Boston Children's Hospital
Rosamund Stone Zander Translational Neuroscience Center (RSZ-TNC) Fellowship Program

Advances in our understanding of the nervous system have created stunning opportunities to tackle pediatric diseases that once seemed completely resistant to therapy. Clinical trials for genetic diseases associated with autism spectrum disorders, epilepsy, neuromuscular disorders and childhood brain tumors are pushing the boundaries of pediatric medicine. Yet just when the promise is greatest, the number of trained scientists capable of working at the interface of basic science and medicine is dwindling.

Boston Children's Hospital (BCH) is committed to keeping the flow of potential new medicines and other therapies in the pipeline. In January 2013, BCH formed the Translational Neuroscience Center (TNC), led by Dr. Mustafa Sahin, to improve the lives of children with nervous system disorders through innovative clinical programs, outstanding basic science and efficient translation of novel ideas into practical tools for diagnosis, treatment and prevention of childhood diseases.

About the Program
To develop the next generation of translational scientists, the RSZ-TNC has developed a post-doctoral training program focused on translational research in childhood brain disorders. Fellows will pursue translational research projects designed to facilitate the development of novel therapeutics, leveraging the depth and breadth of the expertise within the RSZ-TNC through mentoring by clinicians, basic scientists and industry and non-profit experts. To support research efforts, the RSZ-TNC hosts a set of cores with expertise in iPSC derived neuronal modelling, animal and clinical neurophysiology and clinical research. The goal of the program is to further therapeutic development and train scientists to conduct independent translational research.

The RSZ-TNC Fellows will be selected from PhD, MD or MD/PhD applications received by the annual deadline. Fellows will hold up to a two-year joint appointment at BCH and would have access to the resources of the Hospital as well as the Harvard Medical School and neighboring affiliated institutions. Each Fellow will have a faculty mentor and a dedicated research project at the interface of science and medicine in an appropriate BCH laboratory. The Fellows also will spend time in multidisciplinary clinics, participate in preclinical research activities under the direction of the Director of Preclinical Research, attend TNC seminars and working group meetings, and participate in other educational activities in the BCH/Harvard Medical School community that are relevant to his or her personal research goals and future as a leader in translational neuroscience.

How to Apply
Applications will be accepted until **June 1, 2021** but will be evaluated on a rolling basis**.** They should consist of **one pdf**, with the following documents listed below, submitted via email to tnc@childrens.harvard.edu with the subject "RSZ TNC Fellowship Application".

- Applicant's CV
- Applicant's statement (maximum 3 pages) about research interest and specifically why they have selected this training grant. Additionally, the statement should include the applicant's Career Plan, such as the new or enhanced skills and knowledge to be acquired as a result of the proposed award as well as short-term and long-term career development goals.
- Names of 2 potential reference letter writers
- List of trainee's other support (needs at least 50% availability)

The award includes a maximum of $100,000 direct costs for one year (renewable for a second year dependent upon progress) and is intended to fund at least 50% FTE of the applicant's salary/fringe.

The award may also be used to support laboratory supplies, services, or equipment necessary to conduct the proposed research.

In 2021, priority will be given to applicants interested in building careers in: neurophysiology, signal processing, neurogenetics and clinical trials.

Process

Applications will be evaluated by reviewers identified by the RSZ-TNC Steering Committee. Reviewers will evaluate applications based on scientific rationale, innovation, and potential impact on the field of translational neuroscience and on the applicant's career trajectory. Additionally, applications will be evaluated on the candidate's productivity and qualifications for successfully carrying out the research based on their CV and references.

We are an equal opportunity employer, and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy and pregnancy-related conditions or any other characteristic protected by law.

For any questions, please contact tnc@childrens.harvard.edu.