

GATEWAY TO PEDIATRIC

RESEARCH PROGRAM

A Virtual Postdoc Pipelining Event for Diverse Scholars

April 21 and 22, 2021

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AGENDA

Wednesday, April 21, 2021

Time (EDT)	Event	Speaker
11:00 am - 11:05 am	Welcome and Introduction From the CEO	Madeline Bell <i>President and Chief Executive Officer, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia</i>
11:05 am - 11:15 am	Introduction to Children's Hospital	Wendy Reed Williams, PhD <i>Sr. Director, Office of Academic Training and Outreach Programs</i>
11:15 am - 11:30 am	Overview of the Gateway Program	David Taylor, PhD <i>Associate Director, Academic Training</i>
11:30 am - 12:00 pm	Faculty Keynote Research Presentation: Emerging Gene Therapies for the Brain	Beverly Davidson, PhD <i>Chief Scientific Strategy Officer, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, University of Pennsylvania</i>
12:00 pm - 12:30 pm	Faculty Keynote Research Presentation: Looking at Neurodegeneration Through a Pediatric Lens	Xilma Ortiz-González, MD, PhD <i>Assistant Professor of Neurology, University of Pennsylvania</i>
12:30 pm - 12:40 pm	Introduction to the CHOP Postdoc Alliance	Emma Sartin, PhD <i>Postdoctoral Fellow, Co-Chair, CHOP Postdoc Alliance</i>
12:40 pm - 1:15 pm	Postdoc Keynote Research Presentation: A Gnotobiotic Mouse Model of Pediatric Host-Commensal Interactions	J.B. Lubin, PhD <i>Postdoctoral Fellow for Academic Diversity</i>
1:15 pm - 1:30 pm	BREAK	
1:30 pm - 2:50 pm	Grad Student/Postdoc Participant Research Presentations	Grad Student/Postdoc Participants and CHOP Faculty
2:50 pm - 3:00 pm	BREAK	
3:00 pm - 4:30 pm	Faculty 1:1 Chats – Session 1	Scheduled Faculty

AGENDA

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Time (EDT)	Event	Speaker
11:00 am - 11:15 am	Welcome Back! Overview: CHOP Postdoctoral Fellowships for Academic Diversity	Paulette McRae, PhD <i>Assistant Director, Specialty Programs and Diversity</i>
11:15 am - 11:30 am	Why a CHOP Fellowship?	David Taylor, PhD <i>Associate Director, Academic Training</i>
11:30 am - 1:00 pm	Faculty 1:1 Chats – Session 2	Scheduled Faculty
1:00 pm - 1:45 pm	Q&A Session – Diversity Resources at Children's Hospital	Moderator: Amelia Eisch, PhD <i>Chair, Diversity Fellowship Advisory Committee, Professor of Anesthesiology & Critical Care and Neuroscience, UPenn</i> Amaliris Guerra, PhD <i>Postdoctoral Fellow, Chair, CHOP Postdocs for Diversity in Science, Co-Chair, UPenn Biomedical Postdoctoral Council Diversity Committee</i> Paulette McRae, PhD <i>Assistant Director, Specialty Programs and Diversity</i> David Taylor, PhD <i>Associate Director, Academic Training</i>
1:45 pm - 3:00 pm	CHOP Postdoc Panel: Life and Research in Philly	Moderator: Arwa Abbas, PhD <i>Postdoctoral Fellow for Academic Diversity</i> Panelists: Matt Charman, PhD <i>Postdoctoral Fellow, Lead, CHOP Postdoc Alliance Professional Development Committee</i> J.B. Lubin, PhD <i>Postdoctoral Fellow for Academic Diversity</i> Chimereodo Okoroji, PhD, NCSP <i>Postdoctoral Fellow for Academic Diversity</i>

WELCOME FROM THE CHIEF SCIENTIFIC OFFICER

Dear CHOP Gateway Program Participants,

In my time at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, one of the nation's leading pediatric research hospitals, I have witnessed the power of a diverse and inclusive workforce firsthand. Unique perspectives drive innovation, and this innovation in basic, clinical, and translational research propels CHOP to the front lines of discovery.

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's first Gateway to Pediatric Research event. You'll have the opportunity to interact with faculty and postdocs and hear about the exciting research taking place at CHOP. Importantly, we'll also be setting aside time for you to hear directly from current fellows about life and research on the CHOP and University of Pennsylvania campus. Please take advantage of this opportunity to get a feel for our vibrant research training community.

