



10/12/2021

Dear Colleagues:

We are very pleased to announce that **TRANSCEND** - our Stem Cell Training Grant - has been funded by the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM) for the period of 12/1/2021 to 11/30/2026. The first cohort of trainees are being recruited this fall quarter to begin 1/1/2022, with additional recruitments possible later in 2022. Applications are now being solicited for **eight pre-doctoral** and **three postdoctoral** slots.

Criteria that will be evaluated include: Relevance to human stem cell research, qualification of candidate, training environment, qualifications of mentor, and scientific merit of research plan. Nominees for pre-doctoral fellowships must be applicants to or enrolled in a Ph.D. graduate program at UCR.

The program will provide the following:

Ph.D.: CIRM training grant annual stipend for PhD students: \$36,000

Tuition and Fees: up to 100% of the first \$3,000 incurred per annual Tuition and Fees and 60% thereafter up to a maximum of \$16,000 for predoctoral trainees to cover enrollment in their institutional program.

Postdocs: CIRM training grant annual stipend for postdoctoral trainees: \$51,000

Ph.D. and Postdoctoral Trainee research and travel allowance: \$6,000/year (laboratory supplies, travel, books etc.).

Note: Supplementation to stipends and fees should come from unrestricted funds.

Please note the following:

- TRANSCEND aims to recruit trainees from scientifically diverse backgrounds.
- We are encouraged by the funding agency to recruit and retain trainees from many different backgrounds, including underrepresented minorities and trainees with special needs or disabilities.
- The Mentor is expected to have an active, securely funded research program in an area related to basic or translational stem-cell research.
- Ph.D. and Postdoctoral Trainees will be appointed initially for a period of 1 year, with continuation subject to a successful yearly evaluation of progress by the training program.
- Ph.D. trainees can be appointed up to 3 years and postdoctoral trainees for up to 2 years.
- The trainees and mentors will have to adhere fully to the scientific and fiscal guidelines of CIRM.



Application Packets for each candidate should include:

1. Cover page attached to this letter plus each of the following:
2. Current Biosketch (for both the candidate and mentor – please use NIH form)
3. Candidate's research plan (1 page max) and statement of career plan (1/2 page).
4. Statement of the mentor's current and pending research funding (may be part of Biosketch).
5. A letter of nomination from the mentor, evaluating the candidate's experience and qualifications, explaining the nature of the research and training experience proposed for the candidate.
6. A statement that the candidate is committed to take the three formal courses when they are next offered and the two-yearly stem cell seminars (CMDDB 255 and 256) every time they are offered. The three formal courses are: CMDDB 207 Stem Cell Biology and Medicine; Ethical, Legal and Social Implications of Stem Cell Research; and Science-to-Policy (S2P) Certification Course for stem cell researchers.
7. A statement that the mentor is willing to participate actively in the Stem Cell Training Program and ensure the candidate will pursue the proposed stem cell project while participating in TRANSCEND. This can be incorporated in the mentor's nomination letter.

Underrepresented minorities are encouraged to apply.

Applications can be submitted at any time. To be considered for the January 1st, 2022 cohort, your complete application packet should be submitted by **November 24th, 2021**.

Please send all your application packet items in one email to Rachel Behar, Ph.D. (rbeha001@ucr.edu).

You can distribute this letter to others.

Sincerely,

Prue Talbot, Ph.D.
Director

Huinan Liu, Ph.D.

Associate Director

Martin Garcia-Castro, Ph.D.

Associate Director