

**AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HEMATOLOGY (ASH®)
Minority Recruitment Initiative**

**2010 Minority Medical Student Award Program
Program Information and Application Instructions**
(Receipt Deadline: March 4, 2010)



MINORITY MEDICAL STUDENT AWARD PROGRAM (MMSAP) PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Minority Medical Student Award Program (MMSAP) is designed to encourage diversity among physicians and scientists who work in any of the hematological sub-disciplines. Each year, up to ten minority medical students from the United States and Canada are selected to participate in this summer research program. The program centers on an eight- to 12-week summer research experience for students in their early years of medical school. Students receive guidance and counsel from two mentors: a Research Mentor as well as a Career Development Mentor. ASH encourages program participants to remain engaged in the study of hematology by offering incentives and providing career mentoring through medical school and into the post-graduate training period. Students who participate in this program are invited to apply for one additional research experience later in their medical school career.

Financial Support:

- A \$5,000 stipend
 - \$2,500 at the start,
 - \$1,250 during the middle, and
 - \$1,250 at the completion of the research experience.
- A \$2,000 allowance for travel to the annual meeting of the American Society of Hematology
 - \$1,000 for attending the meeting, and
 - \$1,000 following a short presentation about the research experience.

In addition, each participant receives complimentary subscriptions to *Blood*, the Journal of the American Society of Hematology, and *The Hematologist*, the Society's newsletter, during his/her medical school and residency years.

Eligibility:

For the purposes of the MMSAP, minority is defined as a group that the grantor organization has determined to be under-represented in hematologically relevant biomedical, behavioral, clinical, or social science research. This definition includes, but is not limited to, racial/ethnic minorities and persons from disadvantaged socio-economic groups. Applicants self-identify and participants are drawn from this pool. Applicants must be enrolled in a DO, MD, or MD/PhD medical school program and must either be citizens or permanent residents of the United States or Canada. Applicants applying for their first MMSAP research experience must be in their first or second year of medical school.

Presentation at the ASH Annual Meeting:

An important component of the MMSAP is the presentation of the summer research project at the Promoting Minorities in Hematology Reception at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Hematology. **MMSAP recipients are required to summarize their research experience in a brief talk at this meeting, which will be held in Orlando, FL, in December 2010.** Awardees will receive a \$1,000 stipend to offset the travel and housing expenses, as well as an additional \$1,000 following the oral presentation.

**MINORITY MEDICAL STUDENT AWARD PROGRAM (MMSAP)
APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

Application and Review Process:

To be considered for an MMSAP award, applicants must submit a completed program application along with all requested supporting documentation. Completed applications will be reviewed by the Ad Hoc Minority Committee. **Applications received after the receipt deadline will not be considered.** Students selected for participation, as well as their Research and Career Development Mentors, will receive official notification by early June.

Mentors:

Research Mentors are ASH members who agree to help applicants complete the program application and subsequently supervise the participant's initial research experience. The research experience can take place at the awardee's home institution, or at another institution that agrees to host the MMSAP participant. Applicants may choose their own Research Mentor, provided that he/she is a member of the American Society of Hematology. Applicants are encouraged to contact Elisa Shea, Awards Manager, at awards@hematology.org, to confirm that potential Research Mentors are ASH members.

Students may also request that ASH staff match them with a Research Mentor and/or host institution. **To take advantage of this service, applicants must contact ASH at awards@hematology.org no later than 5pm ET on Friday, January 29, 2010.**

Career Development Mentors are ASH members who agree to provide awardees with advice and counsel on a broad range of career and professional matters, and who additionally serve as positive role models. Career Development Mentors will continue in this role following the conclusion of the initial research experience, for the duration of the MMSAP program. Successful applicants will be paired with a Career Development Mentor by the ASH Ad Hoc Minority Committee.

Submission:

Applications must be **received**, in hard copy, by **Thursday, March 4, 2010**. Please note **that applications that are postmarked after this date will NOT be accepted**. The application, along with all supporting materials, should be mailed to:

The American Society of Hematology
Attn: MMSAP Program
2021 L Street, NW, Suite 900
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 202-776-0544

Please do not staple the application together –use a binder clip instead. **For the application to be reviewed, the following items must be received:**

- A completed application form.** Please type or print neatly.
 - A current resume that lists:**
 - Schools that you have attended, including dates, field(s) of study, and degrees earned. Please include your GPA or other measure of class standing.
 - Post-graduate education.
 - Past research experiences, including dates, names of laboratory directors and institutions, and brief descriptions of what you accomplished.
 - Honors, awards, and memberships in honorary societies.
 - Other accomplishments (e.g., volunteer work, leadership positions, or unusual experiences).
 - Publications, abstracts, and/or talks that you have presented, as well as research meetings, retreats, or similar programs that you have attended.
 - A letter of recommendation from the dean of your medical school that:**
 - Confirms your academic status.
 - Accounts for any breaks in your medical school education.
 - Explains academic difficulties and any steps that have been taken to remedy them.
 - A letter of recommendation from an advisor or medical school instructor that:**
 - Articulates why you are an outstanding candidate for this award.
 - Explains why participation in the MMSAP program would benefit your overall career development.
 - A letter of endorsement from your Research Mentor that:**
 - Discusses the guidance and counsel he/she will offer you during and after the research experience.
 - Describes the environment at the institution that will host your research project.
 - Details his/her past mentoring experiences.
 - Includes a copy of his/her NIH-formatted biosketch, with current sources of funding.
 - Current/past MMSAP participants applying for a second research experience *must* include a letter of endorsement from their MMSAP Career Development Mentor that:**
 - Discusses the guidance and counsel he/she has offered you during your participation in the program.
 - Highlights the progress of your career.
 - Includes a copy of his/her NIH-formatted biosketch.
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**Items listed above must be submitted along with the application.
Incomplete submissions will not be accepted**

Applications must be submitted in paper format (hard copy). Applications sent by e-mail or fax will not be accepted.

The application *receipt* deadline is Thursday, March 4, 2010. Late applications will not be reviewed.