



Request for Applications (Team application: 2 trainees, 2 trainers)

ICTR TL1 Predoctoral Training Program

July 1, 2022 Appointment Start Date

Application Deadline: March 14, 2022

The ICTR TL1 program is a 2-year mentored research training program in translational science for predoctoral students. This program creates a cross-disciplinary community of emerging researchers and provides them with specific training, career development opportunities, and team science skills to help them function effectively within research teams that translate science into human health.

The TL1 program is open to applicants from all disciplines and backgrounds who meet the eligibility criteria. Special consideration will be given to applicants from historically underrepresented backgrounds and those seeking to conduct research that will reduce health disparities.

Through a combination of thoughtful mentorship, interdisciplinary interaction, and focused training, TL1 Trainees develop skills needed to become impactful translational researchers.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The **TL1 Predoctoral Training Program** trains and supports future **clinical and translational leaders** in their earliest years of earning either the Clinical Investigation PhD or another PhD with a Clinical and Translational Science focus. The TL1 funding mechanism is sponsored by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS), a center of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). TL1 trainees are appointed in one-year increments, for a maximum of two years, contingent on continued NIH funding to ICTR. Each appointment encompasses 12 continuous months (three semesters, including Summer).

To complement the existing ICTR TL1 predoctoral program for individual trainees, ICTR is offering a new option for trainees to apply as a team of two from different PhD programs and two trainers with main appointments in different fields. The intent of the new option is to train predoctoral students in a team setting that will facilitate future work as clinical and translational science team members.

The major components of the TL1 program are:

- **Research and training time:** TL1 trainees commit to full-time effort towards their translational research and the training involved in the program during their appointment
- **Interactive seminars:** The program provides in-depth training on skills and competencies critical to the conducting of translational research. Over the course of the appointment, trainees will receive training in scientific writing, responsible conduct of research, team science, dissemination and implementation sciences, and mentee skills
- **Translational coursework:** Trainees supplement their normal course of study with additional courses aimed at broadening their translational skillset
- **Culturally Appropriate Mentorship:** Trainees receive additional mentorship from TL1 faculty to complement their career development in translational science.

By the end of their appointment, Trainees can be expected to be able to:

- Conduct a small research study, under supervision
- Disseminate their research with confidence to a research audience
- Participate in data collection, management, and analysis with a transdisciplinary research team.





- Coordinate their own research with that of a larger team
- Develop proposals for independent research funding
- Evaluate ethical issues facing beginning clinical/translational investigators
- Communicate research effectively with diverse audience
- Articulate how their research can lead to health equity

FUNDING

The ICTR TL1 program supports trainees with the following:

- **Stipend:** Trainees receive monthly predoctoral stipends, which are uniformly set for all trainees by the National Institutes of Health.
- **Tuition and Segregated Fees:** The TL1 program will pay full-time tuition to support the trainee in supplementing their course of study with required translational coursework
- **Travel funds:** Trainees will receive up to \$2400 in funding to support dissemination activities

Trainees will need to secure funding from alternative sources (F30 or F31 awards, the trainer's funding, teaching assistantships) following their appointment in the TL1 program.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The TL1 program welcomes applications from students seeking a PhD at the University of Wisconsin – Madison or combined PhD/health professional degree. Trainees must have pre-dissertator status at the time of appointment and take a full graduate course load (at least 8 credits in Fall and Spring, 2 credits in Summer).

Current and prospective TL1 predoctoral trainers (mentors) are encouraged strongly to support well-qualified applicants who meet the NIH definition of Traditionally Underrepresented Groups. Trainers are expected to complete mentor training and participate in the mentor meetings and writing workshop. All trainers must present evidence of formal mentor training, either through ICTR-sponsored training or online asynchronous training (i.e., University of Minnesota).

Eligible Students must:

- **Hold** a bachelor's degree at the start of the TL1 appointment
- **Be** a U.S. citizen or permanent resident in the U.S.
- Be **enrolled in** the PhD Graduate Program in Clinical Investigation or other PhD degree program with a focus on clinical and translational science
- **Secure** a faculty mentor (trainer) with a clinical or translational project who is committed to participating in the structured training program
- **Commit** to pursuing research training in clinical or translational science. Students interested in basic science training are advised to seek support from another UW-Madison T32 grant

Applicants must not:

- Receive salary support from other federal sources during TL1 training
- Have previously received five years or more of NRSA support in aggregate at the predoctoral level, including any combination of support from institutional training grants and individual fellowship awards (six years for dual degree students)



COURSEWORK

Trainees will select from several training options based on their prior course work, area of study, and career goals (see required courses below, listed under certificate and non-certificate options). TL1 trainees will pursue their terminal PhD degrees while also incorporating the TL1 curriculum. FCR = Fundamentals of Clinical Research Certificate. CI = Clinical Investigation. CCOR = Clinical and Community Outcomes research.

TL1 with FCR Certificate	TL1 with CI PhD minor	TL1 with CCOR (ISCHO) Certificate	TL1 Non-Certificate Training Options		
			Bioinformatics	Science Communication	Science Entrepreneurship
BMI 541/BMI 699 (1-3 cr)	BMI 541/BMI 699 (1-3 cr)	PHS 709: (3 cr)	BMI 541/BMI 699 (1-3 cr)	BMI 541/BMI 699 (1-3 cr)	BMI 541/BMI 699 (1-3 cr)
PHS 797 (3 cr)	Elective (3 cr)	Elective within: Working with Communities cluster: (2-3 cr)	BMI 773 (3 cr)	PHS 797 (3 cr) or PHS 709 (3 cr)	Science entrepreneurship Elective, 3 cr
RCR (1-2 cr)	RCR (1-2 cr)	RCR (1-2 cr)	RCR (1-2 cr)	RCR (1-2 cr)	RCR (1-2 cr)
BMI 542 (3 cr)	BMI 542 (3 cr)	Elective within: Qualitative Methods Relevant to Translational and Outcomes Research cluster (3 cr)	Bioinformatics Elective, 3 cr	Science comm Elective, 3 cr	BMI 542 (3 cr)
BMI 544 (3 cr)	BMI 544 (3 cr)	Seminar: 1 cr	Bioinformatics Elective, 3 cr	Science comm Elective, 3 cr	Science entrepreneurship elective <u>or</u> BMI 544 (3 cr)
		Project: 2 cr			Externship (optional)
11-14 total credits	11-14 total credits	12-14 total credits	11-14 total credits	11-14 total credits	11-14 total credits
Additional TL1 training modules: Scientific Writing Workshop (11 sessions), Team Science Workshop (14 sessions), F Grant Boot Camp (optional, 6 sessions), Externships (optional)					

HOW TO APPLY

(Link to application form)

If you would like to learn more, please send an email to **Peggy Hatfield**, pmhatfie@wisc.edu.

Key Dates:

The application deadline: March 14, 2022

Finalist Interviews: Early May 2022

Notification of Award: May 15, 2022

Program Start: July 1, 2022

SELECTION PROCESS

Important components of the TL1 application are the strength of the mentor-mentee relationship and the clinical and translational project description. The TL1 program is committed to support a wide range of research projects across the T0-T4 translational spectrum. Special consideration will be given to projects that seek to reduce health disparities.

