ASTRO-AstraZeneca Radiation Oncology Research Training Fellowship

Purpose:
The ASTRO-AstraZeneca Radiation Oncology Research Training Fellowship is a joint effort to advance the field of radiation oncology in novel ways by providing unique research opportunities in the industry setting. The aim of the Fellowship is to support the next generation of researchers and to significantly improve outcomes and quality of life for cancer patients.

Researchers selected for this Fellowship will conduct research on the efficacy and safety of drug-radiation combinations. All work will be conducted at the AstraZeneca or their affiliates site and not at the resident’s home institution or any other academic site. Residents will be required to sign an agreement with AstraZeneca including intellectual property arrangements.

The award will provide salary support up to $100,000 for one year. Neither ASTRO nor AstraZeneca will pay indirect costs as part of this award. Funds from this award must be used for salary support for the awardee. No money may be used for laboratory or other supplies.

One award will be funded.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Applicants (PhD, MD, MD/PhD, DO) must be matriculated in a residency program and have sufficient time (1 year) to conduct a research project at AstraZeneca at the start of the grant term on July 1, 2020. Faculty members or equivalent status will not be eligible to apply.
- Applicants must be employed by a recognized US research institution at the time the application is submitted.
- The applicant must be an ASTRO member in good standing at the time the grant begins.
- Applicants must designate a mentor at their residency program institution, who will provide guidance and support for the research opportunity. The grantee will also be assigned an AstraZeneca mentor who will oversee the research progress.
- Because of the focus on progression to independence as a researcher, applicants should propose a career development plan that is consistent with his/her previous training and suited to their career development needs.
- The goal of this Fellowship is to provide a research opportunity within the pharmaceutical company, therefore awardees will not be able to maintain any additional research related grant support while serving in this fellowship program.
The recipient is required to contact ASTRO immediately if any problems are encountered that would prevent them from successfully completing the fellowship.

Recipients are encouraged attend at least one ASTRO Annual Meeting and, if approved, present the findings of this research study at the meeting. Up to $2000 from the Fellowship support can be used for travel and registration fees to attend the Annual Meeting.

**Commitment from the Applicant’s Institution**

- The institution must be willing to allow the resident to conduct research at the AstraZeneca or affiliate sites during the resident’s research time.
- The institution must sign an agreement between AstraZeneca or its affiliate sites to allow for the resident to conduct research at AstraZeneca or its affiliate sites. This includes any intellectual property agreement/s.
- The applicant and institution must make a good faith effort to complete all agreements with AstraZeneca in a timely manner (prior to the July 1 start date).
- The host department will act as the fiscal intermediary. The institution will pay the salary to the winner and be responsible for satisfying tax withholding, deposit and/or reporting requirements applicable to the payment of the award. The winner will be responsible for individual income taxes.
- ASTRO and AstraZeneca do **NOT** pay institutional Facility and Administrative costs. Funds provided under this fellowship program will be used to pay salary and benefits for the recipient. Up to $2000 may be used to reimburse travel and registration costs to attend the ASTRO Annual Meeting.
- The institution will be required to provide sufficient additional funds to supplement salaries or other fees.
- The Institution will maintain insurance for medical professional liability and comprehensive general liability during the Fellowship period.
- Any change in institution, mentor and chair or in the applicant’s position that might affect their ability to successfully complete their training should be communicated as soon as possible to ASTRO so that appropriate action can be taken.

**Commitment from AstraZeneca**

- AstraZeneca will provide a learning environment for the fellow ensuring that the objectives of the fellowship are met.
- AstraZeneca will provide a mentor to support and guide the resident during the 1 year term.
- AstraZeneca will provide opportunities for the resident to conduct research at the AstraZeneca or affiliate sites during the resident’s research time.
- The institution must sign an agreement between AstraZeneca or its affiliate sites to allow for the resident to conduct research at AstraZeneca or its affiliate sites. This includes any intellectual property agreement.
- AstraZeneca will provide a total sum of $100,000 to support the fellow during their 1 year term (ASTRO and AstraZeneca do **NOT** pay institutional Facility and Administrative costs. Funds provided under this fellowship program will be used to pay salary and benefits for the recipient. Up to $2000 may be used to reimburse travel and registration costs to attend the ASTRO Annual Meeting.)
• PAYMENT FOR TRAVEL. If travel is required for a Fellow to begin work at the AstraZeneca site, a limited stipend will be provided by AstraZeneca separate from the grant funding through AstraZeneca’s expense reimbursement systems. This stipend is intended to allow the Fellow to travel to the AstraZeneca site prior to the start of the term to secure housing accommodations needed for the term. In addition, this stipend also will cover necessary costs for the Fellow to travel to the AstraZeneca site at the beginning of the term spent on site, and to return home at the end of that term. The total amount of the stipend will be determined on a case-by-case basis, and will be dependent upon the distance travelled by the Fellow, but will be no more than $7,500. Housing costs for the Fellow during the one-year term at the AstraZeneca facility shall be the responsibility of the Fellow. AstraZeneca and the Fellow shall arrange directly with each other for the appropriate amount of such stipend and for payment through AstraZeneca’s expense reimbursement system.