Our postdocs are leaders in their respective scientific disciplines, answering novel research questions and publishing exciting results in top-tier journals. I hope to count you among their ranks in the near future!

Sincerely,

Bryan Wolf, MD, PhD

*Executive Vice President and Chief Scientific Officer,
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia*

EVENT SPEAKERS



Madeline Bell

*President and Chief Executive Officer,
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia*

Madeline Bell is the President and CEO of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), one of the top-ranked children's hospitals in the United States. A bold and visionary leader, Bell champions change with empathy and integrity, inspiring the nearly 20,000 employees in the hospital's \$3.2-billion-a-year health system and Research Institute to create breakthroughs that have worldwide impact.

Bell began her career as a pediatric nurse at CHOP in 1983, later leaving the organization to move into hospital administration. She returned to CHOP in 1995 and has held a number of leadership positions, advancing from Vice President to Senior Vice President to Executive Vice President to Chief Operating Officer. In 2015, she assumed the title of President and CEO.

Bell has made numerous contributions to CHOP, including the development of one of the largest pediatric ambulatory care networks in the country, the expansion of the hospital's 4-million-square-foot campus, and the development of many nationally recognized clinical care programs. She also has secured many philanthropic gifts to help further the institution's mission. Bell is Chair of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia's Board of Directors and serves on the boards of Comcast-NBCUniversal, the Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics, and Solutions for Patient Safety, and on the executive committee of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce. She is a member of The College of Physicians of Philadelphia and of The Economic Club of New York. She is also an adviser to numerous international hospitals and frequently lectures on the topics of children's healthcare and women in leadership.

Bell has received many awards and accolades, including The Philadelphia Inquirer's Industry Icon Award and the Philadelphia Business Journal's Most Admired CEO Award. She was named one of Modern Healthcare's "100 Most Influential People in Healthcare" in 2017, 2018 and 2019, one of its "Top 25 Women Leaders" in 2019, and one of its "50 Most Influential Clinical Executives" in 2020. She was also included on WomenInc.'s 2018 list of "Most Influential Corporate Directors."

Bell is the author of the blog Heels of Success, which offers guidance to women on how to elevate themselves in the workplace, and the host of Breaking Through with Madeline Bell, a podcast that features interviews with CHOP doctors and scientists, as well as philanthropists, innovators, and business and civic leaders. She holds a bachelor's degree in Nursing from Villanova University and a master's degree in Organizational Dynamics from the University of Pennsylvania.

EVENT SPEAKERS



Arwa Abbas, PhD

Postdoctoral Fellow for Academic Diversity

Arwa Abbas is a second-year postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Dr. Joseph Zackular in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. Arwa graduated from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey with a bachelor's degree in Biotechnology, and she performed undergraduate research on environmental bacteria. She next studied the human viral microbiome for her doctoral work at the University of Pennsylvania and continues to parse the mysteries of the microbial world as a postdoctoral fellow. Specifically, her project in the Zackular Lab is focused on

determining how microbial interactions in the gut impact disease outcomes during infection with the important antibiotic-resistant bacterial pathogen *Clostridioides difficile*. When she's not at the bench, she is often doodling and has an interest in scientific communication and graphic design. Arwa has also been involved in community outreach in the city including as a City Year Philadelphia Corp Member and volunteer with the West Philadelphia-based Science Education Academy.



Matt Charman, PhD

Postdoctoral Fellow, Lead, CHOP Postdoc Alliance Professional Development Committee

Matt Charman is a postdoctoral fellow in the Division of Protective Immunity and Division of Cancer Pathobiology. Matt's research interests are focused on understanding virus-infected cells to inform therapeutic strategy, such as combating infection and utilizing DNA viruses both as therapeutic agents as well as tools of scientific discovery. His postdoctoral work investigates how viruses reorganize the nuclei of infected cells during viral replication.

Matt's academic education took place in the U.K., where he received graduate and postdoctoral degrees in molecular biology and virology from the University of Bristol and the University of Glasgow, respectively. He subsequently moved to Philadelphia in order to work as a postdoctoral fellow at CHOP.

