Diversity Travel Award Guidelines

This year, fourteen Diversity Travel Awards in the amount of $1000 each are being offered. The intent of these awards is to increase attendance of diverse students to the National MD-PhD Student Conference. Criteria will generally follow the NIH criteria found here (Diversity tab). Diverse students are broadly defined as follows:

- Individuals from racial and ethnic groups that have been shown to be underrepresented in health-related sciences, including, but not limited to, American Indians or Alaska Natives, Blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders.
- Individuals with disabilities, who are defined as those with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.
- Individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, including those coming from a social, cultural, or educational environment that has recently, demonstrably, and directly inhibited the individual from obtaining the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to develop a research career. Such environments may include rural or inner-city settings.

Other Important Notes:

- The NIH criteria are not all-encompassing in our evaluation (e.g., gender identity, sexual orientation, etc.). You may certainly submit for a Diversity Travel Award if you feel you may qualify. If you do not meet the criteria listed above, then a submitted document on the MD-PhD Attendee Survey on why you qualify and how this award would help you, is required.

- Applications related to disadvantaged backgrounds can be difficult to justify for students at the graduate level. All applications related to disadvantaged backgrounds will be considered on a case-by-case basis. A submitted document on the MD-PhD Attendee Survey on why you qualify, and how this award would help you, is required.

- Recipients of the Travel Awards will be chosen on a competitive basis by a review committee. The key selection criterion will be the submitted research abstract quality. A submission on why you qualify for the award, and/or how this award would help you, may also be helpful. For incoming and 1st year students, abstracts can cover research prior to joining their program.

- If a selected student has already registered, a reimbursement check for $1000 will be processed to their institution. Otherwise, we will register the student and defray the registration fee. A check will then be processed to reimburse travel and/or hotel expenses.

Applicants must complete the following:

1. Submit a research abstract (2000 total character limit) with the MD-PhD Attendee Survey, and indicate that you would like to be considered for a Diversity Travel Award
2. If desired or required (see above), submit a document (2000 total character limit), with the MD-PhD Attendee Survey, on why you qualify for a diversity award, and/or how this award would help you.