

2026 CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

ICTR CTSA T32 PREDOCTORAL

CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH TRAINING AWARD

Application Deadline: Friday, February 27, 2026, 5:00 PM EST

OVERVIEW

The University of Maryland Baltimore (UMB) Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (ICTR) T32 Pre-doctoral Program is a collaborative effort amongst seven University of Maryland Baltimore (UMB) Schools including School of Dentistry, School of Law, School of Medicine, School of Nursing, School of Pharmacy, School of Social Work, and the School of Graduate Studies, as well as the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) and University of Maryland College Park (UMCP).

Funding for these awards will be provided through either the National Institutes of Health (NIH) National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) – a partnership between UMB and Johns Hopkins University (JHU) – **and/or** through ICTR internal funds from participating campuses.

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A. TERMS

- **Start Date:** July 1, 2026.
- **Duration:** T32 Predoctoral Program is **12 months**
- **Stipends, Tuition/Fees, etc.** - Terms of this award are according to the [Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award \(NRSA\) Stipends, Tuition/Fees and Other Budgetary Levels](#) *Please note that the scale guideline is for your reference only as it is due for a fiscal year update which may change amounts.*

B. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- United States Citizen or Permanent Resident.
- Must have received a bachelor's degree by the beginning date of trainee appointment.
- Currently enrolled in a Doctoral Degree conferring program at one of the following UMB Schools: School of Medicine, School of Dentistry, School of Nursing, School of Pharmacy, School of Social Work, Graduate School, and School of Law. UMBC and UMCP applicants must be enrolled in a doctoral degree conferring program at their respective institutions.
- If funded by the T32 training program, no other concurrent Federal funding is allowed.
- No more than 4 years of previous aggregate NRSA support.

C. TRAINEE COMMITMENT

- Pursue research training full-time (40 hours per week).
- Attend Didactic training seminars at both UMB and JHU. Online or hybrid format currently offered.
- A Clinical and Translational Research Project and a Primary Mentor are required.
- Completion of a master's degree in an area of clinical research is required and may require a step-out year from their current pre-doctoral program to complete research training and the master's degree in an area of clinical research. Approval required from candidate's school, depending upon the doctoral degree.
- Students must maintain good academic standing and a minimum semester GPA of 3.0.
- Predoctoral trainees may be enrolled in year 2 or later of their original doctorate conferring degree training depending on the plan of study.

Predoctoral T32 Program Milestones/Timeline:

| REQUIREMENT | DURATION |
|---|--|
| Engagement in full time (100% effort) in mentored research or education activities | Continuous throughout the one-year T32 predoctoral program |
| Participation in monthly T32 seminars and biannual Community Research Advisory Council (C-RAC) events. <i>Online or in a hybrid format currently offered.</i> | Monthly (>75% attendance required) |
| Individual Development Plan | As instructed |
| Submission (Fall 2026) and presentation of research at Association for Clinical and Translational Science (ACTS) National Meeting in Spring 2027 | Once |
| Submit ICTR mid-year progress report and an end-of-year ICTR report | Mid-year and the end of the one-year program |
| Attend manuscript writing workshop | As offered |
| Attend joint K12/T32 Workshops | As offered |
| Attend Career Development workshops | As offered |
| Meet with Primary Mentor | At least every 2 weeks |
| Present at Research-in-Progress Symposium and Community Research Advisory Council (C-RAC) | As instructed |
| Expected to publish at least one research paper | By the conclusion of training |
| <p>Educational requirements: Depending on the doctoral degree program that the trainee is enrolled in, predoctoral trainees not concurrently enrolled in a dual degree (e.g., MPH) will be required to enroll in a master's degree program in a clinical research area.</p> <p>UMB Applicants: Available UMB Master's Programs UMBC and UMCP Applicants: Encouraged to enroll in either UMB or relevant programs at their respective schools.</p> | Continuous throughout the one-year T32 predoctoral program |
| Students must maintain good academic standing, a minimum semester GPA of 3.0 | |

D. APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Required Supporting Documents

- Cover letter.
 - Curriculum Vitae (CV).
 - Personal Statement 2-3 pages in size 12 Arial font (please include project title, a detailed summary of the research plan (at least one page), short and long-term research goals, explain how the proposed training will help advance your career, research interest, and which specific master's or certificate program you plan to pursue if selected for the T32 award). Literature Cited will not count toward page limit.
 - **Applicants must submit a concurrent graduate school application [HERE](#)**. Application fee required. Please contact ICTR-Navigator@umaryland.edu for fee reimbursement after applying. When submitting the graduate application, please state that you are applying for the ICTR Training Program. You will also need to select the appropriate residency information on the application for tuition purposes (in-state vs. out-of-state). The personal statement for the T32 application and the master's essay is the same document. In addition, the letters of recommendation for the T32 Award are also the same as the letters of recommendation for the master's application.
 - UMBC and UMCP applicants who choose to apply for a program at their respective school, should follow the application guidelines for their school's program.
 - Transcripts from all higher-level institutions attended (unofficial transcripts will suffice for the application).
 - Two reference letters emailed directly from recommenders to ICTR-Navigator@umaryland.edu **no later than the application deadline**.
 - one letter of reference from a **former** professor/mentor **and**
 - one letter of reference from the **current** mentor along with the current mentor's NIH biosketch. The current mentor's letter of reference should include:
 - their previous mentoring experience (mentoring track record, please include list of former trainees who have established independent careers in research)
 - their level of commitment to the trainee including a brief mentorship plan, and frequency of meetings between mentor and mentee
 - the applicant's research abilities and potential to become an independent investigator, verbal and written communication skills, need for additional training, evidence for perseverance, and other attributes that make them competitive for this award.
- The current mentor's level of commitment to the trainee and the mentor's prior mentoring experience are key scoring criteria.**
- Letter from Academic Dean confirming good academic standing and, where appropriate, stating approval for the step-out year. Email directly to ICTR-Navigator@umaryland.edu no later than application deadline.

2. Submitting Supporting Documents

ALL required documents must be submitted electronically by **Friday, February 27, 2026, 5:00 PM EST**. **Late or incomplete applications cannot be considered.**

- **UMB** - log into the electronic application link found [HERE](#).
- **UMBC** - request an electronic application [HERE](#)
- **UMCP** - request an electronic application [HERE](#)
- **Reference letters and the Letter from Academic Dean** - email directly from recommenders to ICTR-Navigator@umaryland.edu by application deadline.

E. SELECTION PROCESS

The ICTR review and interview committees will be comprised of members from all UMB schools, specifically including each school's Academic Dean and/or Dean of Research (or designee), at least two other faculty members, a representative from the School of Graduate Studies and/or master's program, faculty from UMBC and UMCP. The reviewers for the applications will be selected from across professional schools. The selection committee will convene to discuss all applications and reviews. The top candidates will be invited for an interview. Our goal is to select candidates who, with proper career development and clinical and/or translational research training, have potential to become independently funded, successful, and ethical clinical investigators.

The UMB ICTR is committed to increasing the participation of populations underrepresented in the biomedical and behavioral sciences. These include women, individuals from ethnic or racial groups – such as Blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, American Indians or Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders – as well as individuals with disabilities or from disadvantaged backgrounds. Applications from women and minority candidates, as well as individuals with disabilities and disadvantaged backgrounds, are encouraged. Accommodations will be made to help individuals with disabilities so qualified applicants can complete the program.

F. CONTACT US

Applicants and/or nominating mentors should contact the UMB T32 Training Program Leadership to discuss eligibility requirements, obtain guidance about any exceptional circumstances, or discuss other aspects of the T32 award and its terms.

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