

The Pauletta and Denzel Washington Family Gifted Scholars Program in Neuroscience

Supported by the Department of Neurosurgery at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

The Cedars-Sinai Department of Neurosurgery is committed to providing advanced, comprehensive, technologically sophisticated and clinically-effective diagnosis for the treatment of adult and pediatric neurological disorders. Along with our strong commitment to providing educational programs for students, healthcare providers, patients and the community, the Department is especially delighted to offer the availability of the Pauletta and Denzel Washington Family Gifted Scholars Program in Neuroscience.

The Pauletta and Denzel Washington Family Gifted Scholars Program in Neuroscience is supported by the Department of Neurosurgery and is available to undergraduate, graduate, and medical students with an interest in science. The 2012 award will:

- Expose one undergraduate, graduate, or medical student to the wide spectrum of high-quality, cutting-edge neurological research being performed in the Department;
- Hire the student into a paid position for one year to conduct research in the Department's laboratory. The amount of the salary is dependent on the student's level of education, skills, and research experience;
- Expose young investigators to the field of neuroscience and networking opportunities with scientists and healthcare providers;
- Facilitate the development of relationships between students, scientists and healthcare providers in the field of neuroscience, thereby contributing to the career development and professional success of the student as a neurological scientist, healthcare provider, and/or biotechnology business professional;
- Cover the expenses associated with attending the award presentation ceremony, which includes economy, round-trip airfare and/or ground transportation, hotel accommodations, and meals; and
- Cover expenses incurred by Awardee if a national neuroscience, cancer, or neurosurgical meeting accepts the student's abstract or research paper for presentation. Allowable expenses include meeting registration fee; economy, round-trip airfare; and/or ground transportation; hotel accommodations; and meals.

QUALIFICATIONS

Eligibility

Applicants must be an undergraduate (sophomore or above), graduate, or medical student with an interest in furthering their education in the field of neuroscience.

- Applicants must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States.
- Awardee must be able to conduct research in a laboratory directed by Dr. Keith Black at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center during the agreed upon time and must be able to provide his or her own travel to and from Los Angeles and his or her own living accommodations during the research period.
- Awardee must be able to travel to Los Angeles, California, to receive his or her award. The Department of Neurosurgery will provide support for travel expenses to attend the award ceremony if it is in a location outside of Los Angeles County.
- Previous awardees are eligible to apply in subsequent years.

Nomination

At least two letters of reference are encouraged and should comment on the applicant's academic and personal qualifications for this award. The letters should be addressed to the Pauletta and Denzel Washington Family Gifted Scholars Program in Neuroscience Selection Committee.

APPLICATION

Deadline

The application deadline is **March 6, 2012.**

Required Application Materials

A complete application consists of seven copies (i.e., one original and **six** photocopies, collated into sets) of the following materials:

1. **Official Application Form** provided by the **Department of Neurosurgery**. Complete all information requested, even where responses are duplicative of other parts of the application. The Applicant **must** sign the original form.
2. A personal statement written by the Applicant (no longer than one, single-spaced page in length) that explains:
 - Applicant's long-range educational and research training goals, as well as career objectives in the field of neuroscience.
 - Description of Applicant's previous accomplishments in science.
 - What Applicant expects to derive from his or her experience working with researchers in the field of neuroscience.
3. At least two letters of reference are encouraged and should comment on the Applicant's academic and personal qualifications for this award. The letters of references should come

from someone that knows the Applicant well as a lot of weight is placed on the information contained in each letter. Letters must be signed across the back of the sealed envelop by the signer of the letter. The Department of Neurosurgery at Cedars-Sinai will make copies of the letters.

