ROChester Stimulating Access to Research during Residency (ROC StARR): Health and Immune Function Across the Lifespan

Announcing a prestigious new opportunity to pursue research during residency! The University of Rochester was recently awarded by NIAID an R38 grant, ROChester Stimulating Access to Research during Residency (ROC StARR) Health and Immune Function Across the Lifespan. This program will provide residents with financial and mentoring support to pursue a clinical, translational, or basic science research year (80% research/20% clinical) to study immune-related diseases (autoimmune, allergic, inflammatory, and infectious diseases). Given the scope of diseases impacted by inflammation and dysregulated immune responses, this training grant should be relevant for residents interested in most areas of sub-specialty training, as reflected in our diverse mentor pool. Residents will participate in individualized curricular activities each year designed to foster grant writing, general research knowledge, and team science. The resident research year funded by the R38 funding mechanism is typically after the R3 year (for IM and PEDs) and after the R4 year (for med-peds and dermatology). In addition, participation in this program opens a unique NIH funding mechanism, the K38, to participants in their fellowship and early faculty years. Informational sessions will be held in January. If this sounds like an interesting opportunity to you PLEASE direct any questions to: candace_gildner@urmc.rochester.edu, Jennifer_anolik@urmc.rochester.edu, and kirsi_jarvinen-seppo@urmc.rochester.edu

Application Process

LOI Deadline: February 1, 2025

Eligibility:

- Residents participating in internal medicine, pediatric, medicine/pediatric, or dermatology residency training programs
- Trainees may be in any year of their residency training, but must have approval of their program director
- Prior research experience is NOT needed (we will tailor the program to all levels of experience!)

Projects: Residents will elect to perform a project in one of three areas - translational research, clinical research, or health equity and implementation science. ROC StARR R38 leadership will provide guidance to help define mentors and projects that align with the NIAID mission which supports research in the mechanisms, treatment and prevention of infectious, immunologic, and allergic diseases. A list of R38 mentors and their research areas is attached. If you have a project in mind or are currently working with a mentor who is not on the list, please reach out to determine eligibility.

LOI: Interested residents are asked to submit a letter of intent which includes the applicant's CV and a **1 page** personal statement describing the applicant's previous research experience, commitment to and interest in studying immune-mediated and inflammatory diseases, and long term career goals. Inclusion of a brief project proposal (300-500 words) and mentor for this initial LOI is optional but encouraged. All letters of intent will be reviewed by a multidisciplinary committee for selection into a second round of full applications and prospective trainees will be notified by March 1.

UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER MEDICAL CENTER

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