



Research
Scholars

Hematology/Oncology



<http://researchscholars.gilead.com>

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the *Gilead Sciences and Kite Research Scholars Program in Hematology/Oncology* (the “*program*”) is to support innovative research from emerging investigators around the world to advance scientific knowledge in areas of unmet medical need and improve the lives of patients everywhere. Gilead Sciences, Inc. and Kite hopes that the research supported by these awards will enhance understanding of hematology/oncology.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The *program* provides financial support to 3 emerging investigators for a 2-year period. Each awardee is funded up to USD 130,000, paid in annual installments of up to USD 65,000 per year directly to the researcher's institution. Funding for the second year is contingent upon submission of a progress report by each emerging investigator and approval by the Chair of the Scientific Review Committee which oversees the *program*.

Recipients of these competitive awards under the *program* will be selected by a Scientific Review Committee (as defined below) comprised of independent, academic leaders in the field of hematology/oncology (the “*Scientific Review Committee*” or the “*Committee*”). The *Committee* will review complete applications and select research proposals based on their scientific merit, feasibility, and innovation.

Applicants must meet the eligibility criteria in order to be considered for an award. Refer to the [Eligibility](#) section on page 4.

SCIENTIFIC FOCUS

The *program* is designed to support innovative translational research projects in hematologic malignancies that can be based around either a clinical trial or laboratory investigation.

Awards granted under the *program* may not be duplicative of funding from institutional or hospital, other governmental, non-governmental, or industry sources. Applicants seeking an award for research projects that are currently receiving or may receive partial funding from other sources are required to submit appropriate evidence, including budget information related to the other sources, to demonstrate that there is no overlap or duplication in funding, as outlined in the current and pending funding form.

SCIENTIFIC REVIEW COMMITTEE

Applications will be reviewed by the **Committee**, comprised of internationally recognized experts in basic and clinical research in the field of hematology/oncology.

Chair:

Gilles Salles, MD, PhD

Chief of the Lymphoma Service
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, NY, USA

Review Committee:

Marie José Kersten, MD, PhD

Dean of the Hematology Fellowship
Amsterdam UMC, loc. AMC
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Pier Luigi Zinzani, MD, PhD

Professor of Hematology
University of Bologna
Institute of Hematology “Seràgnoli”
Bologna, Italy

Paolo Ghia, MD, PhD

Associate Professor
Internal Medicine Università
Vita-Salute San Raffaele
Director, Strategic Research Program on CLL
Division of Experimental Oncology
Istituto Scientifico San Raffaele
Milan, Italy

Won Seog Kim, MD, PhD

Professor
Division of Hematology/Oncology
Samsung Medical Center
Sungkyunkwan University
School of Medicine
Seoul, Korea

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Hold an MD, PhD, or equivalent degree at time of award
- Early to Mid-career scientists with a strong research track record who hold a position at a recognized research institution in one of the eligible countries at the time of application (see below for list of countries) and whose tenure of that position encompasses the projected period of the award from the Gilead and Kite scholarship program
- Have a strong career interest in hematology/oncology
- Have a research mentor with extensive experience in the field of hematology/oncology
- Be able to devote approximately 50% of their professional time to research for the next 2 years (versus administrative, patient care, or teaching responsibilities)
- Be able to complete the proposed research within the 2-year award period, providing evidence (manuscript, presentation, or abstracts) resulting from the research

Citizenship

Applicants must reside in one of the following eligible regions/countries:

Asia:

- Hong Kong
- Japan
- Singapore
- South Korea
- Taiwan

Europe:

- All countries

The Middle East:

- All countries

Australasia:

- Australia

An applicant must be a citizen or permanent resident of the country in which they propose to conduct the research, or otherwise hold a temporary study or non-immigrant visa which allows legal residency in the region/country in which the research will be performed. Such visa must be valid for the two-year award period.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

In their evaluation, the *Committee* will consider the following criteria:

Criterion 1: Evaluation of the Applicant

- Potential for a career in hematology/oncology related research, with a focus on hematologic malignancies
- Academic record
- Prior research experience and/or publications in hematology/oncology related research

Criterion 2: Mentor/Training Plan and Scientific Environment

- Letter of support from mentor which includes: commitment to supporting the continued career trajectory of the applicant within the institution, mentor's track record of productivity, funding and success with prior trainees, detailed description of the mentoring plan, including available resources allocated to the proposed research project, provision of protected time and available laboratory facilities
- The mentor is a well-established scientist whose research accomplishments have resulted in the bestowal of "tenure," i.e., long-term commitment of salary, personnel, and research resources
- The mentor has the experience to direct the proposed research training, as evidenced by the letter of support
- The training plan is sufficient to facilitate the applicant's progress towards his/her research career goals
- The proposed scientific environment contributes to the probability of success for the training experience
- Letter of support from the department chair or division chief that documents the institution is willing and has the ability to commit the resources necessary for the applicant to complete the proposed research, including sufficient protected time.
 - The department chair or division chief should also outline their commitment for supporting the continued career trajectory of the applicant at the institution following the completion of the award period

Criterion 3: Evaluation of the Proposal

- *Innovation and Significance:* The research proposal is new and original and addresses an important question/issue related to hematology/oncology. The proposed study will have an effect on concepts, methods, and/or technologies related to hematology/oncology research, with a focus on hematologic malignancies
- *Approach:* The conceptual framework, design, methods, and analyses are adequately developed, well-integrated, well-reasoned, feasible (as determined by preliminary data or the expertise available), and appropriate to the aims of the project. The applicant acknowledges potential problem areas and considers alternative tactics
- *Feasibility:* The project, as described in the submitted proposal and budget, can be accomplished within the timeframe of the award

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Submission Deadline: 21 March 2021, 11:59 PM Central European Time.