Matt is also a founding member of the CHOP Postdoctoral Alliance (CPA) and head of their Professional Development Committee. He is a strong believer that working across fields and sharing knowledge amongst peers can help make breakthrough discoveries. In his role with the CPA, Matt has contributed to professional development programming that focuses on sharing the knowledge and expertise of our post-doctoral community to empower postdocs for career success.

EVENT SPEAKERS



Beverly Davidson, PhD

Chief Scientific Strategy Officer, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Davidson is the Chief Scientific Strategy Officer, the Arthur V. Meigs Chair in Pediatrics, and the Director of the Raymond G. Perelman Center for Cellular and Molecular Therapeutics at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). She is Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the Perelman School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania (UPENN). Dr. Davidson received her B.S. in Biology from the Nebraska Wesleyan University, and her Ph.D. in Biological Chemistry from the University of Michigan.

Professor Davidson's research is focused on inherited genetic diseases that cause central nervous system dysfunction, with an emphasis on recessive, childhood onset neurodegenerative disease; dominant genetic diseases; and understanding how noncoding RNAs participate in neural development and neurodegenerative diseases process. Her research on childhood onset neurodegenerative diseases is focused on experiments to better understand the biochemistry and cell biology of proteins deficient in these disorders, and to develop gene and small molecule based medicines for therapy. In recent work, she demonstrated that the application of recombinant viral vectors to animal models of storage disease reversed CNS deficits. To approach therapies for dominant disorders her laboratory developed and tested gene silencing and CrispR/Cas9 editing strategies for reducing expression of the disease gene in patient cells and in mice models. The Davidson lab, along with colleagues experienced in gene-based medicine delivery to humans, are advancing these promising preclinical studies to clinical trials in patients.

In 2017, Dr. Davidson was she was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, was appointed a member of the International Selection Committee for the 2018 Bower Award and Prize for Achievement in Science at the Franklin Institute, and was invited to join the Packard Center Board of Advisors at Johns Hopkins University. In 2018, Dr. Davidson was elected to the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. She also received the F.E. Bennett Memorial Lectureship Award from the American Neurological Association in October 2018. In 2019 Dr. Davidson was elected to the National Academy of Medicine. Also in April 2019 Dr. Davidson was elected Vice President of the Board of Directors for the American Society of Gene and Cell Therapy (ASGCT), the largest association of individuals involved in gene and cell therapy research. Dr. Davidson will serve as President of ASGCT from May 2021 through May 2022.

Dr. Davidson is a co-founder of Spark Therapeutics, Inc., and Spirovent Sciences, Inc. (formerly Talee Bio Inc.), and serves on several Scientific Advisory Boards, including Homology Medicines, Inc., Prevail Therapeutics, Panorama Medicine, Inc., Patch Biosciences, Resilience, SalioGen Therapeutics and Voyager Therapeutics.

EVENT SPEAKERS



Amelia Eisch, PhD

Chair, Diversity Fellowship Advisory Committee, Professor of Anesthesiology & Critical Care and Neuroscience, University of Pennsylvania

Amelia Eisch is a neuroscientist with a broad interest in how molecular and cellular changes – such as the changes in the number of neurons generated in the hippocampus, a brain region important for learning/memory and regulation of anxiety and the stress response – influence both normal behavior and cognitive functioning. She is interested in how developmental and adult neurogenesis in particular, and dentate gyrus plasticity in general, contribute to abnormal functioning with relevance to developmental, psychiatric, and neurological disorders. Current Eisch Lab projects span genetic, molecular, cellular, circuit, and functional/behavioral levels, and are funded by NASA and the NIH.

In addition to Dr. Eisch's neuroscience expertise, she has extensive experience mentoring trainees, including 100+ postdoc, predoc, and undergraduate trainees, as well as high school students. She currently serves as Co-Director of an NINDS T32 training grant on neurodevelopmental disorders, an Executive Committee Member and Co-Chair of Admissions for the PennMed Neuroscience Graduate Group, and Chair of CHOP's Diversity Fellows Advisory Committee



Amaliris Guerra, PhD

Postdoctoral Fellow, Chair, CHOP Postdocs for Diversity in Science, Co-Chair, UPenn Biomedical Postdoctoral Council Diversity Committee

