

The AMERICAN ASSOCIATION of  
IMMUNOLOGISTS



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December 9, 2020

Dear AAI Member:

We are pleased to announce that AAI is now accepting applications for the eleventh 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 funding decisions and scientific policies that affect their careers and the careers of working scientists across the country and around the world. In return, the PPFP greatly benefits AAI by creating a cadre of well-informed members who actively advocate for themselves and their colleagues and who are poised to help lead the organization's public policy efforts in the future.

Those who are selected as 2021-2022 Public Policy Fellows will begin their fellowship year at the virtual AAI annual meeting, [IMMUNOLOGY 2021™](#), which will take place from May 10 – 15, 2021. The program will culminate in a trip to Washington (at the expense of AAI) for a "Capitol Hill Day," during which Fellows will visit their congressional representatives, and those of their colleagues, to advocate for increased NIH funding and discuss the importance of immunology. (A [video](#) from the first PPFP Capitol Hill Day is available here.) Throughout their fellowship year, Fellows will be kept informed of the latest happenings on Capitol Hill, as well as major policy issues, through monthly video conference calls 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 20, 2021**.

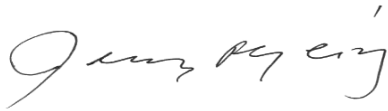
Ninety AAI members have completed the PFP thus far, and 100% say they would participate again and would recommend the program to a friend. (Click [here](#) for a list of the current ten Fellows and the previous 90 Fellows.) We are looking forward to welcoming another group of excellent citizen-scientists next spring!

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

We welcome applications for this important program from all eligible candidates and encourage you to share this information with your colleagues.

Thank you in advance for your interest and support.

Sincerely,



Jenny P. Ting, Ph.D.  
AAI President



Ross M. Kedl, Ph.D.  
Chair, AAI Committee on Public Affairs