



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

# Robert Wood Johnson Foundation **Clinical Scholars**



**2011–2012 Call for Applications**

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**Application Deadline**

February 29, 2012

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## Program Overview

(For complete details, refer to specific pages/sections noted below.)

### Purpose

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) collaborate to foster the development of physicians who will lead the transformation of Americans' health and health care through the *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars* program. These future leaders will conduct innovative research and work with communities, organizations, practitioners and policy-makers to address issues essential to the health and well-being of all Americans.

### Program highlights include:

- leadership training;
- mentoring;
- protected research time;
- local, regional and national networking;
- health services and community-based research training; and
- financial support for research projects and professional travel.

### Total Awards

- We will select up to 20 scholars in 2012 for appointments beginning July 1, 2013. First year scholar stipend is \$64,500 with an increase the second year. In some cases, VA stipends may be higher. Additional financial support is provided for research projects and professional travel.

### Eligibility Criteria (page 5)

To be eligible, physicians must:

- be committed to a career in academic medicine, public health, health policy or another career congruent with the program's purposes and priorities of developing physician leaders and skilled researchers;
- be highly regarded by those responsible for their clinical training;
- intend to complete the clinical requirements of their residency training by the date of entry into the program (except for surgeons); and
- be U.S. Citizens, Resident Non-Citizen Nationals or Resident Foreign Nationals.

Both MDs and DOs are eligible to apply.

We embrace racial, ethnic and gender diversity and encourage applications from candidates with diverse backgrounds and clinical disciplines.

### Key Dates and Deadlines

- **February 29, 2012 (5 p.m. ET)**—Deadline for receipt of applications.
- **April 13, 2012**—Interviews completed.
- **June 30, 2012**—Notification of acceptance.
- **July 1, 2013**—Entry of selected scholars into the program at participating universities.

### How to Apply (page 13)

To apply online and to obtain instructions please visit the program's website or contact:

Kristin Siebenaler, *deputy director*

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars

Phone: (919) 843-1351

E-mail: [rwjcsp\\_admin@med.unc.edu](mailto:rwjcsp_admin@med.unc.edu)

<http://rwjcsp.unc.edu>

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## The Program

For more than three decades, the *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars* program has fostered the development of physicians who are leading the transformation of U.S. health and health care through positions in academic medicine, public health and other leadership roles. Clinical Scholars will learn to conduct innovative research and work with communities, organizations, practitioners and policy-makers on issues important to the health and well-being of all Americans.

The goal of the program is to integrate scholars' clinical expertise with training in program development and research methods to help them find solutions for the challenges posed by the U.S. health care system and the health of U.S. communities. The program offers master's degree graduate-level study and research in a university-based, post-residency training program. The *Clinical Scholars* program generally involves two years of study with generous protected time for research.

Scholars train at one of the following participating institutions: the University of California, Los Angeles; the University of Michigan; the University of Pennsylvania; and Yale University. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) scholars also train at their affiliated VA medical centers. Although their programs vary in design and emphasis, each institution has developed a core structure that introduces scholars to the methods used in health care research, and each offers formal coursework, individual mentorship and guidance in project development.

Up to 20 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars will be selected. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) is funding up to 10 positions. The VA supports 10 additional positions each year through VA Medical Centers affiliated with the participating universities. The universities provide participating scholars with stipends that are comparable to stipends for similar post-doctoral research training positions at each institution. The VA stipends in some cases will be higher.

We expect scholars to complete graduate-level projects in their area of interest. To date, scholars have conducted studies in diverse health-related fields, such as problems of health care delivery and financing, clinical decision-making, social determinants of health, biomedical ethics, medical history and health policy. Two newer aspects of the program include leadership training and learning about community-based participatory research. Each scholar is supervised jointly by the directors of the *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars* program at the participating university and by faculty preceptors from the scholar's chosen priority area. Up to 80 percent of a scholar's time is protected for scholarly work. Twenty percent of a scholar's time should be spent on clinical activities. With approval by the national program office, training site program director, the national advisory committee, and fellowship director, it may be possible for the time in *Clinical Scholars* to be credited as research time in another fellowship. This must be discussed at the time of application.

