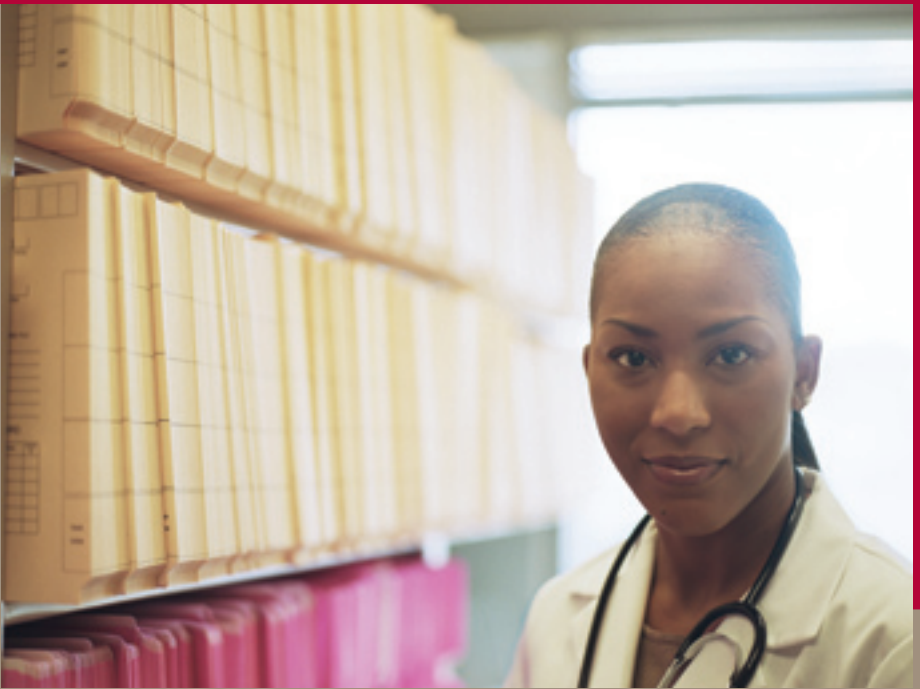




Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation **Physician Faculty Scholars**



2007 Call for Applications

Application Deadline

August 31, 2007

Program Overview

(Please refer to specific sections for complete detail.)

Purpose

The *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Physician Faculty Scholars* program is designed to strengthen the leadership and academic productivity of junior medical school faculty dedicated to improving health and health care. Under the program, scholars:

- will devote at least 50 percent of time for three years to their research;
- receive funds to support a research project;
- receive national and local mentorship; and
- work with other talented scholars.

Eligibility Criteria (page 5)

Each candidate must meet the following requirements:

- be a physician (M.D. or D.O.) who is a citizen or a permanent resident of the United States or its territories;
- be a junior faculty member (instructor or assistant professor) for four years or less in any discipline in a regular line position that could lead to tenure;
- be committed to a career in academic medicine;
- provide evidence of research skills (e.g., past research fellowship or equivalent training);
- have had at least two papers published in peer-reviewed journals;
- demonstrate excellence as a teacher; and
- care for patients at least one half day per week.

Physicians who have served as the *principal investigator* on a grant (whether research or career development) that carries more than 48 months of funding are not eligible.

This rule does not apply to grants for which the notice of award of funding is dated after the application deadline.

Consistent with all RWJF projects, this program embraces racial, ethnic, gender and disciplinary diversity, and encourages candidates with diverse backgrounds to apply.

Selection Criteria (page 6)

Complete selection criteria can be found on page 6.

Total Awards

Up to 15 awards of up to \$300,000 each over three years will be available in 2008.

Key Dates and Deadlines

- **August 31, 2007 (5 p.m. PT)**—Deadline for receipt of applications.
- **March 2008**—Selected applicant interviews with national advisory committee.
- **April 2008**—Notification of awards.
- **July 1, 2008**—Appointments begin.

How to Apply (page 7)

Each applicant must be nominated by the dean of a four-year, fully accredited U.S. medical school (allopathic or osteopathic). Detailed application instructions can be found on the program's Web site or by contacting:

Sally Schroeder, *deputy director*

Phone: (650) 566-2348

E-mail: rwjfpfsp@stanford.edu

<http://rwjfpfsp.stanford.edu>

Background

The health of America's population requires new, evidence-based strategies that can influence health policy and the quality of health services. For physicians, a critical period in their academic careers comes after young faculty have completed their clinical fellowship training, when they are expected to teach, provide patient care and conduct independent research. This period is particularly challenging for junior faculty who are interested in health policy, epidemiology, health services or community-based research—fields in which few career development programs exist.

The *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Physician Faculty Scholars* program is designed to address this gap by providing mentoring, protected time and the opportunity to gain valuable research experience. We aim to produce academic leaders whose work in these vital areas will improve and demonstrate the importance of investing in young, creative academic physicians in health and health care.

This program is part of the Human Capital Portfolio of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), and supports its goal of attracting, developing and retaining a high-quality health and health care workforce, with an emphasis on diversity and leadership development.

The Program

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Physician Faculty Scholars program will make up to 15 three-year awards of up to \$300,000 each to help outstanding junior faculty in medical schools to develop their careers in academic medicine.

Talented junior faculty, nominated by their medical schools and selected by the program, will receive support to enhance their skills and productivity through institutional and national mentoring, specific research experience and protected time in which to acquire it. Preference will be given to applicants interested in the fields of health policy research, epidemiology, health services research or community-based research. These committed physicians will engage in research that will help improve health policy and health care.

