

# Oregon Students Learn and Experience Research (OSLER) TL1 program

## 2025 REQUEST FOR PREDOCTORAL APPLICATIONS

Application deadline: **March 31, 2025, 5 p.m.**  
Expected appointment start date: **August 1, 2025\***

Submit applications to [https://redcap.link/TL1\\_App\\_2025](https://redcap.link/TL1_App_2025)

Submit letters of recommendation separately to  
[https://redcap.link/TL1\\_LOR\\_2025](https://redcap.link/TL1_LOR_2025)

Applicants, please provide this link to individuals when requesting your letter of recommendation.

The goal of the OSLER TL1 award is to provide training in translational science to enhance the research experience students are gaining through graduate training or to provide research training and experience to professional students. Applications are accepted from OHSU, Portland State University (PSU), Oregon State University (OSU), and University of Oregon (UO). All research proposed for this program must:

- involve either clinical or translational research defined as involving human subjects or populations or research that has application to human health, and
- contribute to the advancement of translational research methods.

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND EXPECTATIONS

The OSLER TL1 provides training in translational science to developing scientists and clinicians from many backgrounds including behavioral and social science, clinical science, public health, and basic science. It supports students and fellows engaged in research involving humans or populations that have direct relevance to human health, disease, or disability. All trainees are expected to acquire competencies in clinical research, translational research, and translational science.

[Learn more about past and present TL1 trainees and their projects](#)

The Oregon Clinical and Translational Research Institute (OCTRI) is home to the [Human Investigations Program \(HIP\)](#) and includes options to earn a Master of Clinical Research, a Certificate in Human Investigations, or participate in a la carte courses.

## CONTACT OSLER TL1

**Andrea Ilg**

TL1 Coordinator

[ilgan@ohsu.edu](mailto:ilgan@ohsu.edu)

## CO-DIRECTORS OSLER TL1

**Allison Fryer, Ph.D.**

[fryera@ohsu.edu](mailto:fryera@ohsu.edu)

**Jessina McGregor Ph.D.**

[mgregoj@ohsu.edu](mailto:mgregoj@ohsu.edu)

**Anna Wilson, Ph.D.**

[longann@ohsu.edu](mailto:longann@ohsu.edu)

[www.ohsu.edu/octri-osler-tl1](http://www.ohsu.edu/octri-osler-tl1)

Published 1/2025

- **Predoctoral professional students (MD, DMD, PharmD, DNP, etc.)** must enroll in the OHSU Master of Clinical Research (MCR) degree through HIP, which can be completed in one year while engaged in research full time.
- **Predoctoral PhD students** should consider supplementing their graduate coursework with additional courses/training opportunities that will support their dissertation or postdoctoral research and subsequent careers in clinical and translational research. They are encouraged to complete the certificate or master's degree if appropriate. Coursework to acquire competencies may be spread out over two years for these students.

All TL1 awardees must meet training objectives in translational research development and professional development competencies. Key domains include quantitative science (biostatistics, study design), data management, academic leadership (program management, team science), scientific writing and data presentation, and research proposal development. See **Table 1. OSLER TL1 Program and Training Objectives** below for summary of training activities available. Other training activities or coursework may be proposed as appropriate for the student's intended research or career pathway. Courses related to these competencies may be completed at the student's home institution or within the HIP program. Most HIP courses are delivered online in a synchronous manner (i.e., students must attend and participate at specific times). On limited occasions, classes may convene in person at the OHSU campus. For those at UO and OSU courses can be livestreamed.

All trainees are expected to participate in:

- TL1 Translational Science Journal club (monthly 1 hour meeting)
- TL1 Work in Progress seminar (monthly 1 hour meeting)
- Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) training (Winter term)

Nonclinical students are expected to take part in a clinical integrative experience involving mentored exposure to patient care, clinical diagnosis, and treatment. Graduate and predoctoral professional students from PSU, OSU, and UO may consider spending up to a year in residence at OHSU in a lab or research group to facilitate the extension of their research to include clinical and translational research. In such cases, they may create a new inter-institutional research alliance or work within an existing collaboration.

