

**Department of Pathology
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
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 or D.O. 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 Vice Chair of Pathology Medical Education through the Residency Program Office. The Vice Chair 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 Vice Chair of Pathology Medical Education. Those applicants deemed to be competitive may be invited to interview typically with three faculty members and the Vice Chair. Such faculty members could be potential mentors or faculty who interview resident applicants. The faculty interviewers' evaluations and recommendation will be reviewed by the Vice Chair of Pathology Medical Education who will make the final recruitment decision regarding the Pathology Post-Sophomore Fellowship Program.

SCHEDULE:

The individual fellowship schedule will be made by the Vice Chair of Pathology Medical Education 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 at 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 Vice Chair of Pathology Medical Education.

**Department of Pathology
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
Pathology Post-Sophomore Fellowship**

APPLICATION FORM

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 subspecialty areas) and clinical pathology (including subspecialty 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.

Curriculum vitae, Medical School Transcript, and USMLE/COMLEX scores:

Please attach a copy of your CV, your Medical School Transcript (to date) and USMLE/COMLEX Step 1 scores (if available).

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 materials and Letters of Support to:

Marie C. DeFrances, MD, PhD
Vice Chair, Pathology Medical Education
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
Department of Pathology

Scaife Hall, Suite A-711
3550 Terrace Street
Pittsburgh PA 15261
Phone: 412-802-6013 Fax: 412-802-6079
Email: defrancesmc@upmc.edu/zrimsekpl@upmc.edu