

Opportunity Title: Genetics and Malaria Parasite Biology Research Fellowship

Opportunity Reference Code: MRMC-WRAIR-2021-0003

Organization U.S. Department of Defense (DOD)

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How to Apply Components of the online application are as follows:

- Profile Information
- Educational and Employment History
- Essay Questions (goals, experiences, and skills relevant to the opportunity)
- Resume (PDF)
- Transcripts/Academic Records - [Click here for detailed information about acceptable transcripts](#)
- 2 Recommendations

Submitted documents must have all social security numbers, student identification numbers, and/or dates of birth removed (blacked out, blackened out, made illegible, etc.) prior to uploading into the application system.

If you have questions, send an email to ARMY-MRMC@ORISE.ORAU.gov. Please list the reference code of this opportunity in the subject line of the email.

All documents must be in English or include an official English translation.

Description The Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR) is a premier research institution dedicated to soldier and world health. WRAIR is an international leader in science and technology, aiming to conduct biomedical research that is responsive to the Department of Defense and U.S. Army requirements and delivers lifesaving products, including knowledge, technology, and medical material that sustain the combat effectiveness of the warfighter. The Walter Reed Army Institute of Research carries out research on a wide array of infectious diseases, including emerging infectious diseases, HIV, malaria, and other infectious pathogens, and on diverse aspects of brain and behavioral health, including sleep, traumatic brain injury prevention/treatment, and psychological resilience.

The Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR) is offering an ORISE learning opportunity in which an ORISE participant will partake in research using a variety of molecular biology assays and bioinformatic tools to analyze malaria parasite genomes to select genetically diverse strains from different geographic areas to use for controlled human malaria infection (CHMI) to provide support to anti-malaria drugs and vaccines testing. The participant will collaborate extensively with internal and external researchers on the culture adaptation and cloning of field malaria parasite strains. During this opportunity, the participant will gain experience that will significantly enhance their future STEM career as they learn more about cultures of malaria parasites at different stages of development under cGMP conditions, microsatellite analysis, targeted sequencing, SNP analysis, and WGS analysis. Furthermore, the participant will conduct analyses using the most state-of-the-art software and bioinformatics tools, such as DNASTAR's Genomics Suite and GeneMapper. Under the guidance of a mentor, the participant will help establish a fundamental understanding of translational, military-relevant scientific research and be challenged to develop new and innovative methods for analyzing malaria parasite DNA.

For more information about WRAIR, please visit: <https://www.wrair.army.mil/>

Appointment Length

This appointment is a twelve month research appointment, with the possibility to be renewed for



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additional research periods. Appointments may be extended depending on funding availability, project assignment, program rules, and availability of the participant.

Participant Benefits

Participants will receive a stipend to be determined by WRAIR. Stipends are typically based on the participant's academic standing, discipline, experience, and research facility location. Other benefits may include the following:

- Health Insurance Supplement. *Participants are eligible to purchase health insurance through ORISE.*
- Relocation Allowance
- Training and Travel Allowance





Nature of Appointment

The participant will not enter into an employee/employer relationship with ORISE, ORAU, DOD, or any other office or agency. Instead, the participant will be affiliated with ORISE for the administration of the appointment through the ORISE appointment letter and Terms of Appointment.

Qualifications An ideal candidate will have:

- Bachelor's or Master's degree in related field (Molecular Biology, Bioinformatics, Microbiology, Cell Biology preferred)
- Knowledge of basic laboratory skills (sterile technique is a plus)
- Good documentation abilities
- A desire to learn
- Organization skills
- Attention to detail

- Eligibility Requirements**

- **Citizenship:** U.S. Citizen Only
 - **Degree:** Bachelor's Degree or Master's Degree received within the last 48 months or currently pursuing.
 - **Discipline(s):**
 - **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** ([12](#) )
 - **Earth and Geosciences** ([1](#) )
 - **Environmental and Marine Sciences** ([14](#) )
 - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([46](#) )