Regeneron invites retina fellowship programs to submit requests for independent medical education grants (IME) subject to the terms described below.

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<th><strong>ISSUE DATE:</strong></th>
<th>March 20, 2017</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CALL FOR GRANTS ID</strong></td>
<td>FLP-OP-03-17</td>
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<td><strong>THERAPEUTIC AREA:</strong></td>
<td>Ophthalmology</td>
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<td><strong>AREA OF INTEREST:</strong></td>
<td>Vitreoretinal Fellowship</td>
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<td><strong>GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE:</strong></td>
<td>US</td>
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**SUBMISSION DIRECTIONS:**

Email MedEdGrants@Regeneron.com to receive all required documents for grant submission. See requirements for inclusion below. Additional supporting information may be included.

Email the complete request with all required documentation to MedEdGrants@Regeneron.com.

1. IME Grant Cover Sheet
2. Letter of Request on the requesting institution’s letterhead
3. Full grant proposal
4. Detailed budget
5. Signed Compliance Commitment
6. Signed Provider Accountability Pledge
7. Completed W-9

**DUE DATE: UPDATE**

Grant requests are due to Regeneron no later than Thursday, June 15, 2017.

*Note: Submissions will be reviewed on an ongoing first come, first-served basis.*

**HEALTH CARE GAP:**

Epidemiologic models indicate that the prevalence of chronic eye conditions will increase 50% in the period from 2000-2020. Among the most prevalent and impactful of these conditions are debilitating retinal conditions such as age related macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy.

Lee et al reports that “ophthalmology, as almost every medical specialty, faces substantial manpower challenges by 2020 or 2030...” Physician shortages are driven by factors such as population growth, aging, restricted ability to expand the number of trained ophthalmologists, limitations on ophthalmologist work capacity, and retirement of trained ophthalmologists. A 2012 report on this subject in the Review of Ophthalmology notes that, “...at a time when we probably should have been training more ophthalmologists in the United States, we elected to train fewer ophthalmologists. By training fewer ophthalmologists, we trained fewer specialists in retina.”
Support for retina fellowship training is intended to help address the increasing burden of management of retinal diseases in the United States.

**References**


The intent of this Regeneron Fellowship Grant is to support institutions with post-residency vitreoretinal fellowship training programs which have demonstrated a commitment to clinical training, research, and education to further the understanding of vitreoretinal disease. Funding is intended to support 12 months of fellowship training. Only one grant will be awarded per organization per year, and only one fellow may be supported per grant.

Regeneron is committed to the highest standards in ensuring quality education and expects complete, accurate, fair, and balanced evidence-based review of key safety and efficacy data for any therapeutic entities discussed in the program. To the extent therapeutic entities are discussed, the program should not be designed to focus on any one particular therapeutic option but instead provide a fair and balanced presentation of a wide range of options.

Grant proposals should include the following information:

- **IME Grant Cover Sheet**: Complete the required information.

- **Formal Letter of Request**: Include the fellowship program name (for example, “Vitreoretinal Fellow at XYZ University” as appropriate to your program), the name of the program director, sponsoring and affiliate institutions, dates of program, and grant request amount.

- **Full Grant Proposal**:
  - **Needs Assessment**: Provide a brief explanation of the healthcare need for this program identifying gaps in knowledge and clinical competence that the fellowship will address. Provide references and/or evidence supporting the need for this fellowship program.
  
  - **Criteria for Fellow Selection**: Describe the methods to be used to recruit and select a fellow for the program.
  
  - **Start and End Date of the Fellowship**: The start date should be at least 60 days after the grant submission date. Regeneron does **not** provide grant funding to fellowships retroactively. The end date should be no later than 12 months after the start date.
  
  - **Educational Methods**: Provide an overview for how fellows will be trained and mentored in the clinical, surgical, and/or research settings during their training

    – Overview of your organization’s academic, research, clinical, and surgical
facilities and resources available for fellows

- Any relevant collaborations or partnerships with other organizations that will impact the fellow’s training experience

- **Evaluation and Outcomes:** Describe methods that will be used to assess the impact of the program on individual fellows (for example, faculty review of clinical and/or surgical competence, written examination, etc.), the quality of program (for example, collection of graduating fellow feedback on quality of fellowship training experience), and the extent to which the program has served to address the healthcare need identified in the “Needs Assessment” section above.