## SUPPORT

The TL1 award includes the following:

- **Annual stipend** at the NIH NRSA predoctoral career level. The individual's home department or university may supplement to the approved institutional level with non-federal funds. **Course tuition** and **fee** support.
- Support towards major **medical and dental insurance** and **student health service fees** at NIH NRSA levels for university-sponsored insurance for predoctoral trainees. **\$1,500** to cover the costs of trainee **travel** to attend a scientific meeting or meetings.
- **\$3,000** towards eligible **childcare** costs.

Important notes: This award does not confer monies for research costs. These should be supported by the trainee's mentors or department. The TL1 award appointment is for one year. Predoctoral PhD students may apply for up to 2 years of support, contingent upon progress and program participation.

## ELIGIBILITY

Must be enrolled in a doctoral or professional program (i.e., PhD, MD, DMD, DNP, or PharmD) at OHSU, PSU, OSU, or UO.

- Must be in good academic standing and have approval of their program director to enroll in this TL1 program.
- Must commit full-time effort at the time of appointment.
- Expected appointment to the OSLER TL1 is 12 months (minimum of 9 months). NIH NRSA guidelines set a limit of 5 years (6 years if dual degree, i.e., MD/PhD) of total support for predoctoral training grant funding. If you have already had more than 4 years of NIH NRSA support, you may not be eligible.
- Individuals selected to participate must be citizens or non-citizen nationals of the United States or have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence and have in their possession an Alien Registration Receipt Certificate (I-151 or I-551) or other legal verification of admission for permanent residence. Individuals on temporary or student visas are not eligible.
- Research during the TL1 appointment done outside the US may not fulfill program requirements. Students in professional programs (e.g., MD, DMD, DNP, PharmD) must take a year-out from their academic curriculum to participate in this program.
- PhD students must complete their qualifying exam or candidacy equivalent prior to receiving the TL1 award.

## SELECTION CRITERIA

A selection committee composed of representatives from OHSU, PSU, OSU and/or UO will participate in the selection process and will review applications using the NIH peer review process model. Selection criteria focus on the strength of the application, potential for student success as defined by the goals of the program, and the incorporation of clinical and translational research and science into the student's future career. The application will be reviewed on the following criteria:

- Potential of the applicant as a translational research scientist or clinician scientist
- Research plan
- Training plan
- Mentor team
- Career potential

## APPLICATION MATERIALS

Please be sure all documents include the applicant's name in the header.

### A complete application consists of:

1. An NIH biosketch, including:
  - a. Education – include degrees, schools, years of attendance and graduation dates
  - b. Postdoc positions including year started and ended
  - c. Relevant work experience
  - d. Honors received
  - e. Publications - sorted by categories (manuscripts, abstracts, and presentations)
- 2a. Personal statement (1 page or less) summarizing your desire to enter the TL1 program and outlining your short and long-term career goals. Please discuss how you anticipate that clinical and translational research experience and training will impact your career as a scientist or clinician-scientist. Include a list of research proposals or grants you have submitted, if any, noting funding status (i.e., funded, unfunded, or pending).
- 2b. Proposed training and coursework (1 page or less) in clinical and translational research during the award year. Your training plan should address the skills you have identified as important to achieving your career goals and that you would develop during your time in the program. If you have multiple mentors, please describe the role of each mentor in your training and their research support. Review the OSLER TL1 Training and Program Objectives above and justify any competencies already met through other training. If you plan to complete the Master of Clinical Research degree or certificate, state this. (In this case, individual courses do not need to be listed). List any additional training proposed. Address what skills you expect to gain from coursework and how your training plan relates to your overall career direction and what knowledge gaps this will fill.
3. A research proposal (2-page maximum excluding references), including a title, hypothesis and specific aims, brief background section, design, methods, and sample size justification. For predoctoral students, your expected role in the research project must be detailed and indicate how the proposed research represents some degree of original work apart from your mentor's research. The research proposal should be in the student's prose addressing work that they will undertake.
4. A letter of commitment from each research mentor is required, including a description of how the mentor(s) and student will work together to implement the training plan described above. The mentor(s) must cite prior experience and/or training in research mentoring. The letter(s) should also include how the project will be funded. If multiple mentors are from one institution, a single, jointly written letter from all mentors is acceptable or the primary mentor may describe the role or contribution other mentors will provide. Mentors' letters may be submitted with the application material or separately at application link by the application deadline.
5. An NIH biosketch of the faculty mentor(s).
6. A letter of recommendation:
  - The letter must include a statement about where the trainee is in their progress in the program and how the timing of the award will fit with their training.
    - For **predoctoral PhD students**, letters should come from the graduate program director. If the Program Director is also the primary mentor, a different faculty advisor may submit this letter of recommendation.
    - For **predoctoral professional students**, this letter may be from a faculty advisor.

