Porter Physiology Development Fellowship – Application Information

Eligibility
Porter Physiology Development Fellowships are open to underrepresented racial and ethnic minority applicants who are obtaining their degree at a US Institution and are citizens or permanent residents of the United States or its territories. The applicant must have been accepted into or is currently in a graduate program in physiology at the time of the application. The applicant must also be a Student Member of the APS or have an application in process. Note: The APS does not currently offer scholarships.

Location of Study
Applicants for Porter Physiology Fellowships may choose institutions of higher education that offer advanced degrees in physiology. The fellow may study or engage in research away from the fellowship institution during part of the tenure of the award, if the faculty judges such opportunity to be advantageous for the fellow’s training.

Tenure
Fellowships are awarded for one year, with the possibility of a second year of funding if trainee progress is rated by the Committee to be good. Under exceptional circumstances, a third year may be awarded. Not all renewal applications will necessarily be funded. However, a student who is not given a second year of funding may reapply to the program as a new applicant for a second year of funding.

Stipends
Annual stipends under the Porter Physiology Development Fellowship Program are $28,300. There is no dependency allowance. No tuition or fees will be paid by the Porter Program on behalf of the fellow since the Committee believes that graduate scholarships and other educational allowances are available at most institutions. In addition, funds for research support will be the responsibility of the training institution. A fellow may not accept private employment or another similar fellowship stipend simultaneously.

Evaluation and Selection
Applicant qualifications will be reviewed by the members of the Porter Physiology Development Committee, which serves as the panel of scientists working as the selection committee. Awards will be made on the basis of the applicant’s potential for success (including academic record, statement of interest, previous awards and experiences, recommendation letters), applicant’s proposed training environment (including quality of preceptor), and applicant’s research/training plan (clarity and quality). Applications should provide sufficient information for the reviewer to assess focus and breadth of the research proposed and its applicability to the physiological sciences. Applicants must provide information on/documentation of their training in: responsible conduct of research, human subjects use, and care and use of vertebrate animals in research, as appropriate.

Condition of Award
Awards will be made to the Applicant’s institution. Fellows will be required to be enrolled full-time in a program leading to the Ph.D. or D.Sc. in the physiological sciences. While many departments require a reasonable quantity of teaching or similar activities as part of the fellow’s graduate training and development, the primary purpose of the fellowship is the scholarly development of the trainee. NEW in 2016>> APPLICANTS AND THEIR ADVISOR/PI must be APS members or have submitted an application
for APS membership at the time of submission of the application. Institutions are expected to supplement Porter stipends to match that of comparable level fellows according to seniority. A complete description of progress by the fellow, a current academic transcript, and a letter from the advisor (or institutional representative) certifying that the fellow is making satisfactory progress will be required in March following the initiation of the fellowship year. This is NOT the renewal application; a separate renewal application can be submitted in January. Decisions regarding support beyond the first year will be based upon review of the renewal application and availability of funds. Student membership in the American Physiological Society is also required for a second year of support.