Application Format

Application materials should be submitted in the order listed in the Application section. Applications must be clearly printed in blue or black ink or typed (type size should be no smaller than 12 points in a standard font with at least one inch margins on all sides). Additional pages may be used. Faxed applications are not acceptable.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

The Awardees will be selected on the basis of their completed application form, letters of reference, personal statement, and potential benefit to the student. The Selection Committee consists of the following:

Keith L. Black, MD

Professor and Chairman, Department of
Neurosurgery
Director, Johnnie L. Cochran Jr. Brain Tumor
Center
Director, Maxine Dunitz Neurosurgical Institute
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

Benjamin Carson, MD

Director, Division of Pediatric Neurosurgery
Professor of Neurosurgery, Plastic Surgery,
Oncology and Pediatrics
Johns Hopkins Medical Center
Co-Director of the Johns Hopkins
Craniofacial Center

Maria G. Castro, PhD

Co-Director, Gene Therapeutics Research
Institute
Co-Director, Division of Molecular Medicine
Professor of Medicine,
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

Allen Counter, MD

Director, Harvard Foundation
Harvard University

Julia Ljubimova, MD, PhD

Director, Drug Delivery and Nanomedicine
Department of Neurosurgery
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

Dwain Morris-Irvin, Ph.D.

Research Scientist
Maxine Dunitz Neurosurgical Institute
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

Audrey S. Penn, MD

Deputy Director,
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and
Stroke,
National Institutes of Health

All candidates will receive notification of the final selection from the Pauletta and Denzel Washington Family Gifted Scholars Program in Neuroscience Selection Committee no later than May 2, 2012.

AWARD CONDITIONS AND REPORTING

- The Awardee is required to conduct research in the Department's research laboratory for one year.
- At the end of the fellowship, Awardee is expected to submit a research paper or abstract to a national neuroscience, cancer, or neurosurgery meeting. If the paper or abstract is accepted, the Department will cover travel expenses incurred to present at the national meeting.
- Awardee must be able to travel to Los Angeles, California to complete their fellowship and potentially to other locations to attend the award ceremony and receive their award. In addition to the award ceremony, Awardees must attend all special events organized for them.
- According to IRS regulations, the award is subject to appropriate income tax. A 1099 misc. tax or W-2 form will be issued to all awardees at year-end for the amount of award.

Enclose at least two letters of references commenting on the Applicant's academic and personal qualifications for this award. The letters of references should come from someone that knows the Applicant well as a lot of weight is placed on the information contained in each letter. Please send sealed letters of recommendation with the application or separately. Letters must be signed over the flap by the reference.

Reference 1

Name _____

Title _____

Institution _____

Address _____

Telephone No. _____

Fax No. _____

Email _____

Website/URL Address _____

Reference 2

Name _____

Title _____

Institution _____

Address _____

Telephone No. _____

Fax No. _____

Email _____

Website/URL Address _____

Reference 3

Name _____

Title _____

Institution _____

Address _____

Telephone No. _____

Fax No. _____

Email _____

Website/URL Address _____

Reference 4

Name _____

Title _____

Institution _____

Address _____

Telephone No. _____

Fax No. _____

Email _____

Website/URL Address _____

How did you learn about the availability of this Fellowship Award?

- CS Neurosurgery Website
 Applicant's Educational Institution
 Friend
 Poster Display
 Website, specify _____
 Other _____

ASSURANCE AND SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT:

If awarded, I agree to accept this award, conduct research under the direction of Keith L. Black, MD, at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center for one year (12 months), submit an abstract or research paper to a national neuroscience, cancer or neurosurgery meeting, attend the Pauletta and Denzel Washington Family Gifted Scholars Program in Neuroscience Ceremony and fully participate in the program for recipient of award. This includes but is not restricted to participation in all planned events for recipient of the award. I also certify that I am a citizen or permanent resident of the United States. If I fail to fulfill any of the requirements of the grant, I acknowledge that I will forfeit this award.

Applicant's Signature

Date



CEDARS-SINAI MEDICAL CENTER.
Division of Neurosurgery

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Program in Neuroscience**

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Application Checklist:

Please use the following checklist to ensure all required materials for application are submitted.

- 1. The Official Application Form (one original signed by the applicant and six copies).
- 2. Personal Statement by the applicant.
- 3. Letters of reference.
- 4. Official GPA documentation or Dean's Letter of Good Standing for Medical Students

Application Deadline

March 6, 2012

Please send completed application to:

The Pauletta and Denzel Washington Family Gifted
Scholars Program in Neuroscience
c/o Samantha Phu
8631 W. Third Street, Suite 800E
Los Angeles, CA 90048
Telephone: (310) 423-9522 – Fax: (310) 967-8591
Email: Phus@cshs.org