

## 2017 Hanna H. Gray Fellows Program

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Key Dates and Links

Online application site opens – mid-September, 2016

Application submission due – **February 15, 2017, 3:00 PM (Eastern Time)**

Mentor and reference letters due – **February 23, 2017, 3:00 PM (Eastern Time)**

Notification of status – late July 2017

Semi-finalist symposium – September 12, 2017

Notification of finalists selection – September, 2017

Intent to accept award due – October 1, 2017

Possible start dates for grant term – between November 15, 2017 and January 15, 2018

More program information is available in the Hanna H. Gray Fellows 2017 Program Booklet at [www.hhmi.org/HannaGrayFellows2017](http://www.hhmi.org/HannaGrayFellows2017) or at the online application site.

Formatting instructions and technical support information are available at the online application site. Address other questions to program staff at [fellows@hhmi.org](mailto:fellows@hhmi.org).

Access the application at: [www.hhmi.org/research/application/fellow2017](http://www.hhmi.org/research/application/fellow2017)

## ELIGIBILITY SECTION

### Applicant Contact Information

Provide your permanent contact information. This will be used for all communication throughout the competition. If a change is necessary after your application is submitted, please contact [fellows@hhmi.org](mailto:fellows@hhmi.org).

First Name

Middle Initial (optional)

Last Name

Preferred Name (if different than first name)

Permanent Phone

### Underrepresented Status

The 2017 Hanna H. Gray Fellows Competition is open to individuals who are from gender, racial, ethnic, and other groups underrepresented in the life sciences at the career stages targeted by this program, including those from disadvantaged backgrounds. To declare your membership in an underrepresented group please select one or more of the following categories. This information will not be provided to reviewers or used for evaluative purposes.

#### **Gender identity**

If you identify as a female, you may select gender for your eligibility.

#### **Ethnicity**

If you identify as Hispanic or Latino – a person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race, you may select ethnicity for your eligibility.

#### **Race**

If your racial identity includes one or more of the following categories, you may select race for your eligibility: American Indian or Alaska Native (a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment), Black or African American (a person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa), Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands).

### **Disadvantaged background**

Individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds are eligible for this program. This includes individuals who come from a family with an annual income below established low-income thresholds. Individuals from low income backgrounds must be able to demonstrate that they have qualified for Federal disadvantaged assistance; that they have received any of the following student loans: Health Professions Student Loans, Loans for Disadvantaged Student Program; or that they have received scholarships from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the Scholarship for Individuals with Exceptional Financial Need

In addition, individuals who come from an economic, social, cultural, or educational environment that has demonstrably inhibited the individual from obtaining the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to develop and participate in a research career may be considered to have disadvantaged backgrounds.

### **Other underrepresented group**

If you choose 'other underrepresented group', please specify.

Provide a statement explaining the reason for inclusion in the selected group(s). This statement may be used to assess eligibility, but will not be provided to reviewers or used for evaluative purposes. (Enter into text box, 1600 characters, including space and punctuation.)

### **Career Stage**

This program is designed to support postdoctoral fellows early in their training period. Applicants can have no more than 12 months of postdoctoral training at the time of the application due date, February 15, 2017.

Select from the dropdown list the description of your career stage at the time of the application due date, February 15, 2017 and provide requested information. Career stage options include:

- Current graduate student
- PhD in first year of postdoctoral training
- Current medical student or MD/PhD student
- MD or MD/PhD in a residency, a clinical fellowship or in postdoctoral training

If you select one of these two options,

- Current graduate student
- PhD in first year of postdoctoral training

enter date or anticipated date of completion of PhD or other doctoral degree.

This date must be before January 15, 2018, which is the last day to activate the award. *Proof of date of completion of degree will be required prior to receipt of award.*

If you select one of these two options,

- Current medical student or MD/PhD student
- MD or MD/PhD in a residency, a clinical fellowship or in postdoctoral training

enter the start date or anticipated start date of your postdoctoral training. This date must be inclusive of all postdoctoral research training. For purposes of this award, clinical fellowship training is defined as the standard accreditation training for a clinical specialty and will not be considered postdoctoral training. *Proof of the start date of your postdoctoral research training will be required prior to receipt of award.*

## Postdoctoral Training Mentor & Institution

You must have a specific plan for your postdoctoral training that includes both a mentor and a training institution in the U.S. (including Puerto Rico). Indicate the mentor and institution for the postdoctoral training that would be supported by this award.

