

Opportunity Title: WRAIR Immunology and mRNA Vaccines Malaria Research

Opportunity

Opportunity Reference Code: MRDC-WRAIR-2024-0001

Organization U.S. Department of Defense (DOD)

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How to Apply Click on *Apply* at the bottom of the opportunity to start your application.

Description The Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR) located in Silver Spring, Maryland is looking for a research fellow. The successful candidate will participate in research using a variety of immunology assays and technology tools to study immune response in mice to Plasmodium falciparum. Specifically, the candidate will participate in research towards understanding of immune responses that occur in the liver and other secondary immune organs following immunization of mice with Plasmodium falciparum liver stage antigens delivered as mRNA vaccines. The fellow will have available the use of various state-of-the-art equipment, e.g., 15 color flow cytometry, and will gain expertise in planning and conducting experiments that rely on approaches that require the development of novel immunological assays. This research opportunity will extend to include collaborations with other investigators at WRAIR, as well as collaborators at NIH NIAID LMIV, and Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania.

What will I be doing and why I should apply?

Under the mentorship of WRAIR staff, the selected candidate will help establish fundamental understanding immune response towards developing a successful anti-malaria vaccine for the military and global populations living in malaria endemic areas. The selected candidate will be highly encouraged to begin expanding their network of scientific colleagues and seek collaborations within the U.S. Department of Defense, other federal agencies, e.g., NIH, academia, and commercial companies. Furthermore, the participant will be challenged to develop new and innovative methods for analyzing immune responses specific for a selected group of antigens representing the liver stage of plasmodium development and will have the opportunity to make significant contributions to eradicating malaria.

Where will I be located?

Silver Spring, Maryland

What is the anticipated start date?

WRAIR is ready to make appointments immediately and prefer an early spring 2024 start date. Exact start dates will be determined at the time of selection and in coordination with the selected candidate. Applications are reviewed on an ongoing basis and internships will be filled as qualified candidates are identified.

What is the appointment length?

This appointment is a twelve-month research appointment, with the possibility to be renewed for additional research periods. This internship may be part or full-time. Appointments may be extended depending on funding availability, project assignment, program rules, and availability of the participant.



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What are the benefits?

You will receive a stipend to be determined by Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. Stipends are typically based on a 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)
- Training and Travel Allowance

About WRAIR

WRAIR provides unique research capabilities and innovative medical solutions to a range of Force Health Protection and Readiness challenges currently facing U.S. Service Members, along with threats anticipated during future operations. These research opportunities include ongoing efforts to identify and treat traumatic brain injury as well as to understand and mitigate the deleterious effects of repeated exposures to blast. For more information about the WRAIR, please visit www.wrair.health.mil.

About ORISE

This program, administered by Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) through its contract with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to manage the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE), was established through an interagency agreement between DOE and DoD. Participants do not enter into an employee/employer relationship with ORISE, ORAU, DoD or any other office or agency. Instead, you will be affiliated with ORISE for the administration of the appointment through the ORISE appointment letter and Terms of Appointment. Proof of health insurance is required for participation in this program. Health insurance can be obtained through ORISE. For more information, visit the [ORISE Research Participation Program at the U.S. Department of Defense](https://orise.doe.gov/participation).

Qualifications The qualified candidate will have a PhD or MD degree with emphasis on immunology. Degree must have been received within five years of the appointment start date.

Highly competitive applicants will have education and/or experience in one or more of the following:

- Knowledge of basic laboratory skills, including sterile technique, flow cytometry, microscopy, and working with lab mice.
- Good documentation abilities
- Desire to learn
- Organized
- Detail-oriented ethic

Application Requirements

A complete application consists of:

- Zintellect Profile
- Educational and Employment History
- Essay Questions (goals, experiences, and skills relevant to the opportunity)
- Resume (PDF)
- Transcripts/Academic Records - For this opportunity, an unofficial transcript or copy of the student academic records printed by the applicant or by academic advisors from internal

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institution systems may be submitted. [Click here for detailed information about acceptable transcripts.](#)

- Two Recommendations. Your application will be considered incomplete and will not be reviewed until two recommendations are submitted. We encourage you to contact your recommenders as soon as you start your application to ensure they are able to complete the recommendation form and to let them know to expect a message from Zintellect. The recommenders will be asked to rate your scientific capabilities, personal characteristics, and describe how they know you. You can always log back in to your Zintellect account and check the status of your application.

If you have questions, send an email to ARMY-MRMC@orise.orau.gov. Please list the reference code of this opportunity **MRDC-WRAIR-2024-0001** in the subject line of the email.

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- Eligibility Requirements**

- **Citizenship:** LPR or U.S. Citizen
 - **Degree:** Doctoral Degree received within the last 60 month(s).
 - **Discipline(s):**
 - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([51](#) )