

Penn Institute for Immunology

2021 Roberts Family-Katalin Kariko Fellowship Program in Vaccine Development

The Aileen K. and Brian L. Roberts Family Foundation has recently provided funds in support of a new Roberts Family-Katalin Kariko Fellowship in Vaccine Development. Dr. Katalin Kariko is a pioneer in mRNA vaccine technology whose work helped define the role of nucleoside modifications to suppress the immunogenicity of therapeutic mRNAs. This work is the foundation for mRNA vaccines being used against SARS-CoV-2 and being developed for other infectious diseases and cancer.

This fellowship is intended to provide financial support for a fellow working on basic and/or translational vaccine research, with a preference toward scientists or physician-scientists who are transitioning to independence or in the early part of their independent career. The ideal candidate will be well positioned to make a major impact on the field of vaccine research.

Eligibility: Candidates should be PhD, MD, or MD/PhD at a late stage of their training (i.e., within ~1 year of applying for independent positions), Instructors or early-stage Assistant Professors.

Support available: \$80,000 to be used towards salary, or if salary is otherwise supported, the funds can be used for research costs.

Application Instructions:

A single pdf should include the following:

- Candidate's CV
- 1-page scientific proposal including brief background, aims or goals of the studies proposed, and expected impact or outcomes
 - Specific technical details are not required, but if human or translational studies are proposed, please define the source of samples or cohort.
- Brief paragraph (1/2 page each) on career goals and laboratory / mentoring environment as it relates to the proposed project
- Mentor's or Department Chair's letter of support/introduction

Important Dates:

Submission deadline for full applications: **October 15, 2021**

Awards made by: **December 1, 2021**

Full applications must be submitted by email to Kaitlyn Piazza <kbaraldi@penncmedicine.upenn.edu>.

Award Terms: The Roberts Family-Katalin Kariko Fellowship in Vaccine Development Awardee will be expected to present at the Institute for Immunology 'Year in Review' Symposia taking place on May 26, 2022.