Scholars also have the special opportunity to be mentored by one of the members of the program's distinguished national advisory committee (NAC). The NAC is composed of national leaders from a range of disciplines. The program assigns each scholar a NAC mentor, who will discuss career development and other issues, to complement the mentors at the participating university. NAC mentors meet with the scholars in person at the program's annual meeting and are available throughout the year as needed. Scholars from the four participating universities participate in an annual national meeting to foster networking and in-depth discussions of research and of change in health care systems.

The *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars* program is a core element of the Foundation's rich history of human capital programs and projects. Our Human Capital Portfolio seeks to build and maintain

a strong and diverse leadership and workforce in health and health care, and to help develop specific fields. For almost 40 years, the Foundation-funded *Clinical Scholars* program has trained more than 1,100 physicians from varied disciplines, many of whom have become national and international leaders in health and health care. The VA has provided financial and in-kind research support for over 30 years for this program. Former scholars are engaged in academic medicine, government and medical practice. Many serve as leaders of health care institutions and delivery systems in a variety of public and private settings; others are contributing to the formulation, conduct and evaluation of health-related public policy; and many continue active research careers on important topics in health and health care.

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**Eligibility Criteria**

To be eligible for the *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars* program, physicians must:

- be committed to a career in academic medicine, public health, health policy or another career congruent with the program's purposes and priorities of developing physician leaders and skilled researchers;
- be highly regarded by those responsible for their clinical training;
- intend to complete the clinical requirements of their residency training by the date of entry into the program (except for surgeons); and
- be U.S. Citizens, Resident Non-Citizen Nationals or Resident Foreign Nationals.

Both MDs and DOs are eligible to apply.

We will not consider applicants whose stipends will be supported or supplemented by other sources with the exception of active duty military physicians. RWJF and the VA make all funding decisions.

Consistent with RWJF values, this program embraces diversity and inclusion across multiple dimensions, such as race, ethnicity, gender, age and disadvantaged socioeconomic status. We strongly encourage applications from candidates who will help us expand the perspectives and experiences we bring to our work. We believe that the more we include diverse perspectives and experiences in our work, the better able we are to help all Americans live healthier lives and get the care they need. We encourage applications from diverse clinical backgrounds.

Applicants cannot be related by blood or marriage to any Officer\* or Trustee of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, or be a descendant of its founder, Robert Wood Johnson.

*\* The Officers are the Chairman of the Board of Trustees; President and CEO; Chief of Staff; General Counsel; Secretary; Assistant Secretary; Treasurer; and Assistant Treasurer of the Foundation.*

Desirable attributes of applicants include:

- demonstrated interest in improving health or the health care system;
- exhibited leadership capabilities, including setting high personal goals and motivating others;
- demonstrated ability to develop new ideas and to implement them;
- ability to interact and communicate effectively with others;
- record of consistent accomplishment of projected activities;
- previous research experience, published or unpublished; and
- interest in, and/or experience with, community organizations.

## Participating Universities

### University of California, Los Angeles, School of Medicine

Robert H. Brook, MD, ScD, *co-director*

Carol M. Mangione, MD, MSPH, *co-director*

Kenneth C. Wells, MD, MPH, *co-director*

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars

University of California, Los Angeles

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Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars at UCLA receive intensive training in the methods of creating health and health care change at community, practice and policy levels. The curriculum is based on a social, behavioral and community conceptual framework that combines didactic and experiential teaching methods. Scholars build on their own talents, as well as those of their mentors and diverse community partners, to become agents for improving health and health care.

Scholars spend their first year in intensive, community-based learning and project development, followed in subsequent years by advanced project completion and elective work. Scholars also learn health services research methods, including theory, study design and data analysis; fundamentals in health policy; biostatistics; scientific writing; and the application of these skills to conduct original research and to change health policy.

Scholars participate in clinical programs at the UCLA Medical Center, Harbor UCLA Medical Center, the VA Hospitals at Sepulveda and West Los Angeles, or their affiliated community programs. Scholars may also collaborate with nationally recognized staff at RAND who work in areas ranging from health policy and national security to civil justice, public safety, education, child policy and science and technology.

UCLA seeks applicants who are interested in coupling rigorous evaluation and research with efforts to enact community and policy change. Advanced elective experiences are available in supervised policy placements in Washington, D.C., and in the use of media to improve community health, building on the diverse media resources in Los Angeles. The community partners for the UCLA program are: Behavioral Health Services; Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science; Healthy African-American Families; Kaiser Permanente Medical Group of Southern California; L.A. County Departments of Mental Health, Health Services, and Public Health; Los Angeles Unified School District–Student Mental Health and Student Health and Human Services; Mid-Valley Family Health Center; QueensCare Health and Faith Partnership; UCLA Health System; Venice Family Clinic; Veterans Administration (VSN22); and JWCH Clinic at the Weingart Center.

