

The 2021 Mary J. C. Hendrix Outstanding Graduate Student Award

Stanley Manne Children's Research Institute and Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago are pleased to announce the 2021 Mary J.C. Hendrix Outstanding Graduate Student Award to recognize a graduate student of exceptional distinction. Through the ongoing generosity of the Children's Research Fund, one award will be made each year to a Manne Research Institute student performing studies in one of the research programs for their high level of scholastic achievement, research engagement, and productivity in the research institute training program.

AWARDS:

- Scholars will receive a \$5,000 prize for support of their research, including lab reagents, computers and attendance at scientific conferences.
- The award is for a one-year period.
- Funds are awarded on a competitive basis based on highest level of scholastic achievement, research productivity, and active participation in the research institute training program, as well as innovative research ideas and extramural funding.

Application Due Date
5:00pm CST on April 30, 2021

Earliest Project Start Date
June 1, 2021

GUIDELINES:

1. Applicant Requirements:

- Candidates must be predoctoral students, preferably in 2nd to 5th year of graduate work, at the research institute.
- Candidate's mentor must be employed by Lurie Children's and its affiliated practice plans (e.g., Pediatric Faculty Foundation, Lurie Children's Surgical Foundation, etc.) whether the research is conducted at Manne Research Institute/Lurie Children's or Northwestern University.
- Candidates do not already have a terminal degree (i.e., do not already have an MD).
- Candidate must be nominated by their supervising research institute faculty member or under exceptional circumstances, their thesis committee member.
- Only one nomination per laboratory.
- Candidates may not have previously received this award.

2. Budget Guidelines:

Recipients will receive a \$5,000 prize to be used at the student's discretion to further his/her research project, including lab reagents, computers and attendance at conferences.

3. General Request Requirements:

- A. Completed Application Form: <https://forms.office.com/r/iaXMs8A022>
- The application should be submitted on behalf of the student by the mentor or mentor's administrator.
 - Lurie Children's Office 365 environment is required (log into Office.com with Lurie Children's credentials) in order to access the application form referenced above.

- B. Mentor Nomination letter (1.5 pages) that addresses:
- Graduate student's role in the laboratory
 - Contributions to the lab since arrival
 - Specific accomplishments to date
 - Roles held at the research institute (i.e., Biomedical Research Symposium Committee, Travel Award Committee, etc.) or in the research arena at Lurie Children's (i.e., Research Day Planning Committee).
- C. One-page candidate statement describing the Graduate student's prior training and how it leads to the objectives and long-term career plans of the candidate.
- D. Two-page description of the Graduate student's research project, written by the student, not the advisor:
- Background
 - Hypothesis/Question
 - Data/Findings
 - Conclusions
 - Significance
 - If collaborative in nature, an explanation of contributions of each team member.
- E. Graduate student's current CV including: publications, presentations, extramural funding attempts/successes.
- F. One-page Recommendation Letter from another Faculty Member (typically a Thesis Committee Member) that includes:
- Broader perspective of the graduate student
 - Academic potential
 - Strength of candidate
 - Student performance at committee meetings

4. **Post Award Requirements:**

- Appropriate subject protections (IRB or IACUC) approval before funds can be released.
- Written progress report at the end of 12 & 24 months which includes additional abstracts, presentations, publications, patents and funding.
- Provide a brief presentation at a Children's Research Fund Board meeting.
- Inclusion of the following in any publication or presentations that are a direct result of this funding: "Supported in part by Stanley Manne Children's Research Institute and Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago."

5. **Review Criteria:**

Proposals will be scored by each reviewer using a scale of 1-9. The score and other brief comments will be provided to each applicant upon request.

- Prior scholastic achievement & research engagement/productivity
- Preparation to date: training, mentoring and environment
- Research: significance, innovation, approach

For questions and additional information, please contact researchguidance@luriechildrens.org.