733 Third Avenue
Suite 510
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www.crohnscolitisfoundation.org

CROHN'S & COLITIS FOUNDATION

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733 Third Avenue, Suite 510
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STUDENT RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP AWARD

INSTRUCTIONS

Effective July 2026 - Revised

2027 Review Cycle Deadline: January 11, 2027, 11:59pm EST

MISSION:
To cure Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis,
and to improve the quality of life of children and adu
lts affected by these diseases.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

APPLICATION SUBMISSION AND REQUIRED SIGNATURES

All applications must be submitted via proposalCentral. The Foundation no longer requires paper applications.

The Foundation uses Proposal Central system, by Altum, for all of its application submissions.
https://proposalcentral.altum.com/default.asp?GMID=96

Access is also available using links provided in the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation web site (http://www.ccfa.org/science-and-professionals/research/grants-fellowships/student-research- awards.html).

The electronic application must be submitted by close of business (11:59 PM Eastern time) on **January 11, 2027.** If the deadline date falls on a weekend or holiday, applications will be accepted the following business day.

Awardees can start as soon as April 1, after the March Board decisions. Advised to choose a start date after the applicant's semester has ended, although not required.

FORMATTING THE APPLICATION

Applicants must adhere to the following instructions in completing the proposal sections that make up the electronic version of the application. Failure to observe font size specifications and/or page limits will result in the return of the application without review:

- Please remember to insert your name in the header on each form in the attachment section.
- Font size: Use 12 point Times New Roman or 11-point Arial as the minimum font size for the text of the application. A 10-point Times New Roman or 10-point Arial font type may be used for figures, legends, and tables.
- Single-spaced text is acceptable, and space between paragraphs is recommended.
- Margins: The margins of your text should be at least 0.5" inch all around, unless a form with different margins is supplied in the Application Templates or Forms.
- Fill in all required fields (*)

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PREPARING THE APPLICATION

Project Title:
The title should not exceed 75 characters in length (including spaces). Do not use abbreviations unless absolutely necessary.

Challenges Priority: Donors frequently have an interest in funding particular types of IBD research. Please check one Priority Area that is addressed by your project.

Type of Disease: Crohn's Disease or Ulcerative Colitis

Applicant:
The applicant should be the student who will work with a mentor in the lab for ten weeks investigating a subject relevant to IBD. Applicant must be an undergraduate, medical or graduate student (**not yet engaged in thesis research**).

Institution Information: List address of the sponsoring institution where the applicant will trained\work. Institution Signing Official (required), Institution Financial Officer (required), Mentor (required) and Grants Administrator (optional) must be entered in this section.

Lay Summary:
The lay summary is intended to provide a clear overview of your research to people who are ***not*** trained in the sciences but who are interested in IBD research for a variety of reasons. **This statement will be evaluated as part of your application** as well as used to inform the foundation's National Board of Trustees of the nature of this work. **Therefore, do not include proprietary\confidential information.** The lay summary must ***not*** duplicate the scientific abstract.

Please provide a statement in simplified language containing:

- What question will this project attempt to answer?
- Why is this question important?
- What is the study design?

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Example**:**

TEMPLATE FOR WRITING LAY SUMMARY

Investigator: **Burrill Bernard Crohn, MD**
Mount Sinai Hospital

Project: **Gender differences in growth in pediatric patients with Crohn's disease**

Type of Award: **Student Research Fellowship Award**

Description: Growth failure is a unique and important problem for children with IBD. The exact causes of growth failure, and how best to treat them, is a pressing need. In children with Crohn's disease, boys and girls differ in disease severity and growth failure. That is, female patients tend to have more severe clinical disease but don't suffer from growth failure, while male patients tend to have less severe clinical disease and suffer from growth failure. Understanding the reasons for these differences could provide new clues on the reasons for disease severity and growth affects of IBD, and how better to treat them. This project tests whether sex hormones (estrogen in females, testosterone in males) act differently on the function of hormones controlling growth (growth hormone itself, Insulin-like Growth Factor-1 [IGF-1], and the pathway linking them). This project will study 90 pediatric Crohn's patients under the age of 17, matched to a control group of patients with short stature alone (unrelated to Crohn's disease), and determine whether disease activity affects growth hormone/IGF-1 levels, and how this affects growth in kids with Crohn's.

Scientific Summary of Project:
The Scientific Summary should provide a clear, concise overview of the proposed work, including the background, objective, or hypothesis and its supporting rationale; specific aims of the study for general scientific audience. This should be no more than one-half page.

Relevance to IBD: If successful, this project will establish whether a combination of sex and growth hormone levels can be used to predict growth failure. This information could help identify children with different biologic types of growth failure, and guide the development of more targeted treatments to correct them.

Budget Period Detail
The total budget request may not exceed $2,500. Indirect costs are not permitted. All budget information should be included as part of one budget period.

Current and Pending Support:
If you do not have any current pending applications please type in "No".
If you do have current pending applications, type in the title of the award(s) and the name of the agency from which you are awaiting a response. In the attachment section, attach an abstract for each application you list in this section.

It is the policy of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation not to fund projects that are supported all or in part by another agency; this means that projects are considered to overlap if there are any shared Specific Aims or areas of budgetary overlap or percent of effort dedicated to the other project. The Peer Review Committee will make the final decision regarding any questions of overlap. The only exceptions are: Institutional support. Upload as an attachment in the "Evidential Enclosure" a description of any institutional support provided by your institution. The details should include Institutional commitment to the support of the applicant's salary; and the current term of the applicant's appointment. Please note that the institutional support does not decrease the chances of obtaining support from the Foundation, rather, such support is frequently considered by the Peer Review Committee as important evidence for institutional commitment to the proposed research project.

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Organization Assurances - Human/Animal Studies Approval:
All activities involving human subjects or vertebrate animals must be approved by an appropriate institutional review board (IRB) or equivalent prior to the start date of award.

Copies of the IRB approval to the Foundation National Office should be sent via eMail or uploaded into Proposal Central. If approval is not available at the time of application, provide a date of anticipated approval. **This approval must be received before the start date of the approved grant.**

Attachments

1. Research Plan / Protocol *Required
The description of the proposed research project must include the following items in sufficient detail to permit evaluation of the scientific merit of the study. This should not exceed 4 pages, single spaced.

- Rationale of the Investigation
- Importance of the Study
- Methods of Procedures & Materials
- Facilities and Equipment (list laboratory location, equipment, support staff, clinical facilities)
- References (not included in four page limit)

2. Applicant CV *Required
The Applicant Biosketch must contain:
- Previous Research Experience
- List of Publications

3. Mentor's Curriculum Vitae/ NIH Biosketch *Required
Attach the NIH Biosketch for all Mentor(s).

4. Mentor's Statement
Attach supporting letter from your mentor(s).

The mentor's statement should:
- Describe the student and the benefits of this experience, including the student's role in the study
- Estimate the portion of the study that the student will be able to complete during the period of the fellowship
- State the number of students who will be in the laboratory, concurrent with this candidate
- Describe the mentor's training record. Limit to 1-2 pages

5. Validate/ Signature Page
Sign and upload in the attachment section. Electronic signatures are accepted.