RWJF will make grants to sponsoring institutions to help cover the scholars' salary and research costs. Each sponsoring institution must agree to protect 50 percent of each scholar's time from clinical and teaching responsibilities so that at least 50 percent of their total professional effort can be devoted to the scholarly activities outlined in their proposals. Each institution must identify at least one mentor who will advise the scholar on his or her research project, guide their career development and attend one annual national meeting with the scholar.

Scholars will also have a unique opportunity to interact with the medical leaders who serve on the program's national advisory committee (NAC). The program will assign to each scholar a NAC mentor who will discuss project management and career development with them in person at the program's annual meeting and throughout the year as required. NAC mentors may offer additional assistance, such as reviewing and critiquing manuscripts and grant proposals, and writing letters of recommendation.

All scholars are expected to attend each annual meeting, at which they will present their ongoing research and take part in a broad array of discussions relevant to the program's focus. They must also attend one additional scientific meeting of their choosing each year.

Consistent with all RWJF programs, this program embraces racial, ethnic, gender and disciplinary diversity, and encourages candidates with diverse backgrounds to apply.

Eligibility Criteria

Each candidate must:

- be a physician (M.D. or D.O.) who is a citizen or a permanent resident of the United States or its territories;
- be a junior faculty member in any discipline in a regular line position that could lead to tenure. For the purposes of this program, junior faculty are those who are at the instructor or assistant professor level and have been in a faculty position for four years or less;
- be committed to a career in academic medicine;
- provide evidence of research skills (e.g., past research fellowship or equivalent training);
- have at least two papers published in peer-reviewed journals;
- demonstrate excellence as a teacher; and
- care for patients at least one half day per week.

Physicians who have served as the *principal investigator* on a grant (whether research or career development) that carries more than 48 months of funding are not eligible. This rule does not apply to grants for which the notice of award of funding is dated after the application deadline.

Selection Criteria

The NAC reviews applications and invites selected applicants to present their research proposals to the committee. The committee uses the following criteria to guide the selection process:

- Evidence that the candidate is committed to an academic career and is well prepared to conduct research.
- The creativity, quality and feasibility of the proposed research.
- Preference will be given to applicants interested in the fields of health policy, epidemiology, health services or community-based research.
- Availability of qualified research mentors and research resources at the candidate's institution.
- Evidence that the candidate is an excellent clinical teacher.
- Evidence that the nominating institution and its senior leadership are committed to supporting the candidate's academic career.

Evaluation and Monitoring

Grantee institutions will be expected to meet RWJF requirements for the submission of annual narrative and financial reports, as well as periodic information needed for overall project performance monitoring and management. Faculty scholars are expected to participate in all the program's annual meetings. At the close of the grant, the scholar will be expected to provide a written report on the research project and its findings suitable for wide dissemination.

Use of Grant Funds

Grant funds may be used for a portion of the scholar's salary, research assistants, community partners, medical student or other trainee summer stipends, project-related domestic travel, and other direct project expenses essential to carry out the scholar's proposal. Grants are made to the sponsoring institutions, and follow RWJF's regular funding guidelines. In keeping with RWJF policy, grant funds may not be used to subsidize individuals for the costs of their health care, to support clinical trials of unapproved drugs or devices, to construct or renovate facilities, for lobbying, or as a substitute for funds currently being used to support similar activities.

How to Apply

Each applicant must be nominated by the dean of a four-year, fully accredited U.S. medical school (allopathic or osteopathic). A school may nominate only one physician per year. Schools may have up to two physicians in the program at any one time, provided they are each in different disciplines.

Applicants must complete the application form, including a proposal for research (maximum length: 13 pages, double-spaced, using a minimum text size of 11 point). Letters of recommendation are also required. For details about the research proposal, the application process—including the nomination procedure and letters of recommendation, and answers to frequently asked questions about the program—applicants should go to the program's Web site at <http://rwjfpfsp.stanford.edu>. The site also contains application documents for downloading.

Completed application forms must be received by the national program office (NPO) no later than 5 p.m. PT on August 31, 2007. Applications sent via e-mail or fax will not be accepted.

Members of the NAC will conduct interviews with selected applicants in March 2008. Scholars will be notified of their awards by April 2008. Appointments will begin July 1, 2008.

RWJF does not provide individual critiques of applications submitted or of presentations of those selected to be interviewed.

Program Direction

Direction and technical assistance for this program are provided by Stanford University which serves as the national program office:

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Physician Faculty Scholars
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Responsible staff members at the NPO are:

- Iris F. Litt, M.D., *national program director*
- Sally Schroeder, *deputy director*
- Erin O'Rourke Amundson, *program administrator*

Responsible staff members at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation are:

- Jeane Ann Grisso, M.D., *senior program officer*
- John Lumpkin, M.D., *senior vice president and director, Health Care Group*
- Frederick Mann, *deputy director of communications*
- Christine Phares, *grants administrator*

Please direct all questions about the program, selection criteria or application requirements to:
Sally Schroeder, *deputy director*
Phone: (650) 566-2348
E-mail: rwjfpfsp@stanford.edu

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About the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation focuses on the pressing health and health care issues facing our country. As the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to improving the health and health care of all Americans, we work with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, meaningful and timely change.

For 35 years we've brought experience, commitment and a rigorous, balanced approach to the problems that affect the health and health care of those we serve. When it comes to helping Americans lead healthier lives and get the care they need, we expect to make a difference in your lifetime.

For more information visit www.rwjf.org.

Sign up to receive e-mail alerts on upcoming calls for proposals at www.rwjf.org/services.



Robert Wood Johnson
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