



Visiting Fellows Program

The Starr Cancer Consortium (SCC) is a collaborative framework among five institutions in New York and Boston to advance research in new ways that will have an impact on the understanding, diagnosis, prevention or treatment of cancer.

The five participating institutions in the SCC are The Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, The Rockefeller University, and Weill Cornell Medical College.

The goals of the Starr Cancer Consortium are:

- To drive the development of technology for molecular characterization of cancer by forging productive alliances among scientists at the five participating institutions,
- To apply these new technologies in joint projects directed at diverse cancers, in the process gaining a deeper understanding of the molecular basis of these cancers and defining new paradigms for cancer research, diagnosis and treatment, and
- To accelerate collaborative research of the basic biological mechanisms underlying the development of cancers.

All projects supported by the Consortium must be collaborative, involving investigators from two or more of the five participating institutions.

Objective

The objective of the Starr Cancer Consortium Visiting Fellows Program is to advance the goals of the Consortium by helping post-doctoral fellows and students share and expand their scientific expertise and experience thereby furthering collaborative efforts among the SCC institutions. The Program gives post-doctoral fellows and students at SCC institutions opportunities to spend time in a laboratory at one of the other SCC institutions. The training and research undertaken by the Fellows in their recipient laboratories should be plausibly related to cancer but does not need to be in a pre-existing SCC-funded project.

Duration

Visits of 1 week to 3 months duration

Eligibility

Post-doctoral fellows and students working in a laboratory at one of the five SCC institutions are eligible to apply¹. The recipient laboratory must be at a SCC institution², but cannot be at the applicant's home institution. The applicant's home laboratory and the recipient laboratory must have an ongoing collaboration; however, a pre-existing SCC-funded project is not required. Approval for the visiting fellowship is required from both the director of the applicant's home laboratory and the director of the recipient laboratory prior to application submission.

¹ In the case of the Broad Institute, post-doctoral fellows and students working in the laboratories of senior staff, core and associate members are eligible to apply.

² In the case of the Broad Institute, laboratories of senior staff, core and associate members can be recipient laboratories.

Funding

The fellowship covers reasonable travel and housing costs for Fellows whose recipient laboratory is in a different city from their home institution. It is the Fellow's responsibility to arrange his/her housing.

Supply funds will be provided to support laboratory costs in the recipient laboratory, prorated by time at \$650 per week. Supply funds will not be provided if the training and research undertaken in the recipient laboratory is part of an ongoing SCC-funded project.

The policies and procedures of the recipient laboratory's institution will apply during the fellowship.

How to Apply

Applicants must prepare a short application using the Visiting Fellows Program application template. The template and instructions are available at www.starrcancer.org/vfp. Applicants should contact the Visiting Fellows Program's point of contact (see below) at the recipient institution for guidance on pre- and post-award logistics.

The application includes:

- Description of applicant's current research
- Description of the ongoing collaboration between the applicant's home and recipient laboratories
- Description of topic and scope of the training and/or research to be undertaken in the recipient laboratory
- Explanation of how the fellowship will further the goals of the SCC
- Housing plan, including cost. (Only for applicants whose recipient laboratory is in a different city from their home institution)
- Statement of approval from the director of the applicant's home laboratory
- Statement of approval from the director of the recipient laboratory

Applications should be sent to SCC@mskcc.org. There is no deadline for applications.

The applicant and the director of the recipient laboratory are responsible for identifying and obtaining all required reviews and approvals prior to initiation of the applicant's participation in research conducted at the recipient laboratory's institution. Guidance on whether oversight committee review (e.g., IRB, IACUC, IBC, RSC, ESCRO), permits (e.g., radioactive materials, select agents, controlled substances, import/export), safety or hazard training and/or registration is required for the proposed work may be obtained from the administrative point of contact at the recipient laboratory's institution.

Point of Contact at SCC Institutions

Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard:

Vivian Holmes, vholmes@broadinstitute.org

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory:

Alyson Kass-Eisler, kasseisl@cshl.edu

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center:

Denise Cruz, cruzd@mskcc.org

The Rockefeller University:

Amy Wilkerson, wilkera@rockefeller.edu

Weill Cornell Medical College:

Lynda Pierini, lpierini@med.cornell.edu

Selection

Members of the SCC Executive Committee will review each application and make the funding decisions. Applications will be assessed with respect to the potential to further the goals of the SCC. Applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis as they are received.

Reporting Requirements

A 1 page report describing activities and accomplishments during the fellowship is required. The report should be submitted within two months after the end of the fellowship and sent to SCC@mskcc.org

Further Information

Any questions about this program should be addressed to:

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