



The AMERICAN ASSOCIATION of
IMMUNOLOGISTS

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Dear AAI Member:

We are pleased to announce that AAI is now accepting applications for the twelfth year of the **AAI Public Policy Fellows Program (PPFP)**.

The PPFP is a year-long program that provides early career researchers with the opportunity to learn about, and participate in, public policy and legislative activities that impact the conduct of biomedical research. Except for the travel experience described below, Fellows remain at their institutions throughout the year.

The PPFP helps participants better understand the role of the President, Congress, and federal science agencies [particularly the National Institutes of Health (NIH)], in drafting or implementing the laws and policies that govern biomedical research. The program also teaches participants how best to advocate for the federal funding and policies that affect their careers and the careers of scientists across the country. In return, the PPFP greatly benefits AAI and the immunology community by developing a cadre of well-informed members who actively advocate for the field and who are poised to help lead the association's public policy efforts in the future.

Those who are selected as 2022-2023 Public Policy Fellows will begin their fellowship year at the AAI annual meeting, [IMMUNOLOGY 2022™](#), which will take place from May 6 – 10, 2022. The program culminates in a trip to Washington, D.C., (at the expense of AAI) for a “Capitol Hill Day,” during which Fellows visit their congressional representatives and those of their colleagues, to advocate for increased NIH funding and discuss the importance of immunology. Throughout the year, Fellows will be kept informed of the latest happenings on Capitol Hill, as well as major policy issues, through monthly virtual meetings and email communication. AAI will also solicit their views on key topics, particularly those most relevant to early career researchers.

All Fellows are selected by the AAI Committee on Public Affairs. Applicants must:

- have received their Ph.D., M.D., or equivalent within the previous 15 years in immunology or a related field;

- be a member in good standing of AAI (must be a member at the time the application is submitted and throughout the Fellowship year);
- be committed to a career in biomedical research;
- have excellent interpersonal and communication skills;
- have an interest in public policy as it relates to biomedical research;
- live and work in the United States; and
- submit the required documentation, including references from two eligible AAI members, no later than the application deadline of **January 19, 2022**.

We welcome applications from eligible members across the United States and are proud that we have had participants from 36 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Because we are eager to broaden the geographic diversity of the program, we particularly hope to receive applications from interested members residing in the following states (whose Congressional delegations we have not yet visited): Alabama, Alaska, Delaware, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, and West Virginia.

We are very pleased to report that, based on anonymous post-program evaluations, 100% of the 100 AAI members who have completed the PFP say that they would participate in the program again and would recommend it to a friend. (Click [here](#) for a list of the current nine Fellows and the previous 100 Fellows.)

To apply, or for more information, please click [here](#), or contact AAI Senior Manager of Science Policy and Legislative Affairs Jake Schumacher at jschumacher@aai.org or (301) 634-7744.

We encourage you to share this information with your colleagues and look forward to welcoming another group of excellent citizen-scientists next spring!

Thank you in advance for your interest and support.

Sincerely,



Gary A. Koretzky, M.D., Ph.D.
AAI President



Peter E. Jensen, M.D.
Chair, AAI Committee on Public Affairs