



Pfizer and the Skin of Color Society Foundation Announce a Fellowship Grant RFP

Dermatology Research Fellowship in Skin of Color Competitive Grant Program – using expert review panel

I. Background

Pfizer Global Medical Grants (GMG) supports the global healthcare community's independent initiatives (e.g., research, quality improvement or education) to improve patient outcomes in areas of unmet medical need that are aligned with Pfizer's medical and/or scientific strategies.

Pfizer's GMG competitive grant program involves a publicly posted Request for Proposal (RFP) that provides detail regarding a specific area of interest, sets timelines for review and approval, and uses an external review panel (ERP). Institutions are invited to submit an application as outlined in the specific RFP.

The Skin of Color Society was established to promote awareness of and excellence within skin of color dermatology through research, education, mentorship, and advocacy. The Society is committed to increasing diversity and inclusion in the field of dermatology to advance patient care.

This RFP reflects Pfizer's commitment to advancing research, innovation, and training for medical, nursing, and allied health professionals.

II. Eligibility

Geographic Scope:	United States
Applicant Eligibility Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accredited, US-based academic institution. • Do <u>not</u> include the name of the potential fellow(s) in application materials. This grant will be awarded to an institution, not an individual. • Institutions with fellowship programs that include independent research and a strong mentoring program. Clinical training may be included in the program but is not required. • No aspect of the fellowship program can benefit Pfizer's business or a Pfizer asset. • Examples of independent research include the following: clinical and translational, prospective, and retrospective or observational studies and outcomes research studies where the primary focus is the scientific understanding of disease; use of screening tools and their impact on improvement of patient health. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Examples of research that would not be eligible include research involving the study and/or evaluation of any pharmaceutical product and basic science and/or fundamental research (in animal model, in-vitro, etc.). • Examples of clinical training include: educational time with an interdisciplinary team in review of case examples and relevant didactic training as well as use of tools for improvement in patient health for specific therapeutic areas or conditions. • Fellow time spent in the clinical setting that is supported through grant funds must not be billed as patient care.

III. Requirements

Date RFP Issued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 24, 2021
Specific Area of Interest for this RFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is our intent to support institution-based fellowship opportunities with a research focus on dermatologic diseases in skin of color, particularly in areas where further clinical, translational, and observational/prospective research is needed. Programs with either established or emerging areas of research focus are encouraged to apply. • The ethnic/racial demographic of the United States is in the midst of significant change.^{1,2} There is now an increasing demand for understanding dermatologic conditions and treatments in patients with skin of color, as well as an accompanying need for education in this growing patient population as by the year 2060, people with skin of color will represent more than half of the US population. • Physicians must be adept at recognizing and effectively treating dermatologic disease states in patients with skin of color. Inherent in effectively treating these cutaneous diseases is sufficiently

	<p>understanding the pathophysiology of the condition, the patient’s viewpoint about their disease, as well as hindrances to treatment, compliance, patient satisfaction and access to leading treatment modalities. Information about the physical and psychosocial impact of a disease can also be used to guide treatment practices and appropriately address patient expectations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is overall limited data and research specifically on skin of color dermatologic disease. There also exist health care disparities revolving around these underrepresented minorities. Given the current dermatology workforce shortage, the increased patient load has the potential to have detrimental and adverse effects on dermatologic care for underrepresented minorities. Additional concerns include the state of dermatologic training and insufficient research involving racial/ethnic minorities. As the US demographics shift to become more racially diverse, the need to understand skin of color needs and diseases will continue to increase.
<p>Requirements for Prospective Fellows:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institution must ensure that any fellow that will receive grant funds must be a U.S. Worker (U.S. citizen, permanent resident, refugee, or asylee), or hold an appropriate non-immigrant visa status authorizing employment in the U.S. • U.S. Physician Payments Sunshine Act (“Sunshine Act”) and other transparency law requirements must be satisfied with respect to meals, payments and other transfers of value. As a condition of the grant, the selected fellow will be named in transparency reporting as a recipient of grant funding.
<p>Budget:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant funding is available to support one fellow for up to one year at up to \$80,000 each. The budget can only include salary and support of the fellow benefits. • Grant funds cannot be used for overhead or indirect costs. Overhead costs include rent, utilities, insurance, office equipment or supplies. • Funding will be awarded to the institution, not an individual. • Fellow time spent in the clinical setting that is supported through grant funds must not be billed as patient care. • No aspect of the fellowship program budget can reflect a benefit to Pfizer’s business or a Pfizer asset.
<p>Key Dates:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RFP release date: June 24, 2021 • Full Proposal Deadline: August 2, 2021 <i>Please note the deadline is 23:59 Eastern Time (New York, GMT -5).</i> • Review of Full Proposals by Expert Review Panel: August 2021 • Anticipated Full Proposal Notification Date: September 2021 • Grants distributed following execution of fully signed Letter of