- Letters of recommendation should be submitted separately from the application at [https://redcap.link/TL1\\_LOR\\_2025](https://redcap.link/TL1_LOR_2025) by the application deadline. Applicants, please provide your faculty referee with this request and link as early as possible. Letters are due by 5 p.m. on the application due date. Please contact Andrea Ilg ([ilgan@ohsu.edu](mailto:ilgan@ohsu.edu)) with any questions about the application.

Table 1. OSLER TL1 Program and Training Objectives

<b>Length of Program</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Predocctoral Professional Students:</b> 1 year, cannot be enrolled in professional (e.g. medical or dental) curriculum</li> <li>• <b>Predocctoral PhD Trainees:</b> 1 to 2 years, enrolled simultaneously in graduate curriculum</li> </ul>
<b>Osler TL1 Core Competencies*</b>
<p>The Oregon Clinical and Translational Research Institute (OCTRI) is home to the <a href="#">Human Investigations Program (HIP)</a> and includes options for a Master of Clinical Research, Certificate in Human Investigations or individual class participation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professional students (e.g. MD, DMD, PharmD) must complete the MCR; courses listed below are a subset of the full MCR curriculum.</li> <li>• PhD graduate students may complement PhD coursework and research experience with non-degree participation in course and are encouraged to complete the certificate or MCR if appropriate.</li> </ul> <p>Regardless of involvement in the HIP program, all TL1 awardees must meet training objectives in the translational research development and professional development competencies through the following suggested coursework or through similar courses. (You are encouraged to suggest other courses for your training plan that are not included here).</p>
<b>TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT</b>
<b>Clinical and Translational Research (CTR) Methodology</b> (epidemiology, research design)
<b>Quantitative Skills/Biostatistics:</b> (required to have basic biostatistics plus one advanced course)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HIP 511/512/513 Clinical Research Design Series (<i>integrates epidemiology, research design and basic biostatistics</i>)</li> <li>• HIP 528 Applied Biostatistics I (<i>Note prerequisites</i>)</li> </ul>
<b>Data Science: Required</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HIP 523 Data Science</li> </ul>
<b>PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT</b>
<b>Responsible Conduct of Research Training:</b> <i>NIH requirement for 8-hours in-person training during TL1 training. Select one option.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HIP 516 Protection of Human Subjects</li> <li>• OCTRI RCR Training</li> <li>• MGRD 650 Practice and Ethics of Science (OHSU)</li> </ul>
<b>Writing Grant Proposals: Strongly encouraged</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HIP 511A Proposal Development (3 terms – Fall, Winter, Spring)</li> <li>• OCTRI Grant Writing seminar (offered every other fall)</li> </ul>
<b>Scientific Writing: Required - select one option</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HIP 517 Scientific Writing and Data Presentation</li> <li>• OHSU Vollum Writing Class</li> </ul>
<b>Team Science/Leadership: Required – select at least two options</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HIP 530 Leadership Skills in Team Science</li> <li>• HIP 531 Best Practices in Project Management</li> <li>• HIP 532 Organizational Mindsets for Effective Research Careers</li> </ul>
<b>Innovation and Entrepreneurship Education: Optional</b>
INVENT, BIP Corp: <a href="https://www.ohsu.edu/octri/innovation-and-entrepreneurship">https://www.ohsu.edu/octri/innovation-and-entrepreneurship</a>
<b>Integrative Experience: Participation Required</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CTR Journal Club: present and discuss translational research (once a month)</li> <li>• Work in Progress: present research for and provide peer feedback (once a month) for peer feedback</li> <li>• Research Presentations: present research at OHSU Research Week or at another research event or scientific conference</li> <li>• Clinical Integrative Experience: under the supervision of a clinical mentor, gain exposure to patient clinical diagnoses and treatment that informs your research area. Required for non-clinical trainees.</li> </ul>

\*See [course](#) descriptions for HIP courses listed above.