NYU-HHC CTSI KL2 Program for Post-Doctoral Research Support

PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS

Mentoring/oversight: In addition to working with their Principal Investigator, KL2 scholars meet monthly as a group, along with a member of the KL2 Executive Committee. The purpose of these mandatory meetings is to create group cohesion and provide interdisciplinary support, and to update the Executive Committee on trainees’ current research status. KL2 monthly meetings provide opportunities for troubleshooting, addressing roadblocks, securing recommendations for networking with other investigators and resources, and generally promoting the advancement of the research endeavor. The KL2 Executive Committee provides feedback on manuscript and grant ideas, professional development, and work-life balance issues. In addition to these meetings, each KL2 scholar will be assigned a secondary mentor from our KL2 faculty. These highly accomplished senior investigators will meet with the trainee twice yearly (and potentially more on an ad hoc basis) to review progress and provide career development assistance. Secondary mentors will be assigned by the Executive Committee based on trainee and mentor profiles, including areas of research expertise.

Additional training: Individuals who have not previously received advanced training in research methodologies relating to their investigations (e.g., MPH, MS) will generally be expected to participate in the CTSI MS in Translational Research Program, or an equivalent CTSI-affiliated programs (e.g., Comparative Effectiveness Research MS, Health Innovations and Therapeutics MS; see CTSI web pages). Individuals who have already completed such advanced training will be expected to propose, at the time of application, a package of targeted training experiences intended to expand their expertise in areas of significance to their research. These may be courses or programs offered at NYU or other universities, seminar programs at other institutions (e.g., NIH or Cold Spring Harbor), or “mini-sabbaticals” at other universities, foundations, or industry, but should evidence a rational plan to expand and accumulate expertise. In exceptional cases, individuals who have not participated in advanced degree training may petition to take directed training rather than an NYU MS degree program; such a proposal must make the cogent case that the proposed training will be more valuable to the individual than a formal degree. All training proposals must be reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee.

Other expectations: As required by NIH, all KL2 trainees will be expected to complete the Sackler Institute course in Ethical Conduct of Research or its equivalent. KL2 trainees will also participate in the Short Course in Team Science, a one-week course (60-90 minutes daily) discussing the advantages, methodologies and challenges of cross-disciplinary research. KL2 trainees are expected to regularly attend TREC Grand Rounds in Career Development, a monthly seminar focused on junior faculty advancement, and TRIP (Translational Research in Progress) seminars, a biweekly, pan-CTSI presentation of translational research. Trainees are expected to present their work at TRIP seminars, and to submit their work to the annual Translational Research Meeting in Washington DC. All trainees are expected to maintain a high level of productivity, including abstracts and publications, and to submit a K or R grant application or
equivalent before the end of the program. To facilitate grant development, trainees are expected to participate in the Sackler Institute’s grant writing course at least once. (Most of these requirements are met automatically by matriculating in the CTSI’s MS in Translational Research Program.)

Past training record: The KL2 program has a successful record of assisting post-doctoral level trainees in their efforts towards career advancement. To read the biographies of our past trainees, click here.

Other resources: KL2 scholars will have access to the resources of the NYU-HHC CTSI, including the opportunity to apply for pilot grants and have grants and manuscripts reviewed by the CTSI studio program. For additional information, please review the NYU Clinical and Translational Science Institute website.