Call for Trainee Nominations to the Molecular Biophysics Training Program

Application due date: Friday, June 30th, 2023
Appointment start date: September 1st, 2023

The Northwestern Molecular Biophysics Training Program (MBTP) is soliciting nominations from preceptors for the appointment of pre-doctoral students as trainees of the program. The program will support **8 pre- doctoral students** this year. Currently enrolled rising 2nd- and 3rd-year students who are US citizens or permanent residents are eligible for (re)appointment. The program anticipates supporting **2 additional pre- doctoral students irrespective of nationality** through a mechanism funded by The Graduate School.

Students enrolled in the seven participating pre-doctoral graduate programs (DGP, IBiS, Biomed Engg, Chemistry, Chem & Biol Engg, NUIN, and Physics) who are applying biophysical approaches to study biomedically-relevant problems are eligible to apply. **Students from underrepresented backgrounds or with disabilities are especially encouraged to apply. All nominees should have already taken or registered to take the course on Rigor and Reproducibility (IBiS 421) offered over the summer.**

For new applicants, nominations must include the following items:

(1) The nominee must describe their career, research, and training goals by completing an Individual Development Plan.** To help set career goals, visit http://myidp.sciencecareers.org.

(2) A one-page statement from the nominee describing commitment to and a detailed plan for completing the curricular requirements of the training program. A summary of career goals should also be provided.

(3) A one-page research project description from the nominee providing background and biomedical significance of the research (0.33 page), a list of project goals (0.33 page), and specific plans to achieve these objectives (0.33 page). **Relevance to molecular biophysics must be emphasized.**

(4) A current C.V. – be sure to list all significant academic and research accomplishments.

(5) Copies of undergraduate and graduate transcripts. **Original transcripts are not required but must match official records.**

(6) Two letters of recommendation. One letter from the thesis mentor must (i) discuss why the nominee would be a good fit for the program, (ii) agree to allow mentees to satisfy all MBTP requirements, (iii) agree to the Preceptor Expectations and (iv) indicate that mentor has discussed the IDP with the nominee. A second letter from a faculty member (*e.g.*, rotation or undergrad mentors) familiar with the nominee's abilities and research potential. **Referees must upload letters to the website below *before* the deadline.**

For current trainees eligible for re-appointment, applications must include the following:

(1) A one-page research progress report from the trainee. The report must include background and biomedical significance of the research (0.25 page), a description of research accomplishments during the past year (0.50 page), and specific research plans for the next year (0.25 page).

(2) An updated Individual Development Plan describing the trainee's career, research, and training goals.**

(3) A current C.V. – be sure to list all significant academic and research accomplishments.

(4) Updated graduate transcript. **Original copies not required but must match official records.**

(5) Letter from the graduate research mentor evaluating the trainee's progress over the past year and the potential for progress in the upcoming year. **The letter must indicate (i) a statement approving the content of the progress report submitted by the trainee, (ii) attest that the mentor and mentee have discussed the trainee's IDP, and (iii) that the trainee has passed the qualifying exam, if applicable**.

**: required but not used for evaluation purposes

Please upload all requested materials to:

http://trp-application.mccormick.northwestern.edu

Direct questions to:

Mary Kale, Program Coordinator, Molecular Biophysics Training Program, Pancoe 4409, Phone: 847.491.5452;
mary.kale@northwestern.edu

Please visit the Molecular Biophysics Training Program website for more information.