

CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY FELLOWSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE

The Clinical Microbiology Fellowship Training Program is designed to train and mentor post graduate Ph.D.'s in clinical microbiology. Persons with an understanding of microbial pathogenesis and who are interested in pursuing a career in diagnostic, clinical and research aspects of clinical microbiology are desirable applicants as trainees. The purpose of the training program is to obtain the skills necessary to undertake a position as a clinical microbiologist in a laboratory where both medical microbiology and applied research activities are conducted.

LOCATION

The Clinical Microbiology Fellowship Training Program is located within the Division of Diagnostic and Applied Microbiology in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Alberta. The Division is primarily housed within the Provincial Laboratory of Public Health. Fellows will spend the majority of their program within the Provincial Laboratory, University of Alberta Hospital.

DURATION OF PROGRAM

The Clinical Microbiology Fellowship Training Program is designed as a two-year clinical post-doctoral program with the majority of time spent in clinical laboratory rotations, including mentorship in all aspects of clinical microbiology (bacteriology, virology, mycology, parasitology, molecular diagnostics).

An optional third year is spent conducting an applied translational research project which has direct application for advancement of clinical microbiology. In this year the fellow will be supervised by a Faculty member researching a project with a clinical translational theme directed towards Clinical Microbiology. This year is contingent on available supervisors and funding.

ETHICS

During the course of the program, Trainees will be expected to conduct themselves in the workplace in an ethical and respectful manner and an emphasis will be placed on effective communication in partnership with laboratory technologists, physicians and allied health professionals, patients, and the community.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The program will prepare trainees to direct and develop an accredited clinical laboratory service, both operationally and financially; generate, disseminate and interpret data from microbiological investigations as they apply to the diagnosis, management, and treatment of patients and of public health scenarios involving infectious diseases, educate clinical/medical professional and technical personnel; establish applied research programs that advance the field of infectious diseases; and act as microbiology consultants to support clinical and public health programs/initiatives at the local, national and international level.

The clinical microbiology fellow will be evaluated on medical knowledge, communication and collaboration, leadership skills, health advocacy and professionalism. The Fellow will conduct him/herself in a professional manner, according to the Code of Conduct, Privacy and Confidentiality agreement and other related policies of the University of Alberta and Alberta Health Services, and of the ethical standards set out by the Canadian College of Microbiologists. The Fellow will be cognizant of professional limitations and accepting of guidance and direction from supervisory staff and mentors

PROGRAM CURRICULUM

The curriculum for the Clinical Microbiology Fellowship program is structured according to specific learning objectives within each of the major training sections which are available upon admission to the Clinical Training Program and in consultation with the Program Director. The curriculum is designed based on the Fellow of the Canadian College of Microbiologists syllabus (<http://www.ccm.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/FCCM-Syllabus.pdf>). At the completion of training, fellows are eligible to sit for the Canadian College of Microbiologists (FCCM) exam.

EVALUATION

The Training Program Committee will be responsible for overseeing the interim and final evaluation of the Fellow using the established program learning objectives, evaluation reports from mentors of each rotation, and written, practical and oral examinations. The Fellow will also be expected to submit an evaluation of their training at the completion of each rotation. Ultimately, the Training Program Committee is responsible for directing the learning needs of the Fellow and their preparation for the Board certification examinations.

RESOURCES AND PERSONNEL

Fellows will receive an annual stipend plus benefits as a University of Alberta employee through Postgraduate Medical Education.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must have educational qualifications in microbiology or related life sciences and earned a Ph.D. or equivalent from a university belonging to the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, or from an equivalent institution in the USA. The program will consider applicants in the final year of their Ph.D., but entry into the program is contingent on completing all Ph.D. requirements prior to the start date of the fellowship program.

The application requirements include a completed application form (available on the program website when applications are being accepted), curriculum vitae, a letter of intent, three letters of reference, and copies of academic transcripts.

Credential assessment for a university degree outside Canada or the USA is available through consultation with the Government of Canada Foreign Credentials Referred Office (1-888-854-1805). Applicants must show proof of Canadian citizenship or landed immigrant status.

PLEASE NOTE: NEW APPLICANTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED EVERY YEAR. PLEASE CONSULT THE PROGRAM WEBSITE OR CONTACT THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR TO DETERMINE IF NEW APPLICANTS ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR.

ACCREDITATION AND CERTIFICATION

Upon completion of training, the fellow will be issued a certificate from the office of Post Graduate Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine, University of Alberta, affirming that the subspecialty training program has been successfully completed. The successful candidate will be eligible to then proceed to examination for Fellowship by the Canadian College of Microbiologists (FCCM) or the American Board of Medical Microbiology (D(ABMM)).