

# Medical Research Scholars Program (MRSP)

## ABOUT THE MRSP

Launched by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in 2012, the MRSP provides a one-year intensive research training program for medical, dental and veterinary students at the NIH campus in Bethesda, Maryland.

The goal of the program is simple: to train the most promising physicians, dentists and veterinarians in research so they can understand the biological underpinnings of clinical problems and translate basic research into healthcare interventions.

The MRSP combines and re-envisions two highly successful NIH training initiatives that operated in parallel until 2012. It builds on more than 25 years of experience providing exceptional young people with the knowledge and critical skills to conduct biomedical research.

At NIH, MRSP Scholars embark on a journey of discovery and innovation. They are empowered to think creatively and are inspired by scientific leaders who are working on the forefront of scholarship and application. Above all, they are equipped with the knowledge and tools to transform promising research into life-changing interventions. **Now is the time to invest in the future of medical research in America.**



## INVESTING IN THE FUTURE, TODAY

"The future promises remarkable advances in biomedical research. To attain that goal, we need broad, transformative training for clinician scientists. ***It is time to invest boldly in new ways of learning*** so that the next generation of innovative thinkers can open new frontiers in knowledge and transform medicine."

-NIH Director Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D.



## A VITAL NEED FOR CLINICIAN-SCIENTISTS

According to the U.S. Bureau of the Census, from 2000 to 2050, the number of Americans aged 85+ (the group most likely to need health care) is projected to increase by 350 percent. The need for a talented medical science workforce has never been greater. However, according to the American Medical Association, the percentage of physicians engaged in research has decreased 65 percent from 1985 to 2011, and the rate of physicians engaged in teaching has decreased by 39 percent from 1980 to 2011\*. **This is a critical time to train clinician scientists to meet the future needs of our country.**



## MRSP PROGRAM LEADERSHIP

**Robert Lembo, M.D., Acting Director, Office of Clinical Research Training and Medical Education, and Executive Director of Graduate Medical Education at NIH**

Dr. Lembo is responsible for administrative oversight of all accredited training programs at the Clinical Center, and for the maintenance of NIH institutional accreditation as a sponsor of graduate medical education.



**Susan F. Leitman, M.D., Director of the Medical Research Scholars Program in the Office of Clinical Research Training and Medical Education at the NIH Clinical Center**

Dr. Leitman develops the academic curriculum that Scholars follow during their residential research at NIH and provides guidance to Scholars based on their research and career goals.



**Richard G. Wyatt, M.D., Deputy Director, Office of Intramural Research, Office of the NIH Director**

Dr. Wyatt advises on clinical research and research training at NIH. He is engaged in overseeing the MRSP and participated in its creation as well as the programs that preceded it.

\* Physicians who primarily do research decreased from 4.6% (highest percentage) in 1985 to 1.6% in 2011. Physicians who primarily teach decreased from 1.8% (highest percentage) in 1980 to 1.1% in 2011.