

February 10, 2011

Dear Colleagues:

I am delighted to announce that the NHLBI is participating in the Lasker Clinical Research Scholars program. The program represents an historic partnership between the NIH intramural and extramural communities and the Lasker Foundation. The goal is to bridge the widening gap between cutting-edge research and improved patient care, and to nurture the next generation of clinical researchers.

[RFA-OD-11-001: Lasker Clinical Research Scholars Program \(SI2\)](#)

Receipt Dates: Letter of Intent, March 4, 2011

Application, April 4, 2011

The program will support a small number of exceptional clinical researchers in the early stages of their careers to conduct patient-focused clinical research projects at the Clinical Center on the Bethesda campus while promoting their development to fully independent positions. The program creates a unique bridge between the NIH intramural and extramural research communities, and contains two phases. In the first phase, Lasker scholars will receive appointments for 5 to 7 years as tenure-track investigators within the NIH intramural research program with independent research budgets. In the second phase, successful scholars will be eligible to apply for up to 5 years of NIH support for their research at an extramural research facility; or, the scholar can apply to remain as an investigator within the intramural program.

Lasker scholars also will have the opportunity to participate in many Lasker meetings and award ceremonies. The program honors the contributions of Mary and Albert Lasker to the NIH and to the overall biomedical community.

Applications that propose research within fields identified by each of the 13 participating Institutes and Centers will be given the highest priority. The NHLBI has the following priority areas:

- Regenerative medicine, pediatric and developmental biology: cardiovascular, hematologic, and pulmonary biology
- Cardiovascular research: heart failure, electrophysiology, and interventional therapeutics
- Blood research: chronic myeloproliferative disorders, hemostasis, and benign hematology
- Pulmonary research: pulmonary interstitial disease, and pulmonary hypertension

For more information about these areas of research at the NHLBI, please contact Robert Balaban, Ph.D., NHLBI scientific director, at balabanr@nhlbi.nih.gov. For a list of priority areas and contacts for other participating NIH Institutes and Centers, visit the [Lasker Clinical Research Scholars](#) website.

I hope you will consider applying or encourage a colleague who might be eligible to apply for this unique and exciting program.

For more information, please see:

- [RFA-OD-11-001](#)
- [Lasker Clinical Research Scholars homepage](#)

- [NIH news release](#)

For general questions about the program, please contact Charles R. Dearolf, Ph.D., NIH assistant director for intramural research, at LaskerScholar@nih.gov.

With best wishes,

Susan B. Shurin

P.S. If you are interested in other NHLBI career opportunities, please visit [Working at NHLBI](#).