
SECTION ON TUMORS



American
Association of
Neurological
Surgeons

*A Section of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons
and Congress of Neurological Surgeons*



AANS/CNS Section on Tumors/BrainLAB International Research Fellowship

Purpose: To provide a fellowship program for a neurosurgeon from outside the United States or Canada to perform clinical, translational or basic research in the field of neurosurgical oncology in a clinical and/or laboratory setting within the United States. Emphasis will be placed on hypothesis driven research. Areas of study may be within any subspecialty of neurosurgical oncology, including but not limited to primary brain tumors, metastatic brain tumors, spine and spinal tumors, peripheral nerve tumors, and skull base tumors. All categories of investigative studies will be considered eligible, including but not limited to basic science, epidemiology, anatomic studies, preclinical or translational studies, and clinical trials. The fellowship will be used to provide travel expenses and salary support for a period of one year. The fellowship will be funded through a grant from BrainLAB.

Fellowship Amount: \$50,000 US

Eligibility: The fellowship is open to foreign neurosurgeons or graduating residents from outside the United States or Canada.

Selection Process: For 2010, the fellowship will be awarded by March 15 for commencement of the fellowship on July 1, 2010. Applications will be made available on the Section on Tumors Web site, AANS Web site and through members of the Section. The deadline for applications this year is January 15. A Scientific Review Committee, which will be composed of the Chairman of the AANS/CNS Tumor Section and five other members appointed by the chairman, reviews all submissions. Applications are judged based on the novelty and scientific merit of the proposed study, the credentials of the applicant, and the support provided by the accepting program/laboratory.

Application: The application includes a formal proposal (**not to exceed 5 pages**) that outlines:

- Aims of the project
- Background/rationale for the work
- Preliminary results or supporting information for the project
- Detailed study design

The applicant must also submit a bio-sketch, a description of future academic plans and a statement of why studying in the USA will be important for the completion of the work. The Principal Investigator of the accepting laboratory/program will be required to submit a letter in support of the applicant, verifying his/her willingness to mentor the applicant and provide necessary space and supplies for the applicant during the project/study period. Two letters of recommendation are also required.

Responsibilities of the Fellow: The fellow will submit a written Mid-Year Progress Report and at the completion of the project, a written Summary Report describing the results of their study. The applicant may also present an oral summary of their work at the AANS or CNS Annual Meeting upon completion of their fellowship.

Administration: The AANS office will be the official administrator of the fellowship and application process including receipt, processing and organizing review of the applications. The AANS will oversee the financial aspects of the fellowship including escrowing funds after receipt, and distributing funds to applicant. The AANS will also assume responsibility for advertising and distributing applications.

Please submit the completed application by January 15, 2010 electronically to Tumorfellowship@aans.org. or mail to Section on Tumors/BrainLAB International Fellowship Scientific Review Committee, c/o AANS, 5550 Meadowbrook Drive, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008-3852 USA.

I. General Information. (Please provide a black and white photograph no larger than 2x3 inches, passport size, with application.)

Proposed Institution of Study in the United States:

Title of Research:

Name:

Country of Citizenship:

Address of Citizenship:
(permanent address)

Current Address:

Phone:

E-mail Address:

Date of Birth:

Sponsor: (**Must be a member of the AANS/CNS Tumor Section**)

Name:

Title:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

II. Biographical Sketch of Applicant. Please provide the following information (include copies of all certificates, diplomas or other documentations of education)

A Educational Training

Undergraduate Training:

Name of College:

Degree:

Date Started:

Date Completed:

Graduate Training:

Name of Medical School:

Date Started:

Date Completed:

Neurosurgical Training/Residency:

Name of Institution:

Date Started:

Date Completed:

Other Special Training (including Fellowships):

Name of Institution:

Date Started:

Date Completed:

Current Position:

Name of Institution or Practice:

Date Started:

B Awards and Honors:

C Selection Peer-Reviewed Publications: (List a maximum of 10. Do not include manuscripts submitted or in preparation)

This section should be done on separate pages numbered in sequence according to the application.

III. Research Plan. Please describe your research plan. Specifically, organize the description of your project using the following format (**not to exceed 5 pages**):

A. **Specific Aims.** (List the objectives of the research project and what the specific research proposed in this application is intended to accomplish, e.g., to test a stated hypothesis, create a novel design, solve a specific problem, or develop new technology.)

B. **Background and Significance.** (Briefly sketch the background leading to the present application, critically evaluate existing knowledge, and specifically identify the gaps that the project is intended to fill.)

C. **Preliminary Studies/Progress Report.** (Provide an account of the preliminary studies pertinent to the application information that will also help to establish the experience and competence of the investigator to pursue the proposed project.)

D. **Research Design and Methods.** (Describe the research design and the procedures to be used to accomplish the specific aims of the project.)

IV. Additional Required Question. Please answer the following in a maximum of **one (1) page**:

Describe how your proposed research plan for the Section on Tumors/BrainLAB International Fellowship will help you attain your goals in neurosurgery.

V. Letter of Support from Sponsor. The sponsoring investigator must provide a letter of support describing the proposed study and verifying the sponsors' commitment to mentoring the applicant and provide the necessary resources for completing the work. The sponsor must be a member of the AANS/CNS Tumor Section.

VI. Letters of Reference. Two letters are required as part of this application

- A. If you have completed your Neurosurgical Training less than five (5) years ago, a letter from your Program Director and one other independent neurosurgeon is required.
- B. If you have completed your Neurosurgical Training more than five (5) years ago, two letters from independent neurosurgeons are required.

APPLICATION AND LETTERS OF REFERENCE
MUST BE RECEIVED BY **January 15, 2010**

NOTIFICATION OF AWARD WILL BE MADE BY
March 15, 2010

I have reviewed this application for AANS/CNS Section on Tumors/BrainLAB International Fellowship Award and to the best of my knowledge, the information enclosed is accurate. I agree to release and hold harmless the American Association of Neurological Surgeons/Congress of Neurological Surgeons (AANS/CNS) Section on Tumors, its members, officers, and agents from any complaints or claims or demands for damage or otherwise, by reason of any act of omission or commission that they, or any of them, may make in connection with this application, including but not limited to the evaluation of the application and the final decision with respect to its approval and/or funding. It is understood that the decisions as to whether any application qualifies me for approval and/or funding rests solely and exclusively on the AANS and CNS Boards of Directors, based on the recommendations of the Section on Tumors Scientific Review Committee, and that their decision is final. I understand that I will be legally bound by the foregoing.

APPLICANT NAME

SIGNATURE

DATE