- Mentor (First, Last name)
- Institution (Select from dropdown; if institution is not on list, select other and provide name.)

## How Did You Initially Hear About the Program?

This information will be helpful to us in planning outreach to applicants for future Hanna H. Gray Fellows competitions. We appreciate your input.

- HHMI news, website, journal advertisement
- Message from an academic institution
- Personal communication from a mentor or colleague
- Social media
- Other

## Conditions

The following conditions are requirements for receipt of a Hanna H. Gray award.

- I am a member of a group underrepresented in the life sciences at the career stage(s) targeted by this program.
- I have a commitment of support from a postdoctoral mentor at the specified U.S. institution.
- I will have less than 12 months of postdoctoral training by February 15, 2017.
- I will have a PhD or MD (or equivalent doctoral degree) awarded by January 15, 2018.
- I understand that I will be required to devote 75% of my total effort to research during my postdoctoral training.

Before submitting your eligibility information please review all information that you have provided. Use “Continue” button to submit the information. You will not be able to review or edit the eligibility section after this step.

You may “Log Out” and return later to complete your application at any time. Please save your work periodically and before closing; entries are not automatically saved.

After completing the Eligibility section, you will immediately receive an eligibility message. If you appear to be eligible, you may proceed directly to the remainder of the application.

### Eligible message:

Based on the information provided, you appear to meet the eligibility requirements for the 2017 Hanna H. Gray Fellows Competition. HHMI reserves the right to verify any information you have provided at any time during the review process.

### Ineligible message:

It appears that you do not meet the eligibility requirements for the Hanna H. Gray Fellows competition for the following reason(s): Reason will be provided.

After receiving your eligibility message, you can review your eligibility information, but you are not permitted to make changes. If you have questions or concerns about the eligibility decision you received, select Contact Us button to send us an email.

## APPLICANT INFORMATION

### Applicant Contact Information

Following information will be prepopulated from the answers you provided in the Eligibility Section:

- First Name
- Last Name
- Middle Initial (optional)
- Preferred Name (if unlike first name)
- Primary Phone
- Permanent E-mail (you may update username or password)

### Demographic Information

Specific information regarding U.S. citizenship or immigration status, gender, race, and ethnicity, collected in this section will not be provided to reviewers or used for evaluative purposes. These data will be used to characterize the applicant pool for this program and help HHMI plan outreach to applicants for future Hanna H. Gray Fellows competitions. We appreciate your input.

#### U.S. citizenship or immigration status

Are you currently residing in the U.S.?

If Yes, select one of the following options to indicate your U.S. citizenship or immigration status:

- U.S. citizen or non-citizen U.S. national\*
- Lawful permanent resident of the U. S. #
- Temporary U.S. visa holder
- Other status
- Prefer not to disclose

If no, select one of the following options to indicate your U.S. citizenship or immigration status:

- U.S. citizen or non-citizen U.S. national\*
- Lawful permanent resident of the U.S. #
- Other status
- Prefer not to disclose

\* Noncitizen nationals of the United States are persons who are not otherwise U.S. citizens and are (a) born in American Samoa, (b) certain former citizens of the former Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, or (c) certain children of noncitizen nationals born abroad.

#A lawful permanent resident is any person who is not a U.S. citizen and who may reside in the United States under legally recognized and lawfully recorded permanent residence as an immigrant. The term "lawful permanent resident" includes conditional resident.

#### Gender identity

How do you identify yourself? (select one)

- Female
- Male
- Other \_\_\_\_\_(optional)
- Prefer not to disclose

#### Ethnicity

Are you Hispanic or Latino? A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to disclose

## Race

Please select the racial category or categories with which you most closely identify.

### American Indian or Alaska Native

A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.

### Asian

A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian Subcontinent, including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam

### Black or African American

A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa

### Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands

### White

A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa

### Prefer not to disclose

## Postdoctoral Training

- Mentor (name provided in Eligibility Section will be prepopulated)
- Institution (information provided in Eligibility Section will be prepopulated)

## Education & Research Training Record

To document your educational or research training record provide a record for each career stage. Start with undergraduate education and continue sequentially through to your current position. You may enter records in any order; records will sort by start date entered.

