

T32 FAVOR Initial Proposal Application

The purpose of this document is to define the “**F**illing a **V**oid of **R**esearch Training for Transplant Surgeons” (FAVOR) T32 grant and to outline the application process.

Introduction

The purpose of the FAVOR T32 training grant is to provide two years of funding each for surgery residents (post-doctoral trainees) with a strong interest in transplant surgery, to prepare them for translational research careers using state of the art tools to study allo- and heterologous immune mechanisms pertinent to solid organ transplant injury and acceptance. Trainees will receive in-depth training in translational research to prepare them for careers as academic transplant surgeons. Success in this field will require an understanding of the synergy between clinicians, who can pose important questions of unmet clinical need for patient care, and basic scientists, who can design studies on human samples to develop the bench-bedside-bench cycle of translational research.

Program Outline

Trainees in the proposed program will devote $\geq 90\%$ time effort to research for 2 years, guided by 2 mentors selected from Core Faculty Member list, with one mentor from the CRT core (clinical PI) and one mentor from the SRT core (scientific PI) to develop their research career in the dual bench/bedside model for translational research. Candidates selected for interview will meet with potential mentors to specifically discuss potential research interests. The goal is to achieve a well-defined research plan prior to the start of training so that research activities can proceed without delay. During the 2 years of training, trainees will be expected to submit at least 2 manuscripts by the time they graduate from the program.

The Department of Surgery Research Committee and the training grant’s Steering Committee independently review these proposals. The constructive criticism of the proposals from both reviewing bodies is considered an essential first step in the training program. However, only final approval of the research proposal by the Steering Committee is mandatory for each program participant.

Submitting a Proposal/Application

Appendix A describes the information that should be included in the initial submission. It is important that each of the points in this outline be addressed. The completed proposal should be submitted to Susanna Cheng at Susanna.Cheng@ucsf.edu. The proposal will be circulated among the mentors for discussion.

Coursework/Degree

Trainees will be expected to complete a series of formal, outlined base curriculum coursework concurrent with mentored clinical-translational research projects. Trainees will be provided a unique experience of attending a series of FAVOR T32 immersion workshops, the SCRW

Summer Workshop which covers designing clinical research, statistics and data management, a scientific writing course, and a biostatistical methods course. Additional courses (see **appendix B**) and seminars will be encouraged as appropriate. Graduates of the proposed training are expected to be on their way to independence as physician-investigators, ready to compete for and secure extramural funding to support a research program upon becoming an academic transplant surgeon. **Appendix B** provides links and information on the courses available

One position every year will recruit candidates that are interested in pursuing any one of these available degree programs at UCSF:

- Designing Clinical Research (1 month)
- Advanced Training In Clinical Research Certificate Program (ATCR) (1 year)
- Master's in Clinical Research (2 years; candidates interested in this program will be identified prior to starting the fellowship)
- Modern Methods in Drug Discovery (5 weeks)
- Idea to IPO (course in bio entrepreneurship, 12 weeks)
- Translational Challenges: Diagnostics, Devices & Therapeutics (12 weeks)
- Master's in Translational Medicine (1 year)