

**Department of Pathology  
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center  
University of Pittsburgh**

**Pathology Post-Sophomore Fellowship**

**FELLOWSHIP DESCRIPTION AND APPLICATION PROCESS**

**DESCRIPTION**

The Department of Pathology at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine offers a one year Pathology Post-Sophomore Fellowship for US and Canadian medical students who have completed their second or third year of medical school and wish to spend an additional year of study before proceeding with their medical school education. The clinical experience is similar to that of a first year pathology resident. The Fellowship encourages flexibility according to individual interests including in-depth experience in diagnostic and investigative aspects of pathology with exposure to various aspects of investigative, anatomic, and clinical pathology. The hope is to expand the understanding of the role of pathologists in the health care team and to recruit individuals for careers in pathology and laboratory medicine. Students often spend 6-9 months in academic anatomic or clinical pathology practice with 3-6 months for research with the allocation of time according to individual interest. Anatomic pathology involves a general surgical pathology experience and a limited autopsy involvement. Exposure to clinical pathology includes exposure to several subspecialty areas. The fellow also participates in residency program core didactic conferences and specialty conferences and journal clubs. A more research-intensive track is also possible with exposure to 3 months of diagnostic pathology and 9 months research. Fellows receive a stipend, support, for books, dues and travel, and are eligible for Program-supported travel to meetings to present original research.

Application is made to the Associate Director of Pathology Medical Student Education through the Residency Program Office. The Associate Director will work with the applicant to identify a faculty mentor who will be the primary supervisor of the Post-Sophomore Fellow. Applications are open at all times and are on a competitive basis. The applicant must be in good standing in their medical school training and be primarily interested in pursuing a career in pathology. The fellowship is for the academic year – July 1 through June 30.

**APPLICATION PROCESS:**

Applications will be screened by the Associate Director. Those applicants deemed to be competitive will be invited to interview with at least three faculty members and the Associate Director. Such faculty members could be potential mentors or faculty who interview resident applicants. The faculty interviewers' evaluations and recommendation will be reviewed by the program Director who will make the final recruitment decision regarding the Pathology Post-Sophomore Fellowship Program.

**SCHEDULE:**

The individual fellowship schedule will be made by the Associate Director in collaboration with the faculty mentor. The Chief Residents will be consulted to be sure rotation bench schedules are not over-staffed with trainees. The fellowship rotation schedule will be included in the Master Schedule.

**EVALUATION:**

The fellow will be evaluated using an electronic evaluation form developed by the Program Office. The fellow will evaluate each rotation and the faculty they work with and the faculty will evaluate the fellow. Evaluations will be done at the end of each rotation or at least quarterly. The evaluation process will be similar to that for residents whereby they are initiated, collected, summarized and reviewed by the Program Director.

**APPLICATION FORM – Please attach your Resume**

**LAST NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **FIRST NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Medical School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MS Year:** \_\_\_\_\_ **MD PhD Program:** \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

**Mailing Address:**

Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Faculty Mentor:**

\_\_\_ I have identified a faculty mentor  
\_\_\_ I have not identified a faculty mentor need help to do so

Mentor Information if you have identified one

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Department: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Personal Statement:**

In up to 300 words describe your reason for applying for this Post-Sophomore Fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. Include how much time you want to spend in your areas of interest such as research, anatomic pathology (including sub-specialty areas) and clinical pathology (including sub-specialty areas). If you want to spend time in research please describe if you have a particular project or area of interest.

**Letters of Support:**

Please provide three letters of support – could include your faculty mentor.

**Resume:**

Please attach a copy of your resume.

**HIPAA and PPD:**

Prior to commencing the fellowship you will be given HIPAA and Confidentiality documents to sign and will need to have or provide proof of PPD testing within the last year.

**Forward Application and Letters of Support to:**

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