Amaliris Guerra is a postdoctoral trainee at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Shortly before graduating from Temple University with a bachelor's degree in Biology, Amaliris obtained a grant from the National Science Foundation for the LAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Program at Temple University. Her thesis focused on a developmental time-course study on day-blind canines with mutations in the retinal cyclic-nucleotide-gated channel β -subunit. The work was part of a corrective gene therapy study for achromatopsia at the University of Pennsylvania's veterinary school. For her postdoctoral training, she wanted to turn her attention to sickle cell anemia. She found such an opportunity within the laboratory of Dr. Stefano Rivella at CHOP. Amaliris is currently working on innovating therapies to treat β -thalassemia and

sickle cell anemia, using lentiviruses as a tool. Her work has focused on investigating the role of the Transforming Growth Factor- β family on iron metabolism and erythropoiesis. As part of the Rivella laboratory, she is also working on building novel RNAi genetic tools and lentiviral delivery systems to aid in the correction of β -hemoglobinopathies and other diseases impacted by iron overload.

Amaliris is Co-Chair of the Diversity Committee for the Biomedical Postdoctoral Council. She has also been a member of Postdocs for Diversity in Science since 2016, and she recently took on the role of Chair. She hopes to contribute to CHOP's mission of creating an inclusive environment for researchers of all backgrounds.

EVENT SPEAKERS



J.B. Lubin, PhD

Postdoctoral Fellow for Academic Diversity

J.B. Lubin is a postdoctoral fellow under the joint mentorship of Dr. Michael Silverman and Dr. Paul Planet. J.B. is working towards understanding the factors that influence the ontogeny of the pediatric intestinal microbiome and its role in immune development and disease. Host genetic variation impacts the development of the human and murine intestinal microbiomes, yet we lack adequate tools to dissect these complex interactions between the host and its commensal

microbiota. J.B.'s primary goal is to develop a tractable gnotobiotic mouse model of the pediatric intestinal microbiome to answer these questions. J.B. earned his PhD in the Chemistry-Biology Interface program at the University of Delaware, where he focused on the evolutionary genetics and functional significance of sialic acid metabolism in *Vibrio* species.



Paulette McRae, PhD

Associate Director, Specialty Programs and Diversity

Paulette McRae, PhD, is Assistant Director of Specialty Programs and Diversity in the Office of Academic Training and Outreach Programs at CHOP's Research Institute. In this role, she works to enhance and support CHOP's growing population of diverse scientists by developing relevant programming and creating an inclusive and welcoming environment for researchers from all backgrounds. Additionally, she works with Research Institute Leadership to lead the development, implementation, and management of formal, discipline-specific research programs.

Paulette aims to promote and support diversity at all levels by identifying opportunities to expand outreach, visibility, and recruitment of students, postdocs and other researchers-in-training. She works closely with the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and the Associate Chair for Diversity in the Department of Pediatrics to align the diversity goals of the Hospital and the Research Institute.

Paulette started her career at CHOP as a postdoctoral fellow in the Division of Neurology, where her research focused on epilepsy and changes to the extracellular milieu. Upon completion of her training, she spent time as a pharmaceutical industry consultant at ETHOS Health Communications prior to returning to the Research Institute as an Academic Programs Officer. In this position, she developed the support infrastructure for CHOP research trainees and partnered with the University of Pennsylvania to develop CHOP's inaugural Postdoc Diversity Fellowship Program. Paulette has cultivated relationships with various organizations and institutions to build a talented pipeline of future STEM scholars.

She earned her PhD in Neurobiology from Yale University and her bachelor's degree in Psychology from Rutgers University.

EVENT SPEAKERS



Chimereodo Okoroji, PhD, NCSP

Postdoctoral Fellow for Academic Diversity

Chimereodo Okoroji recently earned her PhD in School Psychology from Michigan State University. She completed her clinical internship training at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, where she is currently a Postdoctoral Fellow for Academic Diversity. Dr. Okoroji's current research is focused on barriers and facilitators to engagement with integrated behavioral health services. Her fellowship project involves gathering qualitative data from important stakeholders to determine factors that affect patient and family participation in behavioral health from referral through

treatment. Dr. Okoroji's work aims to reduce disparities in access to mental health care through engaging underrepresented communities in research to improve outcomes and service delivery. Dr. Okoroji's broader scientific interests include community-based and implementation science research, racial identity development, effects of childhood experiences of discrimination on well-being, and parental racial socialization practices.