No applications will be accepted after this date.

Applications must be completed online and submitted electronically with the required Supplementary Materials to <http://researchscholars.gilead.com>

If you have any questions, or require further information, please contact:

Research Scholars Program Coordinator

Telephone: +44 (0)7920 506585

Email: EURResearchScholarsProgrammes@bcdme.com

Submit online at <http://researchscholars.gilead.com>

Application

Researchers must complete the online application form (all fields must be completed or applicant will not be able to submit) and include the following supplementary materials as specified:

- Research abstract
- Research proposal
- Applicant's biosketch, inclusive of publications if applicable
- Mentor's biosketch, if applicable
- Letter of support from mentor which includes: commitment to supporting the continued career trajectory of the applicant within the institution, mentor's track record on productivity funding and success with prior trainees, detailed description of the mentoring plan, including resources allocated to the proposed research project, provision of protected time, available laboratory facilities
- Bibliography of relevant references
- Detailed budget and completed budget summary
- List of current and pending funding, using the template provided on the *program's* website
- Letter of support from the department chair or division chief that documents the institution is willing and has the ability to commit the resources necessary for the applicant to complete the proposed research, including sufficient protected time.
 - The department chair or division chief should also outline their commitment for supporting the continued career trajectory of the applicant at the institution following the completion of the award period

GUIDELINES FOR THE RESEARCH PROPOSAL

The Research Proposal should be a clear and concise presentation of the *applicant's* proposed research.

The Proposal must include:

Research Abstract

Provide an abstract of no more than 325 words outlining the applicant's proposed research.

Research Proposal

Provide a description that is single-spaced (using 11-point Arial font) and limited to 5 pages total. Research proposals over 5 pages will not be accepted. **Please add your bibliography to your proposal but do not include those pages in the 5-page limitation.**

The proposal must include:

1. Title of the proposed research
2. Description of research objectives, including relevant literature, specific aims, study design, methodology, data, and projected results
3. Discussion of the relevance of the proposed research to the objectives of the *program* (see **Scientific Focus** section on page 2)
4. Description of analytical methods (figures and tables should be included in the body of the text, where applicable)
5. Description of potential research challenges and possible approaches for overcoming them
6. Description of relevant past work by the applicant, including joint collaborations and references

BUDGET GUIDELINES

Indirect Costs:

- In an effort to maximize the research benefit of the award, the *program* encourages that every effort be made to minimize the utilization of the award to cover indirect costs. Indirect costs may not exceed 10% of the award value, and are included as part of the budget, not as an addition to the value of the award (subject to local variances to be approved by Gilead Sciences and Kite). Indirect costs are defined as overhead costs paid directly to the institution, for example maintenance of labs/space and departmental/admin costs

Salaries:

- The applicant may allocate up to USD 50,000 per year in salary and fringe benefits support for the researcher, technician, and/or collaborator (which may or may not include a post-doctoral fellow or student)

Supplies:

- Supplies such as disposables, chemicals, reagent kits, animals, etc, may be included
- Equipment purchases with a single item value of greater than USD 2,500 may not be included

Submit online at <http://researchscholars.gilead.com>

Travel:

- Up to USD 1,500 per year for applicant's travel to a scientific meeting **for presentation of project data** may be included.

If the research project includes investigations on human subjects, a copy of the submission to the Institutional Review Board (IRB) must be submitted prior to award.

If the research project involves laboratory animals, researcher must certify that he/she will comply with all laws and regulations pertaining to care and use of animals in research prior to award.

PROGRAM TIMELINE

The timeline from application submission to award disbursement is below:

Application Deadline	21 March 2021, 11:59 PM Central European Time
Applicant Notification	1 June 2021
Award Disbursement	6 July 2021

INQUIRIES/CONTACT INFORMATION

For general inquiries about the Research Scholars Program, please call or e-mail:
Gilead Sciences and Kite Research Scholars Program in Hematology/Oncology

Attn: Research Scholars Program Coordinator
Telephone: +44 (0)7920 506585
Email: EUResearchScholarsProgrammes@bcdme.com

FUNDING CONSIDERATIONS

If you are selected as an award recipient, you and your institution must agree to the following items, including, but not limited to:

■ Exclusive Use of Funding

In an effort to maximize the research benefit of the award, the *program* encourages that every effort be made to minimize the utilization of the award to cover indirect costs. If required, up to 10% of the award can be directed to indirect costs (subject to local variances to be approved by Gilead Sciences and Kite).

