

CARTI Clinical/Translational Research Training Track Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Eligibility Criteria

What is the eligibility criteria for participants in the CARTI Clinical/Translational Research Training Track?

To participate in the CARTI Clinical/Translational Research Training Track participants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Be a senior fellow (MD, PhD, MD/PhD) or faculty member in an early-stage of their research career in the School of Medicine with some prior research experience.
- Have research mentor(s)* and existing clinical research project or an area of clinical research you are interested in pursuing.
- Have a letter of support from your Department Chair guaranteeing at least 20% protected time (8 hours/week) to conduct training and research over a 6-month period.
- Have NOT served as a Principal Investigator on an NIH or federally funded research or career development award.

Who is considered a faculty member in an early stage of their research career?

We are using the NIH's definition of an early-stage investigator, which is defined as an investigator *"who has completed their terminal research degree or end of post-graduate clinical training, whichever date is later, within the past 10 years and who has not previously competed successfully as PD/PI for a substantial NIH/federal independent award"*.

If I do not meet the definition of a faculty member in the early stage of their research career can I still apply?

Faculty who do not meet these criteria may still be considered to participate. Exceptions will be made based on prior research experience, a clear commitment to research, and need for additional training. Prior to applying, we recommend contacting Stacie Mendoza at smendoza@som.umaryland.edu to discuss your eligibility.

I am a co-investigator on an NIH/Federal funded grant application, am I still eligible?

Yes, an applicant can serve in a supportive role on a grant application, such as a co-investigator. An applicant who has served as a principal investigator (or a multi-PI) in an NIH or Federally funded grant will not be eligible to participate.

Mentors

Am I required to have a mentor to apply?

Yes, all applicants are required to have a research mentor who provides guidance to the CARTI scholar as they develop and/or execute a clinical project. We recommend CARTI scholars conduct a clinical/translational research project that is complementary to an ongoing, funded project of the mentor. If you do not have a research mentor please contact Dr. Marey Shriver at mshriver@som.umaryland.edu for assistance in identifying a potential mentor.

Does my mentor need to be at the University of Maryland Baltimore?

Yes, your primary mentor must hold a faculty position at the University of Maryland Baltimore (UMB). Applicants can have a mentoring committee, which includes mentors from outside institutions, but the chair of the committee must be located at UMB.

What are the expectations for research mentors?

Mentors should strive to meet weekly or bi-weekly with CARTI scholars and provide guidance on designing, executing, and overcoming obstacles of the proposed clinical/translational research submitted with this application. Specifically, mentors are expected to provide guidance on the development of a research protocol during the didactic instruction, execution of the proposed research during the experiential learning, and completion of a capstone project.



What information should my mentor(s) provide in their letter of support for the CARTI Clinical/Translational Research Training Track application?

Mentors should provide a 1-2 page letter that specifically describes their research and mentoring qualifications, including the number of mentees previously advised. Additionally, the letter should describe the applicant's career goals and need for additional training. Specially, mentors should detail how frequently they will meet with the applicant, and the guidance they will provide during participation in the CARTI training track program.

Time Commitment & Training Activities

How long will the CARTI Clinical/Translational Research Training Track program be?

The CARTI Clinical/Translational Research Training Track program will take approximately 6 months to complete.

How much time will I be required to dedicate to the CARTI Clinical/Translational Research Training Track activities?

CARTI scholars will be expected to commit at least 8 hours a week (20% effort) to training activities.

Does my Department need to approve my participation in the CARTI Clinical/Translational Research Training Track?

Yes, an applicant's Department Chair is required to provide a letter of support, including a guarantee that the applicant will have at least 8 hours a week (20%) protected time to participate in the CARTI training track program.

If I am selected as a CARTI Scholar, can I participate in only the didactic instruction, and not the experiential learning and capstone project?

No, CARTI scholars cannot participate in only one element of the Clinical/Translational Research Training Track Program, and required to complete each element of the training schedule.

Application Submission

When is the application deadline to apply for the CARTI Clinical/Translational Research Training Track?

All applications must be received by May 27, 2022 by 5:00pm EDT. There will be no extensions or flexibility for submitted applications.

Where do I submit my application material?

Completed applications must be submitted as one document or PDF via email to Stacie Mendoza, Program Director of CARTI, at smendoza@som.umaryland.edu.

What application material is required?

Applications must include:

1. Cover page
2. UMSOM curriculum vitae (CV)
3. Personal statement (1-2 page(s))
4. Preliminary summary of proposed research project to be completed during experiential learning component (1 page)
5. Letter of support from research mentor
6. Letter of support from the Departmental Chair

General

Additional Information:

For more details on the CARTI Clinical/Translational Research Training Track Program, including the full application, visit: <https://www.medschool.umaryland.edu/CARTI/CARTI-Training-Tracks/Clinical-and-Translational-Training-Track/#d.en.574044>

Have Additional Questions? Contact Stacie Mendoza, Program Director CARTI, at smendoza@som.umaryland.edu.