Purpose: To promote interest in celiac disease research in promising medical and graduate students and residents, by funding a mentored 10-week research experience at sites throughout the US and Canada. Projects must be conducted for 40 hours or more per week.

Candidates: Students (MD, PhD, or MD/PhD) in good standing at an accredited medical or graduate school in the US or Canada, and residents in good standing with a US or Canadian accredited residency program.

Mentors: Applicants are responsible for identifying a mentor with a track record of independent peer-reviewed research, previous success with trainees (students, residents, or fellows), and a commitment to providing a meaningful experience, including submission of a final research report and mentor survey.

Stipend: $5000.00 payable to the sponsoring institution, $2,500 of which will be paid on announcement of the award, and $2,500 to be paid after receipt and approval of the final research report. Funds are to be used for salary support exclusively with other sources of stipend support not allowed.

Application Submission: Ongoing to icureceliac@celiac.org
**Required Application Components**

The application **must** include the following components:

1. **Cover letter on institutional letterhead that includes:**
   a. Name, date, address, and signature of the applicant
   b. Institution where the research will be conducted
   c. Name, title, and address of the mentor
   d. Project title and dates of proposed project
   e. Statement that all proposed research will be conducted according to the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services relevant to the ethical conduct of research on humans and animals

2. **Grant application cover page that includes:**
   a. Project title and dates of proposed project
   b. Applicant, sponsor, institutional official, and signing official: name, highest degree, title, email address, direct phone number, and institutional street address
   c. If different from the institutional official and signing official, the institutional grant administrator’s name, highest degree, title, email address, direct phone number, and institutional street address
   d. IRB and/or IACUC approval date, as well as Human Subjects Assurance Number and/or Animal Welfare Assurance Number
      i. If these are not available at the time of application, they will be required upon acceptance of the award and prior to the disbursement of any funds to the sponsoring institution
   e. To whom check should be drawn and sent if grant is approved. Note: ALL checks are made out to the Institution and must be sent to the appropriate finance office.
   f. Closing statement **“I have read and accept the current rules governing grants of the Celiac Disease Foundation.”** Followed by dated signatures from the applicant, the sponsor, and the institutional signing official. All dated signatures must be on the same grant application cover page.

3. **Research proposal abstract and layperson summary:**
   a. Scientific abstract that is no longer than 2,000 characters
   b. A layperson’s summary of the proposal for the Celiac Disease Foundation to use in press releases, no longer than 2,000 characters

4. **NIH-formatted Biosketches from the applicant, sponsor, and any other research personnel who will have a major role in the design, execution, analysis, interpretation, or writing related to the proposed studies.** This information should include positions and honors, peer-reviewed publications, as well as current and pending research support.
5. A statement from the sponsor about the applicant’s academic achievements, future professional aspirations, and potential to implement the proposed studies, as well as about the mentorship that the applicant will receive during the research experience in the laboratory of the principal investigator.

6. A proposal narrative of no more than 2 pages (single spaced with one-inch margins in 12-point Times New Roman font, excluding the Literature cited pages), that includes the following sections:
   a. Specific aims
   b. Research strategy

7. Background and significance to celiac disease research or treatment

8. Innovation

9. Approach (including preliminary data, if any)

10. Commentary on the mentorship that the applicant will receive during the research experience in the laboratory of the principal investigator should be included in this section.
   a. Literature cited (not included in the 2-page limit), with a maximum of 30 references to peer-reviewed journal publications

**Evaluation Criteria**

Applications are evaluated by the Foundation’s Research Committee, which makes recommendations to the Foundation’s Board of Directors. The Celiac Disease Foundation reserves the right to consult qualified third parties in particular cases. All applications awaiting action will be held in confidence by the Foundation.

**Use of Funds and Conditions of Award**

1. Funds from this award must be used for salary support of the awardee at the sponsor institution identified in the grant application. Funds from this award cannot be used for any other reason, including indirect costs. Any unused funds must be returned to the Celiac Disease Foundation. Overlap with other funding sources for stipend is prohibited.

2. The proposed research must be in the areas of basic, clinical, translational, epidemiological, or behavioral research relevant to celiac disease. The research must be conducted under the sponsorship and supervision of an established, tenure-track principal investigator who directs a laboratory dedicated at least in part to the investigation of celiac disease at an academic, medical, or research institution in the U.S or Canada.

3. Awardees must submit a final progress report, signed and dated by both the awardee and sponsor, that documents the nature and outcomes of the research conducted. Awardees must also agree to at least one post-award update call with the Foundation.

4. All publications resulting from research funded either wholly or partially by this research award
must acknowledge financial contributions from the Celiac Disease Foundation. This includes primary and review-type peer-reviewed journal articles, abstracts, commentaries, magazine articles, national and/or local media coverage, as well as any such coverage at the home institution or the institution of a collaborator on the project. In addition, copies of such publications must be provided to the Foundation within 30 days of final production. All publicity and information disseminated by the fellow’s or sponsor’s home institution about such research must acknowledge financial contributions from the Celiac Disease Foundation.

5. Each fellow’s institution must agree to hold the Foundation harmless from any and all claims that may arise from research-related activities funded either wholly or partially by the Celiac Disease Foundation.

6. Fellows proposing to conduct research on animals must provide the Celiac Disease Foundation with a letter from the sponsoring institution’s IACUC documenting approval of the proposed research and its compliance with NIH guidelines for the care and use of animals in research. Letters must be on institutional letterhead, signed and dated by an appropriate university official. Fellows proposing to conduct research involving human subjects must provide the Foundation with a letter from the sponsoring institution’s IRB documenting approval of the proposed research and its compliance with NIH guidelines for the use of human subjects in research. Letters must be on institutional letterhead, signed and dated by an appropriate university official.

   a. IRB and/or IACUC approval are not required on the date of application, but they are required when the Foundation offers the award. No award funds will be disbursed until the Foundation receives written IRB and/or IACUC approval. All IACUC and IRB approval documents must contain the full name, title, address, phone number, and email for the IACUC or IRB chair in order for the Foundation to disburse funds.

7. Each fellowship is for one-time use only and cannot be postponed, extended, modified, renewed, or transferred to another individual or institution. No additional funds will be provided beyond the amount stipulated in the award letter.

8. Each award payment will be made to the sponsoring institution. Under no circumstances will payment be made to a fellow, sponsor, or other individual associated with the proposed research.

9. Any patentable discoveries, abstract, or publications resulting from research funded either wholly or partially by the Celiac Disease Foundation must be reported to the Foundation as soon as any relevant decisions to pursue a patent are made. A patent application resulting from any such research-related activities cannot be made without the prior written consent of the Foundation.