For each educational or training experience, select an option from the dropdown list then provide information requested. Options include:

- Undergraduate training (BA, BS or equivalent)
- Graduate training (MS, PhD or equivalent)
- Professional training (MD, DVM, DDS or equivalent professional training)
- Combined MD/PhD program training
- Clinical training (internship, residency, clinical fellowship)
- Postdoctoral training following PhD, or other doctoral level graduate program
- Postdoctoral training following MD, or other professional training
- Other (specify)

For applicants who trained in a combined MD/PhD program, the start and completion dates should be inclusive of both training periods and degrees awarded.

All fields are required unless noted with "if applicable".

Type of training (select from drop down list of options)

Degree Awarded (if applicable)

Country

Institution

Department/Program/Major (if applicable)

Mentor's Name (if applicable)  
Start Date  
Completion Date (or anticipated)

### Other Scientific Activities or Achievements

Provide information about other relevant scientific activities or achievements. List honors and funding awards, relevant to your research training. In this section, you may also include short-term research activities outside of degree-granting programs relevant to your training (e.g., summer internships or courses). (Enter into text box, 1600 characters, including space and punctuation).

### Personal Statement

The goal of this program to increase diversity in the biomedical research community by recruitment and retention of individuals who are from groups underrepresented in the life sciences and who have the potential to become independent academic scientists. In this context, you are asked to describe your background, personal experiences and career goals. In the Eligibility section of the application, you were asked to briefly explain the basis of your inclusion in one or more underrepresented group(s). That information will not be provided to reviewers or used for evaluative purposes. However, you may choose to provide similar background information in this personal statement, which will be provided to reviewers.

- Describe who you are, where you came from, what you are passionate about, how you ended up at your current career choice, and where you want to go in the future. (Enter into text box, 1600 characters including space and punctuation.)
- Discuss how this program would help you achieve your career goals as an independent academic scientist. (Enter into text box, 800 characters, including space and punctuation.)

## RESEARCH

### Prior Research Experience

This award will be based partly on your prior research experience and achievements described in this section and documented by publications.

Choose up to two scientific disciplines from the drop down list that best characterize the general field of your prior research.

#### Project title

(Enter into text box, 80 characters, including space and punctuation.)

#### Project abstract

Describe a single project, highlighting major findings and the contribution to your field. Indicate the career stage during your participation in this project. If you are a PhD recipient, your thesis project should be described. If you have or will have an MD degree, then you could describe a project from a research-focused period in medical school or a project from a clinical fellowship period. Undergraduate research experiences are not appropriate. The mentor who supervised this project is expected to be designated as the Research Training Mentor for submission of a reference letter. (Enter into text box, 1800 characters, including space and punctuation.)

## All Publications and Statements of Significance

*Skip this section if you are not an author on any manuscripts already published or submitted for publication.*

Include all publications for which you are an author or co-author. An unlimited number of publications from any career stage can be included. Manuscripts submitted for publication by the time of the application may be included, but those "in preparation" should not be included. You may enter in any order. Do not include abstracts presented at scientific meetings or conferences.

Enter requested information for each publication in boxes. If you are selected as a semi-finalist in July of 2017 to pass to the final stage of review, you will have an opportunity to send a one-page update with information regarding these submitted manuscripts or other manuscripts.

Publication date: This date will sort your publications in reverse chronological order. Use 2/15/2017 for submitted manuscripts without a publication date.

**Citation:** Provide full citation, including all authors and title using the format below:

Smith, J.R., Zhang, X., R.T. Washington. 2014. Mitochondrial dynamics affect cell signaling. J. Cell Biol. 30:18-29. (Enter into text box, 1000 characters, including space and punctuation.)

**Scientific significance:** Briefly describe the scientific significance of the research: the major findings and how it relates to the field. (Enter into text box, 700 characters, including space and punctuation.)

**Contribution and career stage:** Describe your contribution to the research. Did you contribute to experimental design, data collection, data analysis, writing and editing? Also, indicate the career stage during which the research was conducted (e.g., undergraduate, graduate, medical school). (Enter into text box, 350 characters, including space and punctuation.)

