



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Applications Open August 1 for Prestigious NREF Fellowships**

**ROLLING MEADOWS, Ill. (July 27, 2016)** — The Neurosurgery Research and Education Foundation (NREF) is pleased to announce that grant applications for two prestigious awards will open next month on the NREF's Online Grant Portal: the Post-Residency Clinical Fellowship and the William P. Van Wagenen Fellowship.

Awarded annually since 1968, the **William P. Van Wagenen Fellowship** is offered for post-residency study in a foreign country for a period of 12 months. The Van Wagenen Fellowship was designed to provide freedom in scientific development without the restrictive limitations usually imposed by many research grants and fellowships.

To allow more flexibility and planning time for both residents and their institutions of employment, the NREF will be accepting Van Wagenen applications for both the 2017-2018 academic year and the 2018-2019 academic year. Candidacy is open to all senior neurosurgical residents (PGY6 & PGY7) in approved neurosurgery residency programs and whose intent is to pursue an academic career in neurological surgery.

The William P. Van Wagenen Fellowship includes the following:

- \$120,000 stipend for living and travel expenses to a foreign country for a period of 12 months
- \$6,000 family travel and living allowance if a spouse and/or children will accompany the Fellow
- \$15,000 of research support to the university, hospital or laboratory sponsoring the Fellow
- \$5,000 for medical insurance, if needed

As the premier funder of neurosurgical studies and education, the NREF focuses on providing fellowship funding in basic neuroscience and neurosurgical programs in North America.

The NREF encourages institutions to apply for funding via the **Post-Residency Clinical Fellowship** for clinical neurosurgical fellowships. The NREF is responsible for all aspects of the fellowship grant program, including acceptance, review and approval of fellowship grant applications. The NREF will award fellowship grants based upon established program eligibility criteria and the needs of the requesting institution.

Fully funded fellowship grants will be awarded in the amount of \$75,000 for spine surgery and \$50,000 for all others. Depending on available support, grants may be awarded in lesser amounts. The grant is intended to cover the salary and benefits for the fellow first and some, if not all, related non-salary direct costs. Fellowship funds may not be used for indirect fellowship costs.

The online applications for the Post-Residency Clinical Fellowship and the William P. Van Wagenen Fellowship will be available beginning August 1 via the [NREF Online Grant Application Portal](#).

For more information about these and other NREF Grants and Awards, please contact Cathy Powers at (847) 378-0540 or [cmp@aans.org](mailto:cmp@aans.org). To support similar research and educational programs, please [Donate](#) today to the Neurosurgery Research & Education Foundation (NREF).

### ***About AANS***

Founded in 1931 as the Harvey Cushing Society, the **American Association of Neurological Surgeons** (AANS) is a scientific and educational association with more than 9,000 members worldwide. The AANS is dedicated to advancing the specialty of neurological surgery in order to provide the highest quality of neurosurgical care to the public. Fellows of the AANS are board-certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgery, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, or the Mexican Council of Neurological Surgery, A.C. Neurosurgery is the medical specialty concerned with the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of disorders that affect the spinal column, spinal cord, brain, nervous system and peripheral nerves.

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

### ***About the NREF***

The **Neurosurgery Research and Education Foundation** (NREF) is a not-for-profit 501 (C)(3) organization created in 1980 by the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) to support research and education efforts that enhance and confirm the critical role neurosurgeons play in improving lives.

The NREF is dedicated to providing education to neurosurgeons at all stages of their careers, as well as funding research into new and existing neurosurgical treatments, in order to identify links between best practices and improved outcomes in patient care. Through voluntary public donations, corporate support, and donations from allied groups, the NREF supports endeavors that impact the lives of those suffering from epilepsy, stroke, brain tumors, spinal disorders, sports-related head injuries, lower back pain and Parkinson's disease.