



12-21-2021

Dear Colleagues:

We are very pleased to announce that **TRANSCEND** - our Stem Cell Training Program – successfully recruited its first cohort, which will begin January 1, 2022.

The purpose of this letter is to announce the recruitment of our second cohort that will enter the Program either Spring quarter 2022 or July 1, 2022. Both predoctoral and postdoctoral applications will be accepted. Applications for the second cohort must be received by February 25<sup>th</sup> by 5 PM.

**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 enrolled in a Ph.D. graduate program at UCR.

**TRANSCEND will provide the following:**

**Ph.D.:** CIRM training grant annual stipend: \$36,000

**Tuition and Fees:** up to \$12,034.

**Postdoctoral Trainees:** CIRM training grant annual stipend: \$51,000

**Ph.D. and Postdoctoral Trainee research and travel allowance:** \$5,900/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.
- Predoctoral appointments are for a 3-year period, and Postdoctoral appointments are for a 2-year period, with yearly continuation subject to successful evaluation of progress by the training program.
- 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 max).
4. Statement of the mentor's current and pending research funding (include as part of the 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 (CMDB 255 and 256) every time they are offered. The three formal courses are: CMDB 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 (please bold this section).
8. The above documents should be combined into a single PDF file, which should be submitted by the candidate's mentor to Rachel Behar ([rbeha001@ucr.edu](mailto:rbeha001@ucr.edu)).

Underrepresented minorities are encouraged to apply.

Applications can be submitted at any time. To be considered for the second cohort, your complete application packet should be received **by 5PM February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022**.

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