



INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

DEADLINES

Applications must be completed and submitted by the following deadlines:

- Summer Student Fellowship – **FEBRUARY 15**
- Postdoctoral Award – **MARCH 1**
- Grant-in-Aid – **MARCH 1**

All material submitted becomes the property of *Fight for Sight*.
Late or incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

SELECTION PROCESS

All applications are reviewed by the FFS **Scientific Review Committee (SRC)**. These volunteers, many of whom are alumni or mentors themselves, include more than 60 researchers and clinicians with a broad range of expertise in academic ophthalmology, eye and vision research.

Each applicant is asked to choose one of three sub-specialty sections for their research project to ensure that the best qualified individuals review each unique application. These three sections consist of Anterior Segment, Posterior Segment and Visual & Motor Pathways.

Each proposal is assigned at least two primary reviewers within the assigned section. The quality of all applications is ranked according to four criteria: **1)** The proposal and its scientific merit, **2)** the clinical relevance of the project, **3)** the applicant and his/her letters of support and **4)** Facilities and resources.

All Postdoctoral Awards and Grants-in-Aid are further reviewed and discussed openly within each section during the FFS SRC annual review meeting at ARVO. At the conclusion of the review sessions, a complete ranking and ordering of applications is prepared and forwarded to FFS for review. Summer Student Fellowships are ranked according to reviewers' scores prior to the ARVO annual meeting.

Final awards determination is made by the *Fight for Sight* Board of Directors based on the recommendations of the Scientific Review Committee.

APPLICATION DETAILS

Applications are available on-line at <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ffs>.

In addition to our three grant categories, Fight for Sight is proud to announce that we will fund three special awards in 2010. These include:

A summer research fellowship in neuro-ophthamology for residents or fellows in partnership with [NANOS, the North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society](#). This award also includes travel funding for the grantee to present his/her finding at the annual NANOS meeting each spring.

A summer student fellowship to examine eye problems unique to women in partnership with [WomensEyeHealth.org](#).

The **Basil V. Worgul Lens Research Summer Student Fellowship** in memory of [Professor Basil Worgul](#).

Individuals specifically applying for any of these awards should include a cover letter in the Supplemental Materials section of their application indicating that they wish their research project to be considered for these specific funds.

Fight for Sight is grateful to our partner organizations and generous donors for their support of these special awards.

Summer Student Fellowship

Completed Summer Student Fellowship applications should include:

1. Application **face pages** and related information; *completed on-line and including information about the applicant, his/her education and training, institution and sponsor.*
2. The **Research Proposal**. *The entire proposal, not including references, should not exceed four single spaced pages.*
3. **Letter of Support** from Sponsor. *This letter should include an evaluation of the student, the role of the mentor in advising the applicant during the project, the training plan, any extracurricular training the student will receive and other information helpful to the committee in evaluating the mentor, the laboratory and the institutional resources in support of a FFS Summer Student Fellowship.*
4. NIH style **Biosketch** of Sponsor
5. **Supplemental Information**, *including relevant awards, previous research experience and academic or career goals.*

Postdoctoral Award

Completed Postdoctoral Award applications should include:

1. Application **face pages** and related information; *completed on-line and including information about the applicant, his/her education and training, institution and sponsor.*
2. The **Research Proposal**. *The entire proposal, not including references, should not exceed six single spaced pages.*
3. **Letter of Support** from Sponsor, Departmental chair and a third reference. *These letters should include an evaluation of the student, the role of the mentor in advising the*

applicant during the project, the training plan, any extracurricular training the student will receive and other information helpful to the committee in evaluating the mentor, the laboratory and the institutional resources in support of a FFS Postdoctoral Award. They should specifically address the suitability of the applicant's training, his/her academic achievements and, most importantly, his/her potential to develop into an independent eye and vision researcher and/or leader in academic ophthalmology.

4. NIH style **Biosketch** of Applicant AND Sponsor
5. **Supplemental Information**, including relevant awards, previous research experience and academic or career goals

Grant-in-Aid

Completed Grant-In-Aid applications should include:

1. Application **face pages** and related information; *completed on-line and including information about the applicant, his/her education and training, institution and sponsor.*
2. The **Research Proposal**. *The entire proposal, not including references, should not exceed six single spaced pages.*
3. **Letter of Support** from Departmental chair and one other individual. *These letters should include an evaluation of the junior faculty member and should specifically address the candidate's academic achievements and potential to develop into an independent eye and vision researcher and/or leader in academic ophthalmology. Such letters may also include departmental or extracurricular activities relevant to the applicant's continued career development as well as any other information helpful to the committee in evaluating the applicant, the research, the department and the institutional resources in support of this award.*
4. NIH style **Biosketch** of Applicant
5. **Supplemental Information**, including relevant awards, previous research experience and academic or career goals.

Fight For Sight invests in the future of eye and vision research by funding promising scientists early in their careers.