	<p>Agreement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anticipated Project Start and End Dates: Intended to support Fellowships beginning in 2022. Start date should occur on or after contract execution.
How to Submit:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please go to http://www.cybergrants.com/pfizer/GMGFellowship and sign in. First-time users should click “Create new password”. Select the following Competitive Grant Program Name: 2022 US - Derm Skin of Color Research Fellowship Program Requirements for submission: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete all required sections of the online application Upload Proposal (see Appendix). If you encounter any technical difficulties with the website, please click the “Technical Questions” link at the bottom of the page.
Questions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have questions regarding this RFP, please direct them in writing to the Grant Officer, Amanda Solis (amanda.solis@pfizer.com), with the subject line “Skin of Color Fellowship RFP.”
Review and Approval Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A specific grant program RFP uses an expert review panel (ERP) to make final grant decisions. The panels are comprised of professionals from the medical community with advanced degrees and expertise in particular clinical areas, or specific needs of a geographic region/learner group, or expertise in research, continuing professional development or quality improvement
Mechanism by which Applicants will be Notified:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All applicants will be notified via email by the dates noted above. Applicants may be asked for additional clarification during the review period.

References

- Colby, S.L., & Jennifer, J.O. (2014). Projections of the Size and Composition of the U.S. Population: 2014 to 2060. *Current Population Reports*. 25-1143.
<https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2015/demo/p25-1143.pdf>
- Vespa, J., & Medina, L. (2018). Demographic Turning Points for the United States: Population Projections for 2020 to 2060. Washington, D.C. United States Census Bureau.
<https://www.census.gov/library/publications/2020/demo/p25-1144.html>

Appendix A Proposal Requirements

The proposal should be submitted in Word or a PDF. This document should be formatted with single-spaced using 12-point font and 1-inch margins and should not exceed 10-15 pages.

Cover Page (not to exceed 1 page)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Title: Please include the fellowship title, and main institutions • Abstract: Please include an abstract summary of your proposal including the goal of the fellowship, methods the institution uses to support the fellow’s training and research, and assessment.
Overall Goals and Objectives of the Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the overall goal of the fellowship. • Describe the focus of research and/or clinical training as applicable that is being supported in general terms based on the categorizations listed in this application.
Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please describe the mentoring process. • Include a description of the methods used to support the fellow and their research and/or clinical training.
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please describe the institution’s academic, clinical training, and research capacity. • Describe the facilities/resources that are made available to the fellow. • Provide a summary of relevant past work that is applicable.
Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please provide a summary of potential challenges and of plans for addressing those challenges
Institutional Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division Head/ Department Chair Letter of Support. • Primary mentor; Secondary mentor (if applicable) Letter of Support
Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget: Address any additional sources of financial support for this proposal, including current and pending sources of funding • Any request for funds beyond salary support will not be provided as part of the award
Anticipated Project Timeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an anticipated timeline for your project including project start/end dates
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there is any additional information you feel Pfizer should be aware of concerning the importance of this project, please summarize here