• Any change in the AstraZeneca mentor or in the applicant’s position that might affect their ability to successfully complete their training should be communicated as soon as possible to ASTRO so that appropriate action can be taken.

• Should the fellow need to fulfill requirement for Clinical Rotation a total of 1 day per week can be allocated to meet this requirement at a facility chosen by the Fellow. Specific arrangements on timing and location are decided between the fellow, the academic mentor, and the AstraZeneca Mentor.

**General timeline**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 15, 2019</td>
<td>Release of RFA</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 15, 2019</td>
<td>Applications due at 11:59pm Eastern Standard time (GMT -5). ProposalCENTRAL application site closes</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 15 – 29, 2019</td>
<td>Review of application</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2019</td>
<td>Review panel convenes</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 2020</td>
<td>Final decisions and ASTRO Board meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 2020</td>
<td>Recipient announced, and agreements initiated</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 1, 2020</td>
<td>Start of research program at AstraZeneca</td>
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**Application Guidelines**

Applications must be submitted online at proposalCENTRAL: [https://proposalcentral.altum.com/GrantOpportunities.asp?GMID=105](https://proposalcentral.altum.com/GrantOpportunities.asp?GMID=105)

Deadline for submission is: **11:59 pm, Eastern Standard Time (GMT -5), Friday, November 15, 2019**

**Formatting**

All materials **MUST** be prepared in English, single spaced with normal spacing between letters and words, using a font style (size 10-12) such as Arial or Times New Roman. A minimum of one-half inch margins must be used on all page borders.

Each section must be loaded into ProposalCENTRAL. Applicants can stop at any point and save the application to be completed by the deadline.
ASTRO and AstraZeneca are seeking a talented researcher with expertise in research, radiation oncology, and a deep desire to partner with industry on drug development/radiation research.

**Submission Content**
All applications must contain the following:

1. **Personal statement (Recommended length 2 pages):** A detailed personal statement that outlines the following must be submitted:
   a. Prior research experience
   b. Dedication to work in Immuno-Oncology, radiation oncology, and drug development fields.
   c. Value provided to ASTRO, AstraZeneca, and the research field.
   d. Intention for pursuing this fellowship
   e. Future professional goals and plans.

2. **Biosketch:** The applicant must submit a NIH style biosketch including a list of relevant publications and currently funded research projects (5-page limit).

3. **Letters of recommendation (2):** Upload 2 letters of support outlining previous work, dedication to a research career, and characteristics that make this opportunity in industry a particularly good option for the applicant.

4. **Institutional letter of recommendation (1):** upload a letter of support from the institution’s department chair. This letter must document that the Chair of the Department supports this fellowship program and that the resident will be working off site in an industry setting. If the mentor is the chair of the department, an additional letter of recommendation is necessary.

Applications lacking the required materials or in the incorrect format will be considered ineligible for review.

No additional data or documentation such as accepted manuscripts or awards received will be accepted.

**Application Review Information**
All grant applications are subject to peer review. Reviewers are members of the ASTRO Research Grants Evaluation Committee and researchers from AstraZeneca. The Reviewers will convene to recommend an awardee following the peer review. Final decisions will be subject to the approval of the ASTRO Boards of Directors and AstraZeneca.

Selected candidates will be those who demonstrate a strong research background, a desire to work in an industry setting, and a well-crafted plan for a future research career.

Applicants should be aware that receipt of this fellowship may be reported by AstraZeneca to government entities for otherwise to third parties, as required by law or pursuant to AstraZeneca policy.

Questions can be directed to research@astro.org or 1.703.839.7368