benefit through an active long-term interest in JM. The clinical and research interests, both aptitude and inclination, along with the quality of the mentoring relationships are determinants of success.

The end goal for the programs is to foster clinicians who will have a long-term interest in JM and connection to collaboration with JM experts.

5. Proposal Guidelines.

The proposal for a fellowship covers three critically linked areas: applicant, mentor and fellowship program.

5.1 Applicant.

Applicants are expected to have a stage appropriate background in clinical, translational, research, or a combination thereof. Successful applicants will be able to demonstrate a commitment to a clinical career that will improve the lives and care of JM patients.

The applicants are judged in part by:

- Publication record and publications relevant to the fellowship proposal and appropriate for career stage.
- The applicant's track record in clinical and other relevant fields of endeavor.
- Prior funding, grants, and awards.

5.2 Mentor/Institution.

Mentors are expected to have established, globally recognized programs in clinical/translational JM clinical care, research or a combination thereof. Mentors will be able to demonstrate programs that have, or will find, better treatments or pathways to a cure for JM through clinical/translational programs or a combination thereof. This is judged in part by:

1. Recognition of expertise relevant to fellowship proposal as demonstrated through publications, awards and grants.
2. History of success in awarding of grants and outcomes.
3. Successful mentoring track-record

5.3 Application.

All applications should submit a fellowship proposal comprising:

- A 1-page lay summary of the program and its expected career impact.
- A 4-page review of the immersion program including key questions addressed, clinical strategies, outcomes in terms of clinical care in JM and potential patient impact. An outline of the suggested ~ 4 month program with key milestones identified.
- A detailed CV and publication list of both the applicant and the mentor.
- A letter of support from the mentor and research institution.
- This RFP for a JM Fellowship represents the requirements for an open and competitive process.
- Cure JM will accept proposals on a rolling basis during the calendar year.

5.4 Terms of FELLOWSHIP Award.

- The grant amount is based on the actual budgetary needs of the project. Cure JM will award up to \$30,000 for an immersion program lasting up to ~ 3 months, the award can be used for a mix of travel, salary support, research costs. The expectation is that there

will be significant fund matching from at least one of the institutions associated with a successful application.

- The travel bursary grant amount will be based on the budget of the project, with a maximum value of \$5000.
- Where feasible the awardee is expected to attend at least one Cure JM annual medical and family conference to report results to Cure JM's leadership.

An official agent or representative of the institution(s) authorized to bind the institution to the requirements within the proposal must sign the submission.

Once a winning bid(s) is selected:

- Cure JM will negotiate the contract terms and conditions with applicant(s) that submitted the winning application.
- The awardee must agree to supply a final report on the outcomes of the immersion program and may be expected to participate in a Townhall or other online meeting to discuss the outcomes of the program.
- All contractual terms and conditions are subject to review by Cure JM and will include, but are not limited to, scope, budget, schedule and other necessary items pertaining to the project.

Applicants can submit any questions by email to:

andrew.heaton@curejm.org

6. RFP Timeline:

Applications will be reviewed within 3 months of submission, applicants and mentors need to ensure the proposed immersion programs are aligned with this review timeline.