

Press Release



For Immediate Release

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NREF Announces New Residency Scholarship Program

October 5, 2021 (Rolling Meadows, Ill.) – The [Neurosurgery Research & Education Foundation](#) (NREF) is pleased to announce the establishment of the [NREF Directed Residency Scholarship](#), a new grant that includes support for a rotation away from one's home residency program.

A program designed for neurosurgical residents interested in expanded subspecialty experience, the Directed Residency Scholarship includes a rotation away from one's home ACGME-accredited neurosurgery residency training program during their residency, prior to their chief residency year.

"The NREF strives to stimulate learning by neurosurgeons and enhance educational opportunities through our fellowship programs. We are enormously grateful to the industry partners who have joined the NREF in our mission to bring innovative training programs that will expand young neurosurgeons' knowledge and, ultimately, improve patient care," stated Charles L. Branch, Jr., MD, FAANS, NREF Fellowship Committee Chair.

Qualifying programs would apply for a three (3) to twelve (12) month away rotation, in the United States or internationally, focused on a subspecialty experience with a Board-certified (or international equivalent) Neurosurgeon(s) or subspecialty surgeon(s) from another primary specialty. The supervising surgeon(s) will provide an educational experience for the resident and structured feedback. The program should involve hands-on clinical exposure to the subspecialty in the operating room and clinic environment.

Scholarships will be awarded based on available funding. A fully-funded, one-year scholarship is awarded at \$30,000, but may be awarded in other and/or lesser amounts depending on available support, program length and the total salary and benefits cost.

With support from **Globus Medical** and **Medtronic**, the NREF will provide funding to six (6) residents in the first year of the program. The following residents have been awarded scholarships for rotations in 2021-22:

- **Nancy A. Abu-Bonsrah, MD**, Johns Hopkins Hospital
- **Vaidehi Mahadev, MD**, UT Health San Antonio
- **Anthony L. Mikula, MD**, Mayo Clinic
- **Keaton Piper, MD**, Tampa General Hospital Foundation, Inc.
- **Myron Rolle, MD**, Massachusetts General Hospital
- **Vincent J. Rossi, MD**, Carolinas Medical Center

Applications for [2022-23 NREF Directed Residency Scholarships](#) opened October 1, 2021 through the [NREF Online Grant Portal](#). The deadline to submit an application is December 1, 2021.

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 is responsible for the review and approval of grant applications and awards grants based upon established fellowship program criteria and the needs of the requesting hospital and/or academic institution.

For more information about the Directed Residency Scholarship program or other grants and fellowships, please contact NREF at (847) 378-0500 or info@nref.org.

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About the NREF

The Neurosurgery Research & 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.

For more information about NREF, please visit www.nref.org.