



NASPGHAN FOUNDATION/ABBOTT ADVANCED FELLOWSHIP TRAINING IN PEDIATRIC NUTRITION

Submission Deadline: September 30, 2025

The award is expected to begin on July 1st of each academic term although alternate start dates will be considered to accommodate non-traditional academic schedules.

Description and Objective

Pediatric nutrition is one of the fastest growing areas of scientific and clinical importance to child and population health. To address this growing interest and to accelerate the training of pediatric experts, the NASPGHAN Foundation has partnered with Abbott Nutrition to develop a pathway for advanced fellowship training in pediatric nutrition.

The NASPGHAN Foundation/Abbott Nutrition Advanced Fellowship in Nutrition will provide up to \$75,000 in direct funding to support one year of advanced training in pediatric nutrition for a NASPGHAN member. Applicants are expected to identify a mentor and a host nutrition research program prior to application for funding. The fellowship must include a well-defined clinical experience as well as a focused research project. Examples of areas for emphasis include but are not limited to: fetal growth and neonatal nutrition, typical development of feeding skills/behaviors and feeding disorders; nutritional aspects of eating disorders such as anorexia nervosa and bulimia; malnutrition and failure to thrive; nutrition education; nutrition in specific systemic diseases or clinical states such as cystic fibrosis, liver disease, intestinal failure, and organ transplantation; nutrition support; community nutrition; nutrition epidemiology; energy homeostasis; nutrition and the microbiome; micronutrient homeostasis; nutrigenomics; obesity; breast milk and breast feeding; and basic laboratory nutritional science.

The primary objective of the fellowship is to catalyze and increase the number of highly-trained, expert nutrition clinicians, educators and scientists among the membership of NASPGHAN, as a means to improve service to our patients and the public.

Eligibility

- The applicant must be a MD, DO and a member in good standing of the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition.
- Applications will be accepted from candidates who are within ten years of their GI fellowship training.
- We encourage the creation of innovative or multidisciplinary training opportunities in addition to those structured in a traditional medical school and academic university hospital setting.
- Fellowships may be conducted in a variety of settings, including hospital-based programs, university nutrition programs, government programs, or not-for-profit entities.
- The applicant may not hold salary funding from any other granting agency for the award period.
- Although not required, strong preference will be given to applicants seeking training at a location distinct from the institution in which their fellowship training occurred. The role of the institution and trainee are key facets of this advanced fellowship grant and the award may not be transferrable should the grant recipient wish to change the institution for their training.

Grant Term and Stipulations

- The total award is up to \$75,000 in direct funding support for one year. The award should be used to support salary *up to* \$75,000 (base salary plus fringe benefits). An additional \$3,000 discretionary account may be established **from the \$75,000** award and is designated specifically for travel, books, journals, and other discretionary expenses.
- Institutional indirect costs are not permitted.
- All publications resulting from work supported by the NASPGHAN Foundation/Abbott Pediatric Nutrition Fellowship must acknowledge support by the relevant funding organization.
- A financial statement and progress report are required as a close-out report at the end of the training interval. The recipient

will be required to indicate how the funds were used; the accomplishments achieved during the project and how the additional training contributed to his/her research career development. The annual project update should include an information on publications and additional awards and/or funding to aid the Foundation in the collection of return on research data.

- The awardee must attend the 2025 NASPGHAN Annual Meeting to accept the award. The awardee must present the results of the research/QI project at the 2027 NASPGHAN Annual Meeting.

Review Procedures

The NASPGHAN Nutrition Committee and invited experts in the field will review and rank applications based on strength of the applicant and the strength of the proposed training program. This scoring system uses a 9-point scale for the overall impact score and individual scores for (at least) five scored criteria (significance, innovation, approach, investigators, and environment).

The ideal applicant will be the individual who meets the objective of the fellowship, demonstrates a proclivity for and track record of interest in pediatric nutrition, along with an enthusiasm for a continuing career contributing to the field of pediatric nutrition.

Although not required, strong preference will be given to applicants seeking training at a location distinct from the institution in which their fellowship training occurred. The role of the institution and trainee are key facets of this advanced fellowship grant and the award may not be transferrable should the grant recipient seek to train at a different institution.

Awards are given based on the merits of the applicant, research/QI proposal, and research/QI team as proposed in the application. Should elements of the grant application change, e.g., the applicant changes institution, the NASPGHAN Foundation must be duly notified. It will be up to the discretion of the NASPGHAN Foundation whether the application will need to be withdrawn or can be amended for further grant award consideration.

Members of the review panel will follow strict conflict of interest guidelines. Contact between the applicant or sponsors with committee members regarding applications is strictly prohibited and may lead to disqualification from further consideration.



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INSTRUCTIONS

FAILURE TO ADHERE STRICTLY TO THESE GUIDELINES COULD RESULT IN THE DISQUALIFICATION OF YOUR APPLICATION

Completed applications must include the following.

1. NIH biographical sketches of the principal investigator and sponsors. NIH biosketch format and instructions are posted at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>.
2. A training and career plan up to 5 pages as outlined below with 1/2-inch margins. Times New Roman or Arial font no less than 11 point are required. Page limitations and style requirements are strictly enforced. (No application more than FIVE single spaced pages will be reviewed).
 - Applicant personal statement outlining interest in a nutrition career (approximately 1 page)
 - Structure of the proposed clinical, research and programmatic experience. This section should include: a portrayal of goals for the training year; a statement of the scientific or clinical underpinnings of the training experience; role of the mentor/mentorship team, and a formal mentored research proposal (achievable within the one-year time frame of funding). The candidate is encouraged to use creative latitude in structuring this portion of the proposal to permit and describe a rich training experience.
 - Description of the environment and previous involvement of the institution and mentorship team in nutrition training
 - Long term career plans in nutrition and how the proposed experience will facilitate achievement of these plans should be briefly described.
3. Two letters of nomination are required:
 - One from the applicant's program director or division chief
 - The second from the applicant's proposed mentor
These letters should clearly outline the applicant's track record to date and the candidate's aptitude and zeal for a nutrition career. The mentor's letter should express their support and commitment to the proposed training program.
4. A one-year budget must be accompanied by a justification of the salary and must be appropriate for the institution's salary structure for the candidate's position (fellow, faculty member, etc.). A \$3000 non-salary line item in a separate item for discretionary expenses like travel, supplies, is permissible.
5. A required signature acknowledging review of the stipulation may not be transferrable should the grant recipient seek to train at another institution.