■ Use of Gilead and Kite Products

Proposals utilizing Gilead and Kite product(s) are not eligible for funding through the Research Scholars Program. Proposals involving Gilead and Kite product(s) should be submitted for review under the Investigator-Sponsored Research Grant Program through our online portal:

<https://www.gilead.com/science-and-medicine/research/investigator-sponsored-research>

Submit online at <http://researchscholars.gilead.com>

■ Progress Reports

Submission of research progress and financial accounting reports for review by the *Committee* are required annually. Funding for the second year is contingent upon *Committee* Chair approval of the research progress report

■ Publications

The support received from Gilead and Kite under the *program* for this independent award must be acknowledged in any publication or abstracts resulting from research funded by this award

■ Intellectual Property

The host institution shall retain ownership of any invention conceived and reduced to practice during the length of the award resulting solely from the Research Plan. The invention shall be confidential information of the institution

■ Change of Award Recipient, Institution or Discontinuation

The Research Scholars Program Coordinator must be notified immediately if the award recipient leaves the host institution or discontinues the research funded by the *program*. In the event award recipient moves to another institution, the award may be transferred or suspended at the sole discretion of the *Committee*. The new host institution must also agree to accept the terms and conditions of the existing award. In the event the host institution or award recipient is unable to complete the research or desires to discontinue the research before its completion, institution will be required to return all unexpended funds and any remaining award will be cancelled

■ Data Protection

In order to process your application Gilead and Kite will need to process your personal data as entered onto the application form. You hereby give your consent to such control and processing of your personal data. Since this Research Scholars Program is being put in place by Gilead Sciences, Inc. and Kite based in the US you also understand and consent to the transfer of your personal data outside the European Union by Gilead and Kite as necessary to review and process your application. Gilead and Kite will handle your personal data in accordance with Gilead and Kite's Privacy Statement and in compliance with the data protection law of the awardee's country. The statement is available at the following URL:

<https://www.gilead.com/privacy-statements>

Award recipients and their institutions will be required to enter into a written grant agreement with Gilead Sciences, Inc. and Kite prior to receipt of funding.

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PROGRAM AWARD RECIPIENTS

2019 Recipients

Lina Benajiba, MD, PhD

Hôpital Saint-Louis
Paris, France

“In vivo humanized bone marrow functional screening to identify microenvironment-related therapeutic targets in AML”

Charles De Bock, PhD

Children’s Cancer Institute
University of New South Wales
New South Wales, Australia

“Long read sequencing to characterize the alternatively spliced transcriptome downstream of mutant JAK3 signaling in T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia”

Margherita Ghisi, PhD

Cancer Research Center of Toulouse
Toulouse, France

“Investigating the role of alternative splicing in metabolism and therapy resistance of AML”

2018 Recipients

Yoshikane Kikushige, MD, PhD

Kyushu University Fukuoka, Japan

“Elucidating a BCR-Mediated Positive Feedback Loop that Confers Survival of Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia Cells”

Fatih Kocabas, PhD

Yeditepe University Istanbul, Turkey

“Development of Small Molecule MEIS Inhibitors for Mitigating Cancer Growth”
Parma, Italy

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2017 Recipients

Dominik Beck, PhD

The Lowy Cancer Research Centre and the Prince of Wales Clinical School
Sydney, Australia

“Targeting Leukaemia-Specific Regulatory Elements for the Treatment of
Intermediate- and High-Risk Patients”

Benjamin Cao, PhD

Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation Clayton,
Australia

“Chemosensitization of Drug-Resistant Acute Leukemia Using a Small Molecule
Integrin Antagonist”

Javier Redondo-Muñoz, PhD

University Complutense of Madrid Madrid, Spain

“Unraveling Histone Modifications as Therapeutic Targets Against Leukemic Cell
Migration”

2016 Recipients

Teresa Ezponda, PhD

Center for Applied Medical Research Pamplona, Spain

“Deciphering the Role of lncRNAs in Multiple Myeloma”

Daniel J. Hodson, MD, PhD

University of Cambridge Cambridge, UK

“Developing New Models for the Functional Investigation of Lymphoma”

Hidekazu Nishikii, MD, PhD

University of Tsukuba Ibaraki, Japan

“Molecular Basis for the Involvement of Bone Marrow Microenvironment in
Myelodysplastic Syndromes and Acute Myeloid Leukemia”

2015 Recipients

Raphael Itzykson, MD, PhD

Hôpital Saint-Louis Paris, France

“Clinical Relevance of Leukemia Stem Cell Diversity”

D. Michiel Pegtel, PhD

VUmc University Medical Center Cancer Center Amsterdam

The Netherlands

“Discovery of Lymphoma-Associated miRNA Variants by RNA Sequencing
in Blood and CSF of Lymphoma Patients”

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*The Gilead and Kite Research Scholars Program
supports innovative research from emerging
investigators round the world to advance
scientific knowledge in areas of unmet medical
need and improve the lives of patients
everywhere*



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