

## **2007 HHMI Investigator Competition In Patient-Oriented Research**

**Details about this competition are available at: [www.hhmi.org/investigator\\_por](http://www.hhmi.org/investigator_por)**

**What is the goal of this competition?** HHMI seeks to appoint to its HHMI investigator program approximately 15 outstanding physician-scientists who have demonstrated originality and productivity as patient-oriented researchers and who show exceptional promise for future research contributions.

**How is patient-oriented research defined for this competition?** We define *patient-oriented* research as research that includes the direct study of human subjects and/or data derived from human subjects, with the goal of understanding diseases or disorders that affect humans. In considering whether to apply for this competition it may be useful to consider the distinction between the targeted area of *patient-oriented* research and the related area of *disease-oriented* research. By and large, *disease-oriented* research does not directly involve human subjects or data derived from them, but rather utilizes materials derived from patients and/or animal models that are surrogates for patients. In this competition we seek investigators whose research involves direct contact with patients. A key attribute of successful candidates in this competition will be the potential of their research program to reveal important new insights into the pathogenesis, treatment, and prevention of human disease. Information about investigators selected in the last competition for patient-oriented research is provided on our website.

**Will there be other competitions to select HHMI investigators?** The Institute anticipates initiating a separate general competition for new HHMI investigators within the next year. That competition will not be limited to physician-scientists and will have some different eligibility criteria.

**What is the deadline for submitting complete applications?** Applications will be accepted at the web site: [www.hhmi.org/research/application/por2007](http://www.hhmi.org/research/application/por2007), beginning January 2, 2007. The deadline for applications is January 18, 2007, at 3:00 p.m. (EST).

**What are the eligibility requirements?** Detailed information about eligibility is available at our website: [www.hhmi.org/investigator\\_por](http://www.hhmi.org/investigator_por). To be eligible for this competition the applicant must:

- have an M.D. or M.D./Ph.D. degree (or the equivalent);
- be licensed to practice medicine in the United States;
- hold a tenured or tenure-track (or equivalent) position at one of the 121 eligible institutions;
- have between four and 16 years of experience as an independent investigator; to meet this requirement we expect that an applicant would have first assumed a independent faculty position no earlier than January 1991 and no later than January 2003;
- be a Principal Investigator on an active NIH R01 grant or a project leader on an active NIH P01 grant; and
- have an outstanding patient-oriented research program.

In addition, an HHMI investigator cannot have administrative responsibilities or other non-research duties that would preclude devoting a minimum of 75% of total effort to the direct conduct of research.

**What will need to be included in the application?** The application must include the following documents, all to be submitted electronically to the HHMI application website: [www.hhmi.org/research/application/por2007](http://www.hhmi.org/research/application/por2007)

- a curriculum vitae, bibliography (in reverse chronological order), and a list of current research support using the NIH PHS 398 biographical sketch format; the NIH 3-page limit does not apply if additional pages are needed to provide a complete bibliography;
- a summary of the applicant's major achievements as an independent investigator (not more than 250 words);
- a summary of the applicant's ongoing and planned research program (not more than 3000 words, but up to one page of figures and necessary references are not counted toward the 3000-word limit).
- five selected publications that document the applicant's most important scientific contributions should be provided. For each publication provide a statement that begins with the journal reference and summarizes, in 300 words or less, the importance of the selected publication. Only published papers or papers that have been officially accepted are to be included.

***What about reference letters?*** Applicants should not include names of references or reference letters in the application. Semi-finalists will be notified by late June and asked to obtain three reference letters at that time.

***Does an applicant need institutional approval to apply?*** No. However, institutions will be contacted to verify the employment status of semi-finalists.