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The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation was established as a national philanthropy in 1972 and today is the largest U.S. foundation devoted to health and health care. The Foundation concentrates its grantmaking toward three goal areas:

- *to assure that all Americans have access to basic health care at reasonable cost;*
- *to improve the care and support for people with chronic health conditions; and*
- *to reduce the personal, social, and economic harm caused by substance abuse—tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drugs.*



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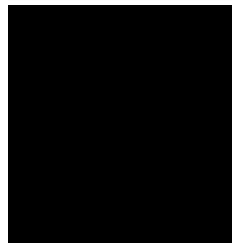
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■ CALL FOR
APPLICATIONS:

Minority Medical Faculty Development Program



2000

*A Fellowship Program
for minority physicians
interested in academic
careers in*

- Biomedical Research*
- Clinical Investigation*
- Health Services
Research*

THE
ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON
FOUNDATION



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1/2000

Program purpose

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s Minority Medical Faculty Development Program offers four-year, postdoctoral research fellowships to minority* physicians who have demonstrated superior academic and clinical skills and who are committed to careers in academic medicine. Each of the Fellows selected (up to 12) will receive an annual stipend up to \$65,000, complemented by a \$26,350 annual grant toward support of research activities. Each Fellow will study and conduct research in association with a senior faculty member located at an academic center noted for the training of young faculty and pursuing lines of investigation that are of interest to the Fellow. Fellows are expected to spend up to 70 percent of their time in pursuit of research activities.

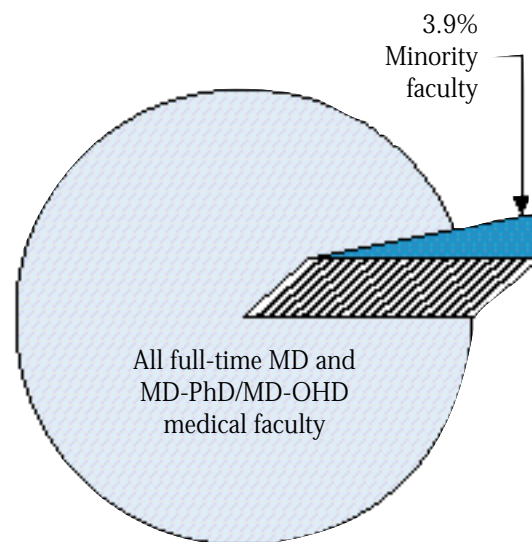
The Minority Medical Faculty Development Program seeks to increase the number of minority faculty who can achieve senior rank in academic medicine and who will encourage and foster the development of succeeding classes of minority physicians. In 1997, only 3,417 of the nation’s 87,197 full-time medical faculty members were minorities (see Figure), yet surveys have shown such faculty have an important influence on both the number and quality of minority students, who continue to be underrepresented in medical schools.

* For the purpose of the program, the term “minority,” as defined by the Association of American Medical Colleges, is used to include African-Americans, Mexican-Americans, Native Americans, and mainland Puerto Ricans who are underrepresented in medicine.

A distinguished National Advisory Committee will assist the Foundation with the program. While these fellowships are intended to provide four years of support, the National Advisory Committee reviews the progress of each Fellow after the first two years to determine the appropriateness of continuing funding for the full duration of the award. When appropriate, the Committee has the option to recommend that the fourth year of support be used to assist the Fellow in his or her first year as a full-time medical faculty member.

Figure

Underrepresented Minority full-time MD and MD-PhD/MD-OHD medical faculty (all schools)



Minority faculty	
African-Americans	2,291
Mexican-Americans	339
Native Americans	113
Puerto Ricans	674
Total	3,417

Source: U.S. Medical School Faculty, 1997, Faculty Roster System, AAMC

Eligibility and application procedures

To be eligible, applicants must be minority physicians who have U.S. citizenship at the time of the application deadline, have excelled in their education, are now completing or will have completed formal clinical training, are prepared to devote four consecutive years to research, and are committed to academic careers. Preference will be given to physicians who have recently completed formal clinical training. In order to pursue the advanced research training required by this program, applicants must identify faculty mentors with whom a research plan will be developed. The mentor's experience in the supervision of trainees and the adequacy of the mentor's research environment and support will be strongly considered. Once these linkages have been established, the applicant and proposed mentor would begin the application process.

In the first phase of the selection process, the candidate will be asked to submit a completed application, including academic records, descriptions of research experience and interests, a summary of career objectives, references, and a preliminary plan for training with the proposed mentor. Based on a review of these materials, the National Advisory Committee will select semi-finalists for interviews with members of the Committee. The intent of the interview is to enable the Committee to assess the applicants more fully and for the applicants to define their research interests and describe the resources available in their mentor's laboratory. Mentors must be located in scientific institutions within the United States. Based on these interviews, up to 12 finalists will be chosen. Finalists will then submit detailed research plans and budgets.

The National Advisory Committee will review these submissions and make final recommendations to the Foundation. The Foundation does not provide individual critiques of applications submitted.

Fellows will be expected to meet Foundation requirements for the submission of annual and final narrative and financial reports. Fellows and their mentors must attend annual program meetings and give progress reports.

Program direction

Direction and technical assistance for the program will be provided by James R. Gavin III, MD, PhD, senior scientific officer at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, and Nina Ardery, deputy director of the program. Foundation staff responsible for the program are Robert G. Hughes, PhD, vice president; Constance M. Pechura, PhD, senior program officer; Linda Manning, program assistant; Paul Tarini, communications officer; and Milton Ellis, financial analyst.

The National Advisory Committee will evaluate applicants and recommend up to 12 Fellows to the Foundation for support. The Committee will have active monitoring responsibility for those chosen and will maintain an ongoing interest in the Fellows, providing advice and counsel regarding the direction and development of their academic careers.

Timetable

- March 15, 2000:* Deadline for request of application materials.
- March 27, 2000:* Deadline for receipt of completed applications. Materials received after this date will not be considered.
- July 2000:* Interviews with National Advisory Committee.
- December 2000:* Official notification of Fellows.

Inquiries and applications

Direct inquiries and requests for applications to:

Nina Ardery
Deputy Director
Phone: 301/565-4080
Fax: 301/565-4088
e-mail: mmfdp@gwis2.circ.gwu.edu
Web site: www.mmfdp.org

Completed applications with supporting documents should be sent to:

James R. Gavin III, MD, PhD
Program Director
Minority Medical Faculty Development Program
8701 Georgia Avenue, Suite 411
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3713

National Advisory Committee

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