

## Call for Applications

**Applications due: July 15, 2022**

The Duke WRHR Career Development Program is a K12 institutional career development award funded by NICHD that seeks to train and prepare the next generation of ob/gyn researchers through focused didactic and practical training in innovative research methods. Dr. Matthew Barber, Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Duke, is the PI. If you are a physician who has completed an ob/gyn residency program and are a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or have permanent residency (green card) at the time of appointment and are committed to a career in research relevant to ob/gyn, you are encouraged to apply if:

- You are within either
  - 4 years after completion of residency for those without formal post-residency training
  - 4 years after completion of subspecialty training in MFM, Gyn Oncology, REI or FPMRS
  - 4 years after completion of training in other subspecialties without formal ABMS certification (family planning, MIGS, global health)
- You
  - Have a current appointment, or are applying for an appointment, as a faculty member at Duke below the level of Associate Professor
  - Or you are in the second year of a fellowship at Duke and your fellowship will allow 75% of your 3<sup>rd</sup> year to be devoted to research
- You have not served as PI or PD on
  - an R01, R29, U01/U10, subproject of a Program Project (P01), Center (P50, P60, U54) grant
  - individual mentored or non-mentored career development award (e.g., K01, K02, K08, K22, K23, K24, K25, K99).
  - You are able to devote 75% of your full-time professional effort (normally defined as 40 hours per week) to research career development for a minimum of 2 years
- Your research project's primary focus is not on health policy, health care delivery, or health care services.
- Your research interests align with the Duke WRHR's major research themes:
  - Reproductive Infectious Disease and Immunology
  - Gynecologic Cancer
  - Peri-conceptual Wellness and Early Human Development

- Pregnancy and Perinatology
- Pelvic Floor Disorders
- Innovative Research Methods

We encourage you to contact the Program Director or Program Coordinator with any questions about the program or the application process:

Evan R. Myers, MD, MPH  
Program Director  
Email: [evan.myers@duke.edu](mailto:evan.myers@duke.edu)

Friederike L. Jayes, DVM, PhD  
Program Coordinator  
Email: [friederike.jayes@duke.edu](mailto:friederike.jayes@duke.edu)

**Individuals from groups underrepresented in the biomedical sciences are especially encouraged to apply.** Duke University offers equal opportunity to all applicants without regard to ethnicity, race, color, creed, sex, gender, age, disability, or national origin.

### **WRHR Scholars Award**

The Duke WRHR program has up to 2 active scholars at a time. WRHR scholars will receive salary and fringe benefit support (up to \$100,000) for **75% of full professional effort**. Research and Career Development Support up to \$25,000 per year will be provided for research supplies and equipment, technical personnel, tuition and fees related to didactic courses or career development, and travel to research meetings. Scholars are expected to publish and obtain independent grant funding by year 3. Maximum support is for 5 years. **We expect to appoint 1 WRHR Scholar in August 2022.**

Each scholar will work closely with one or more mentors with extensive research experience related to your research focus. Additionally, all WRHR scholars are expected to participate in research and professional development activities, including WRHR specific activities organized by the Program Director.

### **Application Process** (Deadline July 15, 2022)

All components of the application must be submitted by e-mail as **separate Word or PDF documents**.

**All application materials should be e-mailed to** [evan.myers@duke.edu](mailto:evan.myers@duke.edu) and [friederike.jayes@duke.edu](mailto:friederike.jayes@duke.edu).

**Applicants are encouraged to contact program leadership to discuss eligibility and mentor selection.**

The application must include the following:

1. NIH Biosketch (new format with eRA Commons name and link to bibliography)
2. Project title and a two-sentence description of the research project
3. A personal statement (2 pages max) that includes:
  - a. Description of long-term career goals.
  - b. Professional development plan: Description of career development goals (include course work, training, etc.) for the next 2-3 years.
  - c. Description how your mentor(s) will support you in your career development endeavors.

- d. Description of how the WRHR program will help meet your career/professional development goals
  - e. Plan for securing 75% protected research time and commitments for your 25% non-WRHR time.
4. A brief research proposal (2-3 pages plus references) for a specific project to be accomplished during the next 2-3 years. Include a description of how this project aligns with the current Duke WRHR themes. Describe how your mentor(s) will support you in your research. Budget is not required, but include other funding sources if estimated costs will likely exceed \$20,000/year.
  5. Plan for future funding (1 page): Briefly describe what question your future major grant application will investigate. Describe how the completion of your proposed WRHR project and your proposed career development goals will support that future major grant application.
  6. List of mentor(s): Although applicants are strongly encouraged to work with [mentors](#) who have already expressed a willingness to work with WRHR Scholars, we recognize that in some cases scholars may need specialized training that is not currently covered by our current mentors. For any new mentors, list not only their name(s), but also degree(s), academic ranks, affiliations (Department, Division, School), and disciplines/fields of research.
  7. Letters of support:  
All applicants should submit letters from
    - a. All proposed mentors. The letter should include how the mentor will support your career and professional development, and a plan for regular interactions.
    - b. Chief of the appropriate division of your department. The letter should include a description of how you will be able to fulfill the requirement of 75% professional effort devoted to research career development.

In addition, applicants from outside Duke should also submit at least one letter of support/evaluation from at least one current or past colleague or mentor who is knowledgeable about your prior accomplishments and suitability for this program.