



# National Scleroderma Foundation

## Pre-Doctoral Summer Fellowship Award Program

**Application Deadline:** *The deadline to apply is Friday, April 29, 2022, 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time*

### Our Mission

The National Scleroderma Foundation's mission is to advance medical research, promote disease awareness, and provide support and education to people with scleroderma, their families, and support networks. Our **vision** is to be a relentless force in finding a cure and improving the lives of people affected by scleroderma.

As the leading nonprofit funder of peer-reviewed scleroderma research, the Foundation fosters innovative research to *discover* the cause, *understand* the mechanisms and *overcome* scleroderma forever.

### Purpose

The Summer Fellowship Award Program is designed to recognize Ph.D. students conducting research related to scleroderma. The program will encourage and foster the next generation of researchers by cultivating students' early interests in working to discover the cause and cure of scleroderma.

### Eligibility

Students may submit a proposal on research relevant to adult or pediatric scleroderma.

To be eligible to apply, the applicant must meet the following requirements:

- Must be a current graduate student in an accredited doctoral (PhD) program in the U.S.
- The applicant must still be a current graduate student at the time of award activation.
- Medical students are not eligible; however, MD/PhD students in the graduate phase of their education are eligible to apply.
- May not hold an MD, PhD, DO, or equivalent terminal degree
- Propose a research topic that is relevant to adult or pediatric scleroderma
- Must complete research under the direction and mentorship of a sponsor who demonstrates sufficient funding to support the proposed study of the mentee.
- Students must devote at least 8 weeks to the project

### Funding and Award Notification

All applicants will be notified of their award status on June 1, 2022. The National Scleroderma Foundation will award \$2,000 directly to the recipients of the award. The funds can be used to support the student's research project, defray tuition costs, housing, books, or travel/registration to scientific meetings. This award may be taxable; the National Scleroderma Foundation sends an IRS form 1099 to the recipient at the end of the calendar year.

## Conditions of Award

All award recipients are required to submit a brief report by June 2023 on the outcomes of their research project. Recipients are asked to acknowledge the National Scleroderma Foundation as a supporter in any published work and presentations resulting from their research.

## Application Process

- **DOWNLOAD** the application from our website [www.scleroderma.org/fellowship](http://www.scleroderma.org/fellowship).
- **COMPLETE** the application in its entirety.
- **COMBINE** all documents into a single PDF file and save as follows:  
LAST NAME, FIRST NAME\_NSF FELLOWSHIP AWARD
- Thoroughly **REVIEW** your entire application before submitting. Applications that do not meet the guidelines, that are incomplete, or are received past the deadline will not be reviewed.
- **SUBMIT:** Email your completed application in PDF format to: [research@scleroderma.org](mailto:research@scleroderma.org)
- **DEADLINE:** All applications **MUST** be received by Friday, April 29, 2022, 5 p.m. Eastern Time
- **CONFIRMING RECEIPT OF YOUR APPLICATION:** The Foundation will send confirmation emails to all applicants within 72 hours of receipt. If you do not receive an email confirmation, please contact us at [research@scleroderma.org](mailto:research@scleroderma.org).

## Application Components

A complete application must contain the following components:

- Personal contact information
- Academic Information
- Project Title
- Personal Statement
- Signatures
- Project Lay Summary
- Student and Mentor Biosketches
- Research Plan
- Letter of Support from Mentor

## Contact

Please contact the National Scleroderma Foundation with any questions at [research@scleroderma.org](mailto:research@scleroderma.org) or by calling (800) 722-4673

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