



Dear Colleagues,

You are receiving this email since you have served as a reference for a previous Whitaker Program applicant and/or grantee. This email is to announce the opening of the **2015-2016 Whitaker International Fellows and Scholars Program** competition, with a **January 20, 2015** deadline, and also the opening the application for the **2015 Whitaker International Summer Program**, competition with a **February 3, 2015 deadline**. Please forward the announcement to eligible students in your respective departments.

Program Overview

The Whitaker International Program provides funding to emerging U.S.-based leaders in biomedical engineering/bioengineering to conduct a study and/or research project abroad, with the underlying objective of increasing international collaboration in the field of Biomedical Engineering (BME). Grant projects – including lab research, coursework, public policy work – are intended to enhance both the recipient's career and the field. Founded in 2005 by the Whitaker Foundation (now closed), the program is administered by the Institute of International Education.

Whitaker International Program grants are awarded based on an activity/project proposal that is relevant to biomedical engineering. Note that not all aspects of the project have to be strictly BME related, but the applicant should showcase how the award will enhance his/her future goals in the bioengineering field. The program also allows for non-BME majors to apply as long as the candidate has relevant experience and interest in BME.

For the Fellows, Scholars and Summer Program, we anticipate offering about 50 grants, but only the highest-quality applicants are offered awards. There is no limitation on number of grants awarded and there is no quota on number of grants to a certain country, or how many students/candidates can be nominated from a certain U.S. institution.

All eligible students who are exploring the idea of going abroad for a post-graduate/post-doctoral project are encouraged to apply. It is recommended that any post-graduate coursework be combined with a research project or an internship. Aside from the personal and professional benefits to the individual grantee, benefits to the home institution also accrue, as new university partnerships have developed with hosting institutions overseas; collaborations have developed between U.S. bioengineers and their academic counterparts worldwide; and U.S. labs have benefited from having their students learn and bring back new and, sometimes, cutting-edge technologies and procedures.

Awards have included research in heart blood flow, improved prosthetic leg design, development of affordable oral cancer screening tools, and investment in BME research. Projects occur worldwide, and have taken place in many European countries, as well as in such places as China, South Africa, Vietnam, Australia, Singapore and many more.

Types of Grants

The Whitaker International Fellows and Scholars Program has two categories:

Fellows - Graduate-level applicants, from graduating seniors through current PhD students. Fellows receive a stipend for one year, and are eligible for tuition reimbursement.

Scholars - Post-doctoral applicants, who recently received their PhD. Scholar awards can be for as little as one academic semester or as long as two years, depending on their needs. Second year funding is contingent upon demonstration of progress made during the first year.

Summer Grants – For currently enrolled Master's or PhD students, or recent Master's recipients. Summer awards are for 8 weeks including a fixed fellowship award and a monthly stipend, along with additional benefits.

Website & Online Application

<http://www.whitaker.org/>

The online application is now open with a January 20, 2015 deadline for year long Fellows and Scholars awards, and February 3, 2015 for the Summer award. The website listed above has all the information pertaining to the program, including eligibility requirements, examples of potential host institutions, and former grantee profiles. Please make sure to go to the tab "Grants" and select the appropriate program to find the application.

Publicity Materials

Please feel free to circulate this email to your colleagues or to students who you think would be eligible for the program. Program brochures are available upon request.

Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions about the Whitaker International Program.

Thanks & Best Regards,

Whitaker International Program Staff

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