



PROGRAM IN MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR BIOSCIENCES

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Cheryl Maslen, Director PMCB

Request for Applications 2014 NIH Training Grant: PMCB

The NIH-sponsored training grant entitled 'Program in Molecular and Cell Biology' supports PMCB trainees in their 1st year of graduate school as well as post-1st year trainees working in PMCB laboratories. Applications for support are **June 11, 2014** and should be submitted as a single PDF file to Crystal Paredes (pmcb@ohsu.edu). Letters of recommendation by the referees should be submitted separately and directly to Crystal Paredes. Awards will be for one year of support with the possibility of competitive renewal for up to three years total support.

NIH has recently changed significantly the expectations regarding administration of training grants. In particular, more career development activities are required than was previously the case. Thus courses on Scientific Writing, Career Development, and Responsible Conduct of Research and Advisory Committees are now required for both pre- and post-doctoral trainees.

Requirements:

Applicants must be US citizens or Green Card holders, per NIH rules.

Applicants must have as the primary research advisor a preceptor who is a member of this training grant.

Trainees are required take the **Vollum Career Development Workshops**.

The workshop must be taken during the first year of training but only has to be taken once. This workshop is a required part of the training program, as mandated by NIH, and fellowship support will not be continued if this course is not taken.

Trainees are required to develop an Individual Career Development Plan (IDP) that is completed over the course of graduate training. This is facilitated on a free website at <http://myidp.sciencecareers.org/> The mentor's letter should confirm that trainees have registered on the myIDP website and that the mentor will work with the trainee in developing the plan during the course of training. Thesis advisory committees are expected to review the IDP as part of the regular meetings with the trainee.

Trainees must take formal **Responsible Conduct of Research** every 4 years, per NIH rules. This consists of registering for Con 650 in the 1st year and 5th year of graduate school.

Senior trainees are required to take the course on Scientific Writing during their year of support (**Vollum Writing Course**, Instructor, Dr. Rachel Dresbeck, research@ohsu.edu, 503-494-3124), unless they have already taken this course. The current cost of this course is \$500. Graduate Studies currently will pay for this course. However, if funding changes, the Trainees mentor will be responsible for the course fee.

Senior Trainees must submit a written Progress Report (1-2 pages) at the end of the year of support.

Trainees will be expected to provide updated information regarding their professional status, publications, grant support obtained etc. to the training grant staff. This information is tabulated by the training grant staff and used to monitor the success of the training program over time.

Applications: Deadline for Receipt of Applications: June 11, 2014

Applicants must submit a Research Plan that describes the project they intend to pursue over the 1-year period of support. This plan should include: 1) a brief statement of the scientific problem and hypotheses to be tested; 2) a short description of preliminary results from the laboratory; 3) a description of the experiments to be undertaken and methods of data analysis and 4) Bibliography. The Research Plan must be in Arial 11 point type with 0.5 inch margins and may be no longer than **2 pages**.

A list of all previous publications by the applicant.

A list of faculty members constituting the Thesis Advisory Committee (for post-1st year PMCB students).

A transcript listing courses taken and grades received in graduate school.

Two letters of support to be submitted separately from the application. One of these letters should be from the thesis advisor and should discuss the qualifications of the applicant and the nature of the research project. The letter from the thesis advisor must state that the thesis advisor has participated in teaching in the PMCB RCR training course (CONJ 650) at least once in the last 4 years, and give the year and nature of participation (e.g. group discussion leader). Faculty who are not current in their RCR participation may not be eligible for training grant support for their students.

Review Process:

Applications will be reviewed by a Selection Committee composed of PMCB faculty members. Evaluation of applications will give significant weight to the following criteria:

Quality of the Research Plan.

Previous preparation of the applicant including courses taken, grades received, and scientific work accomplished and/or published.

Letters of recommendation.

The commitment of the training grant to support underrepresented minorities, disabled individuals, and women.

The commitment of the training grant to achieve a reasonable distribution of awards over the laboratories of different preceptors that participate in the PMCB.

Award Process:

The Training Grant Director, Dr. Cheryl Maslen, will notify applicants of awards by June 30, 2014.