## Selected Publications

*Skip this section if you are not an author on any manuscripts already published or submitted for publication.*

Choose up to three publications that best demonstrate your scientific achievements. Upload a PDF for each of these publications. Do not include Supplemental Materials. Papers submitted for publication may be selected. Save as a PDF before upload. Do not include abstracts presented at scientific meetings or conferences.

## Research Proposal

Your research proposal should provide a plan for the postdoctoral award period. A research plan for the faculty phase is not requested at the time of the application for postdoctoral support. The research plan should be developed in consultation with the chosen postdoctoral mentor, but should include original ideas and significant contributions from the applicant.

For purpose of review, identify up to two scientific disciplines and up to two research interests that best characterize your research proposal from the dropdown lists.

### Title

The short title should capture the major topic, question or goal of the proposal. (Enter into text box, 80 characters, including space and punctuation)

### Abstract

Provide a scientific abstract that describes your proposal. The content should be easily understood by scientists not expert in your scientific discipline. All components of the research plan (e.g., scientific question and significance as well as approaches and possible outcomes) should be mentioned in the abstract. (Enter into text box, 1800 characters, including space and punctuation.)



### **Question and significance**

Provide a brief description of the scientific question to be addressed and its significance. ( Enter into text box, 1600 characters, including space and punctuation.)

### **Approach**

Outline the research goals and experimental approaches to be used and possible outcomes expected (Enter into text box, 7600 characters, including space and punctuation.)

### **Preliminary data (optional)**

No substantial preliminary data are expected, but a brief description of preliminary work and data that support the research plan may be provided. (Enter into text box, 1600 characters, including space and punctuation.)

### **References**

For each reference, provide a full citation with all authors and title. There is no page limit for references. Font size should be at least 11 point, and margins should be at least 0.5". For each reference provide full citation, including all authors and title as illustrated below:

Smith, J.R., Zhang, X., R.T. Washington. 2014. Mitochondrial dynamics affect cell signaling. J. Cell Biol. 30:18-29

Save as PDF before upload.

### **Figures**

Multiple figures may be included to support the proposal or present preliminary data, but there is a limit of one page; include a title and legend for each figure. Font size of title and legend should be at least 9 point, and margins for page should be at least 0.5". Portrait layout is recommended.

Save as PDF before upload.

## **MENTORS AND REFERENCES**

Consider the following information in selecting mentors and one additional reference:

Research Training Mentor: the academic mentor who supervised the major research project described in the Prior Research Experience section must provide the research training mentor letter of evaluation. If you are a PhD recipient, your doctoral thesis advisor should be selected as your research training mentor.

Postdoctoral Training Mentor: the postdoctoral mentor at the training institution specified in the Eligibility section must provide the postdoctoral training mentor letter of support. In addition to providing a letter of support, this mentor will be asked to submit a current C.V. and to fill out a form listing their previous trainees.

Additional Reference: a faculty-level scientist who knows you and your research experiences should provide this reference. This could be a thesis committee member, a collaborator, a program director, or a mentor from a research experience.

### **Mentors & Reference Contact Information**

Sequentially add contact information for your Research Training Mentor, Postdoctoral Training Mentor and your additional Reference. For each individual, select the reference type from the dropdown list, then provide the requested information. This information will be used by HHMI to contact these individuals requesting independent submissions directly from them.

Click on 'Notify By E-mail' to have HHMI send e-mails to each mentor and reference requesting that they provide their evaluation. Mentors and reference can provide their materials at any time prior to the reference submission deadline, **February 23, 2017, 3:00 PM (Eastern Time)**.

The online application site allows you to monitor submission of supporting materials by your two mentors and the additional reference.

## **APPLICATION SUBMISSION**

The Submit page indicates the status of the major sections of your application. When all sections of the application are completed and all documents are uploaded, you can submit your application. After submitting your application, you will have the opportunity to generate a PDF of the completed application, which will be provided to reviewers. Note that this PDF will not include the information entered in the Eligibility section or your demographic information entered in the Applicant Information section. Also, any submitted publications will appear as the last items in the PDF.

Please review the completed application PDF closely. If the application PDF contains formatting errors (which are occasionally introduced when the PDF is generated), please contact us at [compsupport@hhmi.org](mailto:compsupport@hhmi.org) no later than February 23, 2017, 3:00 PM (Eastern Time).