

O'Donnell Brain Institute Clinical Neuroscience Scholars Program

OVERVIEW

The Clinical Neuroscience Scholars Program (CNS) is an integral part of the O'Donnell Brain Institute's goal of developing the next generation of outstanding clinician leaders in all areas of brain disease. The CNS program is particularly, but not exclusively, focused on two areas: (1) clinical program development and (2) clinical research. It is intended to support faculty recruitment and ongoing mentorship to promote enduring excellence in the care of patients with brain disease – care that is state-of-the-art, patient-centered, personalized, and empathetic.

The CNS Program provides exceptional junior faculty in Neurology, Psychiatry, Neurosurgery, and Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation with funding as well as mentoring in brain disease-related disciplines. The program supports and promotes scholar development into nationally recognized experts in brain disease. Faculty with primary appointments in other departments are also eligible but will typically have a secondary appointment and active collaboration with one of the OBI departments.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Those seeking initial appointment as an assistant professor or early career individuals, up to and including recently appointed Associate Professors (within one year of appointment or hire). Newly recruited individuals or those currently working at UT Southwestern are eligible.
- Demonstrated excellence in and passion for clinical care.
- Demonstrated excellence and future promise in teaching and/or clinical investigation.

O'Donnell Brain Institute Clinical Neuroscience Scholar Support:

- **Financial Support:** Each Scholar will receive \$1M to be used over 5 years. \$100K annually will be used for salary support and \$100K annually will be used to support scholarly work in one of the areas of clinical program development and/or clinical research. Scholarly work may include teaching, patient-centered research, the development of a specialized clinical program, or related activities.
- **Senior Mentor:** A master clinician will serve as a senior mentor to each O'Donnell Scholar. Scholars and mentors will be paired within their shared clinical specialty.
- **Multidisciplinary Mentorship Team:** Each Scholar will also be supported by a multidisciplinary mentorship team to increase professional development.
- **Advisory Committee:** The committee will consist of Institute-wide senior faculty who will coordinate and direct the longitudinal efforts of the program and track Scholar career development. This committee will work with Scholars to select an appropriate senior mentor and mentorship team and be an additional resource for Scholar mentorship.

Application Process:

Candidates should indicate their interest in being considered for the OBI-CNS program to the Chair/Director of the UTSW department they seek to join or in which they currently work. Nomination will be made by Chair/Director and requires:

- 1) a nomination letter from the Chair or Division Director of the UTSW department they seek to join or in which they currently work
- 2) candidate CV

- 3) two letters of support specific to applicant's suitability for the project; in addition, letters from collaborators who will be directly involved in the project are required
- 4) a statement describing the candidate's clinical interests, future goals, and proposed training or research activities; include information explaining how proposed activities are patient-facing, as well as details for the program's avenue of focus – 5 page MAX (page limit will be enforced)
 - a. Clinical Program Development: clearly outline all aspects of the program, explaining how development of this program is within the scope of the applicant's abilities.
 - b. Clinical Research
- 5) a budget detailing how the \$100K/annual scholarship support will be utilized. The budget may include (but is not limited to) ancillary clinical support, protected research time, travel, career enhancement and educational activities.

Applicants can apply by emailing the required documents to PNTRC@utsouthwestern.edu

Deadline: February 28, 2025