### **University of Michigan Medical School**

Rodney A. Hayward, MD, *director*

Matthew M. Davis, MD, MAPP, *co-director*

Michele Heisler, MD, MPH, *co-director*

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars  
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Website: [www.med.umich.edu/csp](http://www.med.umich.edu/csp)

The *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars* program at the University of Michigan enables physicians with a wide range of interests to learn how to improve health and health care. Clinical Scholars participate in an integrated, intensive year-long curriculum designed to meet their specific educational needs and to move them efficiently toward research projects in their interest area. At the conclusion of the first year, scholars receive a master's degree in Health and Health Care Research.

Throughout their fellowship, scholars are guided by a mentorship committee of experienced faculty selected specifically for each scholar. Scholars can select their research projects to take advantage of close, long-standing linkages with nearby ongoing community-based research in settings such as the Prevention Research Center, the Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center or many other potential community sites.

A culture of collaboration encourages scholars to use the full range of university resources to design policy-relevant multidisciplinary research projects. Scholars work with faculty in the many strong units located within easy walking distance of the Medical School, such as the School of Public Health, the Institute for Social Research, the VA's Health Services Research Center and the College of Literature, Science and the Arts, as well as other schools and departments.

### **University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine**

Katrina Armstrong, MD, MSCE, *co-director*

Joshua P. Metlay, MD, PhD, *co-director*

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The *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars* program at the University of Pennsylvania is designed to provide training in health policy and community-relevant research to outstanding physicians who are committed to improving health and health care in the United States. The core of the training experience includes coursework and a thesis leading to a Master of Science in Health Policy Research. The program includes didactic experiences in study design and analysis for community and policy research, as well as training in leadership, communication, bioethics

and multidisciplinary science. The participating faculty, including course faculty and individual scholar mentors, are drawn from across the university, including the Schools of Medicine, Law, Social Policy and Practice, Education and Nursing, as well as the Wharton School and Annenberg School for Communication. Key clinical partners include the University of Pennsylvania Health System, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and Philadelphia VA Medical Center. All scholars participate in clinical activities tailored toward their clinical interests.

Scholar research projects range from community-based research partnerships with primary data collection to large-scale health policy analysis using national administrative datasets. All research projects are guided by small teams of faculty mentors, with frequent opportunities for group feedback on research in progress. The program connects scholars with a strong network of faculty on the campus, community leaders from Philadelphia, and program alumni across the United States. A multidisciplinary weekly seminar series and visiting speaker series further link scholars to a diverse group of researchers and health care leaders. All scholars collaborate on a community-based project at the start of the program. The program then facilitates individual longitudinal relationships with community organizations that guide scholar research and professional development. These organizational linkages help stimulate diverse training experiences for scholars both on and off the campus.

## **Yale University School of Medicine**

Harlan M. Krumholz, MD, SM, *director*

Rani Desai, PhD, MPH, *co-director*

Cary Gross, MD, *co-director*

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars

Yale University

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The objective of the *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars* program at Yale University is to prepare a select group of physicians to be leaders in improving the nation's health and health care. Scholars are taught to generate knowledge and insights and translate research into action at the local, state and national levels. The Yale program enables scholars to gain competence in clinical and health services research methods, biostatistics, health policy and management, community-based research and leadership.

Through curricular programs that are tailored to their needs, scholars learn to work effectively across disciplines; think creatively and rigorously about health care issues; lead organizational change; participate in policy development; collaborate in projects to improve community health; and ultimately, to generate ideas and make scholarly contributions that will improve health and health care. Long-standing relationships with community organizations in the New Haven area, fostered by Yale faculty and Clinical Scholars alumni, afford current scholars ample opportunities to participate in community-partnered projects. Scholars also meet with local and national leaders involved in health care delivery, including operations, policy-making, advocacy, government and research. Yale University offers rich and varied resources that foster the creation of a unique experience for each scholar, including

close linkages with faculty and programs at the Schools of Medicine, Public Health, Nursing, Law, Management, and the Graduate School.

