The MSTAR scholarship program, established in 1994, provides an enriching 8-12 week experience in aging-related research under the mentorship of top experts in the field.

Aging-related research crosscuts many areas of scientific investigation from basic sciences, to clinical research, to health services research.

**Program highlights**

- Classes in research methodology
- Opportunities for research presentations and publications
- Clinical geriatrics experiences
- Information on medical careers
- Informal social gatherings and networking with fellow scholars and mentors

Students gain a wealth of experiences they might not otherwise have during medical school, especially early in their training when most scholars participate in the program.

Many former MSTAR scholars have pursued successful and varied careers in geriatrics and aging-related research.

They have joined the growing number of dedicated scientists, innovative thinkers, and talented physicians whose specialized knowledge and skills in aging are increasing in demand as our population ages.

“*The core of the program is the research experiences between the student and the mentor. Our faculty’s willingness to participate is one of the most valuable features of the program.*”

Jim Rudolph  
Co-Director  
National Training Center, Harvard Medical School  
1997 MSTAR scholar

**Major sponsors:**  
The John A. Hartford Foundation  
MetLife Foundation  
The National Institute on Aging (NIA)  
Additional funding provided by  
The Lillian R. Gleitsman Foundation

**Administered by:**  
The National Institute on Aging (NIA)  
American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR)
MSTAR program description

Applicants compete for up to 130 positions at NIA-funded National Training Centers and Partner Sites. Scholars may also train at their home institution if they attend a participating medical school. All training sites offer excellent facilities, diverse research programs, and the opportunity to interact with other student scholars.

National Training Centers and Partner Sites

• Harvard Medical School (Boston Univ. and Univ. of Mississippi)
• Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
• David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA (Univ. of California, San Francisco, Univ. of Colorado Denver, and Univ. of Washington)
• University of California, San Diego School of Medicine
• University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
• University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (Univ. of Texas Medical Branch)

“I can’t help but think to myself ‘thank goodness I decided to participate in this program’ because I have learned so much about clinical skills, the specialty of geriatrics, and executing reliable research projects.”

Anne Richardson Wright
2012 MSTAR Scholar
University of Hawai‘i

Selected applicants are notified of their training site assignment prior to their acceptance of the award.

AFAR makes every effort to place students at the institution of their choice, but this cannot be guaranteed.

Prior to arriving at the site, accepted scholars work with their training site directors and research mentors to design an individualized research project and training program.

Scholars are expected to submit abstracts of their research and may be eligible to receive a travel stipend to attend the 2014 American Geriatrics Society Annual Meeting.

A monthly stipend of approximately $1,700 is provided. All students enrolled in U.S. allopathic or osteopathic medical schools can apply, provided they are U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Applicants must have a faculty sponsor from their home institution.

Scholars are selected based on their academic excellence, interest in aging and geriatrics, and potential for future achievement and leadership.

For complete information
http://www.afar.org/research/funding/MSTAR
Call at 212-703-9977 or 888-582-2327 (toll-free)

Application deadline:
January 31, 2013
For More Information and an Online Application:
http://www.afar.org/research/funding/MSTAR

Diary of an MSTAR Student
http://www.afar.org/MSTARblog/posts