- **Detailed Budget:** Provide a budget breakdown including detailed descriptions of the fellowship program costs. If awarded, grant funding must be specific to costs directly related to the fellowship program and may not be used to cover overhead expenses of the institution. Compensation to fellows should be based on clear and established fair market value principles in conformance with applicable laws, regulations, and codes of conduct.

- **Compliance Commitment:** Sign and return the commitment documenting your understanding of and adherence to our compliance requirements.

- **Provider Accountability Pledge:** Sign and return the pledge documenting your understanding of and adherence to our accountability expectations.

- **Payee W-9:** Complete the required information

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**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:**

Regeneron requires the following for consideration of applications:

- Application must be submitted by the U.S. organization sponsoring and administering the fellowship program

- Programs must be established vitreoretinal training programs affiliated with an academic institution

- The organization cannot support more than one fellow funded through the same grant during the proposed term

- Applying organizations may **not** be:
  - Group practices or private physician offices
  - Political or sectarian organizations

- Fellowship program directors should work with the knowledge and consent of their organization to prepare and submit the fellowship grant application

- Do not include the name of the potential fellow in the grant application. This grant is awarded to the organization responsible for the fellowship program, and attributes of individual fellowship candidates will not be considered

- Funding cannot be used for the following purposes:
  - Developing clinical practice guidelines
| o Religious or political advocacy  
| o Promotion of a Regeneron product or to influence formulary decisions  
| o Capital campaigns, infrastructure costs, or overhead related to, but not limited to, facilities and equipment. Funding may include support for fellowship salary and direct costs related to fellowship program, but may not include administrative overhead.  

- The start date of the fellowship must be at least 60 days in the future from the grant submission date.  
- Supported fellowships should be initiated within one year from the grant approval date.  

**Evaluation Process:** Regeneron’s Ophthalmology Grant Review Committee (GRC) will review all fellowship grant requests received on a rolling basis. All submissions will be comprehensively reviewed and evaluated based on the same criteria. Requests that best meet the goals described and are aligned with Regeneron’s Independent Medical Education Plan for Ophthalmology, will be recommended for approval as funds allow. Applicants may be asked for additional information and/or clarification during the review period. Decisions of the GRC are final and will be communicated to the grant applicant via email notifications.

**Terms and Conditions**  
- All grants received will be reviewed in accordance with appropriate Regeneron policies and guidelines.  
- This document does not commit Regeneron to award a grant or to pay any costs incurred in preparation of a response to this request.  
- Regeneron reserves the right to approve or deny any or all applications received as a result of this request or cancel, in part or in its entirety, this Call for Grants.  
- Regeneron reserves the right to determine the awarded grant amount based upon evaluation of the proposal and costs involved in the development and execution of the proposed fellowship plan. The awarded grant amount will be clearly identified in the approval notification.  
- For compliance reasons and in fairness to all applicants, all communications in regards to IME grant requests must come exclusively to Regeneron’s Medical Education department.

**Transparency:**  
- The National Physicians Payment Transparency Program (Sunshine Act) and other transparency law requirements must be satisfied with respect to payments and other transfers of value to healthcare professionals. To be compliant with these regulations, Regeneron must report payments or items of value it provides directly or indirectly to individuals or institutions meeting the definition of Covered Recipients. Fellows are considered Covered Recipients.  

  If an IME grant is awarded and payments or items of value are indirectly given to fellows using grant funding, the grant recipient organization must track and report
such payments to Regeneron after the program start date. Additional directions to comply with reporting obligations will be given after the execution of a Letter of Agreement.

- Regeneron, at its sole discretion, has the right to disclose the details of funded independent medical education activities, including those that may be required by federal, state, and/or local laws and regulations. This disclosure may include, but shall not be limited to, details of the activity and the grant amount. The information may be disclosed to the public in a manner including, but not limited to, disclosure on the Regeneron website.