Important Info about AOA Student Research Fellowship for Penn Med students

- Only one candidate from Penn may be nominated
- For MS 1, 2, and 3
- MD-PhD, MD-MPH, MD-MSC, MD-MTR, MD-MSHP students are not eligible.
- There is no “favored” type of research - clinical investigation, basic laboratory research, epidemiology, or social science/health services research are all acceptable
- The strength of the individual proposal is what’s most important
- Min. length: 8 – 10 weeks, no max. length.
- To be eligible, the AOA award must be the major source of funding for the entire project (even if it is a year-long project). The grant cannot be used for research extensions.
- Intended to be for summer research, but research can be done at a different time in the academic year (but must be completed by June 2021).
- The award can fund Scholarly Pursuit*, but ensure that the AOA time frame is appropriate for your Scholarly Pursuit project before applying.
- International projects are generally eligible, including those MS3s who are doing a year out of research internationally.
- The $5,000 award is given for a min. of 8 weeks. There is no additional funding for research lasting more than 8 weeks.
- **Important deadline:** the project must be completed, all data collected and analyzed, and a detailed final report written and submitted to the AOA office by June 30, 2021.
- **IRB or IACUC approval:** Approval must be obtained by January 2nd in order to be included in your application. If the chosen proposal does not have IRB or IACUC approval, the runner-up application with approval will be chosen instead. If you need IRB or IACUC approval, it is recommended that you apply for it by mid-November (ask your mentor about the process).

**Application Notes:**
- Proposal must be written by the applicant.
- Please don’t staple your application.
- Include the AOA cover sheet as the top page of your application.
- A “bibliography” is the same thing as “references” for the proposed project.
- A mentor’s NIH Biosketch (standard CV of 5 or fewer pages) is the preferred format of CV.
- It is recommended that the mentor’s letter of recommendation include both a bit about the student’s accomplishments (for example, highlighting past/present research experience, if applicable) and the mentor’s anticipated degree of involvement and plans for supervision of the research.

**Deadlines:**
- Application due to Combined Degree Office (6th Floor JMEC): **January 2** (No extensions)
- IRB or IACUC approval: **January 2**
- Penn Cmt forwards one application for national AOA competition: January 31
- Notification of AOA award: April 30
- Final AOA written report due: June 30
- *Scholarly pursuit project: Min. 12 weeks. Ensure that the AOA time frame is appropriate for your scholarly pursuit project before applying.*

Oct 2019