



PRESS RELEASE

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DORIS DUKE
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Medical Research Program

Doris Duke Charitable Foundation Announces New Grant Competition to Establish Clinical Research Program for High School Students

New York, N.Y., June 1, 2011 – In an effort to help address the need for more diversity in the clinical research workforce, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation today announced a new program that will establish *Clinical Research Experiences for High School Students* at universities, medical schools and research institutes across the country.

The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (DDCF) has committed \$1.56 million to the new program, which will provide introductory, mentored, clinical research experiences to high school students from underrepresented minorities in medicine. The short-term goal of this program is to inspire young people to consider clinical research or a related field as a viable career option, with the ultimate goal of increasing the diversity of the biomedical research workforce.

“Minorities are the fastest growing segment of the US population, yet their enrollment in medical school is not proportional with this increase,” said Betsy Myers, Program Director of the Medical Research Program at DDCF. “For example, almost 13% of the population is black and about 16% is Hispanic, yet among medical students, only 7% and 8% are black and Hispanic, respectively. It is our hope that exposing minority students to clinical research at this critical stage in their lives will not only raise their awareness of the importance of clinical investigation, but also spark new career goals.”

For the purposes of this award program, DDCF considers underrepresented minorities as individuals from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, which includes Native Americans or Alaska Natives, blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders; individuals with disabilities; and individuals from socially, culturally, economically or educationally disadvantaged backgrounds that may have inhibited their ability to pursue a career in health-related research.

Through this initiative, up to eight grants of \$194,400 each over three years will be made to institutions with existing research programs for high school students. Grant funds will be used to add a clinically relevant, mentored research component and enrichment activities. In addition, DDCF funds will support mentor honoraria, personnel, recruitment and outreach costs, and stipends for up to 10 students per year per institution.

Interested parties must submit a Letter of Intent by June 30, 2011. Full proposals will be due by August 15, 2011, with an award start date of January 1, 2012.

For more information about the *Clinical Research Experiences for Students in High School* competition, including eligibility requirements and application instructions, visit www.ddcf.org/mrp-crehss.

Since 1998, the foundation's Medical Research Program has committed approximately \$243 million to strengthen and support clinical research, which advances the translation of basic biomedical discoveries into new treatments, preventions and cures for human diseases. To learn more about the program or to receive competition announcements, visit www.ddcf.org/mrp.

The mission of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation is to improve the quality of people's lives through grants supporting the performing arts, environmental conservation, medical research and the prevention of child abuse and neglect, and through preservation of the cultural and environmental legacy of Doris Duke's properties.

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