Xilma Ortiz-González, MD, PhD

Assistant Professor of Neurology, University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Xilma Ortiz-González is a physician-scientist specializing in pediatric neurology at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. She was born in Puerto Rico and completed her undergraduate education at the University of Puerto Rico, Cayey. She then joined the MSTP program at the University of Minnesota, then completed a pediatric neurology residency at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Her clinical practice focuses on neurogenetics, taking care of children with ultra-rare neurodevelopmental and neurodegenerative disorders. She enjoys the challenge of working at the interface between complex clinical cases and bench research to inform our understanding of disease mechanisms.

The Ortiz-González research laboratory focuses on the molecular mechanisms that underlie neurodegeneration, particularly the role of mitochondrial dysfunction.

Her laboratory uses human cellular models, including patient derived iPSC stem cells, to study neurodevelopmental and neurodegenerative disorders. Current projects include establishing the biological role of TBCK protein, since its loss of function leads to a progressive childhood-onset neurodegenerative disorder that Dr. Ortiz-González and collaborators recently described. The research examines the role of mitochondrial quality control as a marker for severity of neurodegeneration. Ultimately, the goal is to identify potential therapeutic strategies for pediatric neurodegenerative disorders.

During her clinical training she learned to appreciate a holistic approach to patient care and also learned about the important role of cultural and religious influences in clinical practice. She is a proud mother to two children, ages 7 and 3.

EVENT SPEAKERS



Emma Sartin, PhD

*Postdoctoral Fellow, Co-Chair,
CHOP Postdoc Alliance*

Emma, a first-generation college student, completed a dual-degree program at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, earning a PhD in Lifespan Developmental Psychology and an MPH in Health Behavior. She is now a Research Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Injury Research and Prevention at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, where her research focuses on studying and alleviating disparities in health behaviors, and improving physical and social outcomes for marginalized populations. She is collaborating on several research projects that aim to elucidate the nuances of, and similarities between, neurotypical teenagers and teenagers with developmental disabilities

during the learning-to-drive process. She is also working to develop a research program that utilizes data from the New Jersey Safety and Health Outcomes (NJ-SHO) Data Warehouse to establish pathways of disparities in transportation, with a goal of informing future interventions. Additionally, she is working with industry partners to develop and evaluate health technology-based interventions and tools to mitigate poor safety and health outcomes for child and adolescent populations across the U.S. Emma started working with the CHOP Postdoc Alliance (CPA) as the Chair of the Work-Life Balance sub-committee before moving into the role of Co-Chair in October 2020.



David Taylor, PhD

*Associate Director,
Academic Training*

David Taylor, PhD, is an advocate and career advisor for students and postdoctoral fellows, and currently serves as Associate Director, Academic Training, for the Office of Academic Training and Outreach Programs at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. After earning his doctoral degree in Pharmacology from the University of Virginia, he took on a brief postdoctoral fellowship at CHOP prior to transitioning into the institution's Research Administration Fellowship.

This program allowed David to garner extensive experience working in training and education, strategic planning, and academic affairs. David also volunteers his time to support and advocate for national and local non-profit programs. He has served on the National Postdoctoral Association Board of Directors and is also a founder of the LGBTQ Resource Group at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

EVENT SPEAKERS



Wendy Reed-Williams, PhD

Sr. Director, Office of Academic Training and Outreach Programs

As Senior Director of the Office of Academic Training and Outreach Programs, Wendy Reed Williams, PhD, manages a multi-faceted training and outreach function that provides institutional oversight in three key strategic areas: academic training, outreach programs, and specialty programs and diversity. Academic training provides professional and career development for researchers-in-training; outreach programs develops programs to grow the STEM pipeline and engage the community; and specialty programs and diversity launches novel pediatric research training programs that enhance the development of early career scientists and cultivate a diverse scientific workforce.

Dr. Williams earned her bachelor's degree in Zoology from Howard University and her PhD in Biology from The Johns Hopkins University. She transitioned to research administration after completing postdoctoral research fellowships at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and in the Division of Oncology at CHOP. Her work at the USDA focused on the control of gene expression, while her work at CHOP centered on understanding genes involved in leukemia development.

Dr. Williams enjoys educating scientists in a broad range of topics, including responsible research conduct and integrity in science. She also advocates for research trainees and is vested in strategic efforts to improve recruitment and retention among trainees from diverse backgrounds. As a former graduate student and postdoctoral fellow, she also understands the importance of gaining exposure to a variety of career paths and values high quality mentorship practices.