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**Use of Foundation Funds**

RWJF makes grants to the four participating universities in accordance with our regular funding guidelines. They are: University of California, Los Angeles; University of Michigan; University of Pennsylvania; and Yale University. Under the program, the universities provide scholars with their stipends and health insurance for the 10 RWJF-funded scholars and the VA provides the stipends and health insurance for the VA-funded scholars, as well as faculty support, clinical resources and research databases for all scholars interested in the VA patient population. The first year scholar RWJF stipend is \$64,500 with an increase the second year. Stipends are comparable to stipends for similar research training positions at each institution. In some cases, VA stipends may be higher. Financial support is available at each university for expenses associated with all scholars' tuition, research, and travel.

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## How to Apply

Physicians who meet the eligibility requirements may apply online through the national program office (NPO) website at <http://rwjfsp.unc.edu>, or contact the NPO:

Kristin Siebenaler, *deputy director*

Phone: (919) 843-1351

Email: [rwjfsp\\_admin@med.unc.edu](mailto:rwjfsp_admin@med.unc.edu)

The application process begins 18 months before successful candidates start their terms as Clinical Scholars. The application period opens in November 2011. The NPO must receive completed application forms no later than February 29, 2012, to allow time to arrange and complete applicant interviews at the individual universities by April 13, 2012. Program directors will notify applicants who will be called in for interviews. We encourage applicants to consider more than one site in their application because of the limited positions available. After interviews are completed, applicants will rank the universities to which they applied and will have the opportunity to submit a revised personal statement.

The program's national advisory committee reviews all applications. We will notify candidates of the decision about their applications by June 30, 2012. Appointments begin July 1, 2013. RWJF does not provide individual critiques of applications submitted.

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**Program Direction**

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, which serves as the national program office (NPO), provides technical assistance, direction and development of core curriculum for the program: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
333 South Columbia Street  
Suite 323, MacNider Hall CB#7105  
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Responsible staff members at the NPO are:

- Desmond K. Runyan, MD, DrPH, *program director*
- Kristin Siebenaler, MPA, *deputy director*
- Kathy Donnal, *program administrator*

Responsible staff members at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation are:

- David Krol, MD, MPH, FAAP, *senior program officer and team director*
- John Lumpkin, MD, MPH, *senior vice president and director, Health Care Group*
- Christine Phares, *grants administrator*

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**National Advisory  
Committee**

**Richard D. Krugman, MD, *Chair***  
Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs  
University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine  
University of Colorado Health Sciences Center  
Denver, CO

**Richard H. Bell Jr., MD**  
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**Larry Culpepper, MD, MPH**  
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Boston University  
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**Joann G. Elmore, MD, MPH**  
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**Javier I. Escobar, MD, MSc**  
Associate Dean for Global Health and  
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**Karen Hein, MD**  
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**Arthur Kellerman, MD, MPH, FACEP**

Professor of Emergency Medicine  
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Director, Child Policy Research Center  
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Professor, Department of Psychiatry  
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences  
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**Malcolm Cox, MD**

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**Stuart C. Gilman, MD, MPH**

Director, Advanced Fellowships and Professional  
Development  
Office of Academic Affiliations  
Veterans Health Administration  
Washington, D.C.



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## **Timetable**

- **February 29, 2012 (5 p.m. ET)**

Deadline for receipt of applications.\*

- **April 13, 2012**

Interviews completed.

- **June 30, 2012**

Notification of acceptance.

- **July 1, 2013**

Entry of selected scholars into the program at participating universities.

\* Applications must be submitted via the RWJF online system. All applicants should log in to the system and familiarize themselves with online submission requirements well before the final submission deadline. Staff may not be able to assist all applicants in the final 24 hours before the submission deadline. In fairness to all applicants, the program will not accept late submissions.

## About the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation focuses on the pressing health and health care issues facing our country. As the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to health and health care, the Foundation works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, measurable and timely change.

For nearly 40 years, the Foundation has brought experience, commitment, and a rigorous, balanced approach to the problems that affect the health and health care of those it serves. When it comes to helping Americans lead healthier lives and get the care they need, the Foundation expects to make a difference in your lifetime.

For more information, visit [www.rwjf.org](http://www.rwjf.org).

Sign up to receive email alerts on upcoming calls for proposals at: <http://my.rwjf.org>.



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Foundation

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