



Office of Research

Jefferson-Pilot Fellowships in Academic Medicine

Overview and Nomination Process

Overview: Through the generosity of the Jefferson-Pilot Corporation, Jefferson-Pilot Fellows are selected each year in order to retain promising junior faculty at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine. Importantly, Fellows are given public recognition for prior achievements and the School of Medicine's recognition and confidence in his or her future.

Fellowship term: Four years unless the recipient's position on the faculty is terminated prior to expiration of the Fellowship.

Award amount: **\$20,000** over a four-year period (\$5,000 per year) to support the recipient's scholarly endeavors. The award should not be used as a supplement to the salary of the recipient or as a substitute for a portion of the salary. The funds of the award can be used, for example, to purchase equipment or supplies, for support of technical help, for travel to scientific meetings / other institutions, or for purchase of reprints of scientific papers.

This monetary award allows recipients to explore new ideas, new ways of teaching students, treating patients, or investigating biological problems that may not be available from other granting agencies.

Nomination Timeline

- Call for nominations released on June 6, 2025
- Nominations due by **August 15, 2025**
- Award announced by September 26, 2025

Award recipients will be expected to give a talk as part of UNC Research Week that will take place October 20 – 24, 2025.

Eligibility

- Full time faculty who have held a UNC faculty appointment for at least three years
- Fixed term and tenure track assistant and associate professors (without tenure) are eligible

Nomination Materials

- Curriculum vitae with a complete list of publications

- A nomination letter* from a faculty sponsor and a letter of support from the candidate's Chair *only if* the Chair is not the nominator
- (OPTIONAL) One or two more supporting letters from other faculty
- A description of Past Research Accomplishments (maximum one page).
- A Future Research Vision (maximum three pages). The goal of this section is to provide an outline of the candidate's most exciting and innovative future research directions. It should include:
 - Summary of Research Goals (approximately one page). This section should highlight and articulate the candidate's key scientific questions to be pursued and anticipated long-term impact of this work. Emphasis should be placed on transformative and high impact ideas that the candidate aims to pursue.
 - Research Outlook and Rationale (approximately two pages). This section should describe the rationale and motivation for the proposed research direction, including discussion of high-risk/high-reward aspects if applicable. The candidate should convey how their experience and accomplishments uniquely position them to pursue these goals, and how the work could lead to major breakthroughs or open new areas of inquiry. Feasibility and/or preliminary data that supports the proposed plan is strongly encouraged, including relevant publications that demonstrate the foundation for the proposed work.
- A description of the teaching, clinical, or service activities planned for the next several years (maximum one page).
- (OPTIONAL) Appendix: material is limited to essential preliminary data and either reprints or the title and abstract page from three relevant articles published by the applicant.

* Instructions to Nominators – Nominators should provide a written statement in support of the nomination setting forth his/her reasons for believing that the candidate would be particularly suitable for the award. The nominator may wish to support the nomination by requesting one or two additional faculty members to write letters of recommendation for the candidate.

Materials that exceed the recommended page limits will be returned to the applicants. Documents should be prepared in Arial, size 11 font with a minimum of .5" margins on each side.

Nominations should be submitted electronically as a **single PDF** via e-mail to [OoR Submissions@med.unc.edu](mailto:OoR_Submissions@med.unc.edu)

The Dean will make final appointment decisions with the advice and recommendation of the Review Committee.