APPLICATION DETAILS: CHOP POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS FOR ACADEMIC DIVERSITY

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) views diversity as the key driver of achievement, particularly when innovation is critical. The Postdoctoral Research Fellowship for Academic Diversity at CHOP partners with the University of Pennsylvania's (Penn's) Provost Fellowship Program, which are competitive programs with a common goal of increasing the diversity of the scholar community at both CHOP and Penn. Both organizations, though independent entities, partner to fund these Fellowship programs to attract promising researchers and educators from different backgrounds, races, ethnic groups, and other diverse populations whose life experience, research experience, and employment background will contribute significantly to their academic missions.

At a Glance

- Salary (\$54,000 in year 1, increasing in \$2,000 increments in years 2 and 3) and benefits *
- Annual allowance for travel (\$2,000) and supplies (\$5,000)
- One-time relocation allowance for external candidates (up to \$5,000)
- Train in basic, behavioral, clinical, computational or translational research areas
- Engage in a personalized mentoring
- Present work internally at CHOP
- Develop into an independent investigator and receive support to identify, apply for, and secure additional funding mechanisms
- Prepare for next step in your career

*** CHOP Faculty please note:** The Research Institute covers the relocation allowance, travel/supplies funds, and **80% of the salary and benefits** for the duration of the three-year appointment. The faculty member would be required to provide funding for the remaining 20% of salary support and benefits. Please contact academicdiversity@chop.edu with any questions.

Meet Our Fellows

Find more current and past [CHOP Diversity Postdoc Fellows](#).

Eligibility

Application to the Postdoctoral Research Fellowship for Academic Diversity program is open to all who meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Candidates must be US citizens or permanent residents
- Graduate students must complete their PhD requirements by the Fellowship start date
- Postdoctoral scholars must have completed their dissertation within the last three years
- Postdoctoral fellows at CHOP less than one year at the time of application are eligible; *candidates who are not currently at CHOP are strongly encouraged to apply*
- Professional applicants (MD, DMD, VMD, JD, etc.) must be within one year of completing their post-degree professional training

APPLICATION DETAILS: CHOP POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS FOR ACADEMIC DIVERSITY

Application Procedures

The application is available annually in August. Required application materials include:

- **Completed application**
- **Curriculum vitae**
- **Personal statement**
- **Three letters of reference**
- **A letter from a CHOP-based faculty member** having similar research interests confirming that he/she is willing to serve as the applicant's primary mentor during the fellowship period

[Learn more about the CHOP Postdoctoral Fellowships for Academic Diversity.](#)

APPLICATION DETAILS: CHOP GATEWAY TRAVEL AWARDS

The Gateway to Pediatric Research Travel Awards provide \$2,000 in travel funds to eligible incoming postdocs that have (1) participated in both days of the Gateway to Pediatric Research program and (2) matched with a participating mentor as part of their program experience.

*** Please note:** Successful awardees are eligible and encouraged to apply for the [CHOP Postdoctoral Fellowships for Academic Diversity](#).

Eligibility for Travel Award

Application for the Gateway to Pediatric Research Travel Award is open to trainee/mentor pairs that meet all of the following eligibility criteria:

- Trainee applicant participated in both days of the Gateway to Pediatric Research program
- Trainee applicant has received a formal or informal offer of employment as a postdoctoral fellow at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
- Trainee commits to a minimum of one-year of postdoctoral training at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia *
- Mentor has required funds to support a minimum of two years of postdoctoral fellowship for the trainee
- Relocation from the old home and the new place of work must be at least 50 miles greater than the distance between the old home and the old place of work

The trainee applicant's travel and postdoctoral start date at CHOP must be on or before **January 1, 2022**.

Application Procedures

The application period runs from April 22, 2021 and continues until award funds are depleted. Awards will be disbursed on a rolling basis.

Required application materials include:

- **Completed application package, including eligibility verification from both trainee and mentor**
- **Mentor's biosketch**
- **Mentor's proposed training plan for the incoming postdoc**

Please contact atop@chop.edu to receive the required application materials.

*** Postdoctoral fellowships at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia are limited to five years in duration. Initial appointments are generally two-to-three years.**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Gateway to CHOP Research Program Development Committee

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- Paulette McRae, PhD
- Xilma Ortiz-Gonzalez, MD, PhD
- David Taylor, PhD
- Matthew Weitzman, PhD

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