

Mobility is Freedom-Scholar Award Program RFP

Deadline for Application: Applications must be received no later than 11:59 pm, Eastern Time on Friday, March 29, 2024.

Approval for Funding: Nominations recommended for approval are presented to the Fund's Board of Directors and announced by June 1, 2024.

Description: The Mobility is Freedom Fund (MiFF)-Scholar Award Program supports the research and training of talented young doctoral students in the rehabilitation science at graduate institutions with the intention of supporting scholars with an interest in advancing knowledge, research and publications related to integrated, multi-disciplinary care for amputees, i.e., persons with limb loss. Based on institutional nominations, the program provides discretionary funding to a promising pre-doctoral student. The award is based on accomplishment in scholarly research as well as a compelling commitment to future rehabilitation research, and provides an unrestricted research grant of \$50,000.

Eligibility: The Mobility is Freedom-Scholar Awards Program is open to academic institutions in the States, Districts, and Territories of the United States of America that grant a Ph.D. in health sciences or equivalent. Nominees must be a full-time student, have completed their comprehensive qualifying exam, and be engaged in a doctoral dissertation research project. Institutions may submit only one nomination annually. Renominations in subsequent years are accepted.

Selection: The Fund seeks Mobility is Freedom-Scholars who have demonstrated leadership, original scholarly research of outstanding quality, and dedication to their training. Recommendations for awards are based on evidence of outstanding educational efforts and the nominee's scholarly research achievements, as assessed by a panel of distinguished scientists and clinicians in the orthotic and prosthetic and related patient care communities. Three outside letters of support (see below for details) are of value to the reviewers. Other considered factors are awards and honors, publication of research achievements in leading journals, and evidence of leadership.

Budget: The Mobility is Freedom-Scholar Award provides a \$50,000 unrestricted grant. Charges associated with indirect costs or institutional overhead are not allowed. Funds are normally expended over a period of three years in accordance with a budget finalist submits before funds are awarded. Approval by the Mobility is Freedom Fund is not required for budgetary changes after an award is made. If the awardee leaves the institution all remaining funds, as stated in that budget are due to be returned to the MiFF; the transfer of the remaining funds, while possible, requires prior Foundation approval.

Nomination Procedure: Institutions may make only one nomination annually for the Mobility is Freedom-Scholar Awards Program. All nomination materials and letters of support must be received at the Fund office by the March 29, 2024 deadline. The nomination consists of:

1. The nomination form (<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/qboc7r684af5cuh3si50v/MIFF-RFP-Announcement-with-Final-Date-Release-on-9-25-2023.pdf?rlkey=o5q8er1cqyf93i1f9ocjmas3&dl=0>)
2. A letter of nomination (limited to two pages) from an institutional representative (e.g. supervising professor or department chair) highlighting the nominee's academic and research accomplishments and the basis for selection. In addition, this letter may contain institutional and departmental descriptive information.
3. A summary description of the research plans (limited to six pages, including references)
4. A statement that illustrates the nominee's efforts in rehabilitation science (limited to two pages)
5. A CV (limited to five pages) including a list of publications in which independent contributions are clearly and separately identified. Research support should be indicated.

6. *A budget (limited to one page) describing how award funds will be used.*

Send all above materials as a single PDF to both: (a) via email to AGRM@mindspring.com; and (b) hard copy to: Mobility is Freedom Fund, Post Office Box 42409, Towson, Maryland 21284-2409.

Letters of support: Three letters of support should be sent directly to the Fund from individuals who know and address the nominee's capabilities and accomplishments as a research scientist. A letter from the candidate's Ph.D. advisor is required and should discuss the nominee's accomplishments as an independent investigator and any institutional resources which may be expected to be available in support of the applicant scholar's work. One letter may be from the candidate's home institution. A letter from neither a former advisor nor the home institution will be given the greatest weight. The letters of support should be received either with the nomination package, or separately but in advance of the March 29, 2024 deadline to: AGRM@mindspring.com.

Reports: Quarterly reports are required once the funding is initiated. A final report is due at the end of the third year. The report should be concise and contain the following information, to be sent as a PDF with particular focus on relevance of work to integrated, multi-disciplinary care for amputee:

1. *Highlights of research accomplishments during the award period and a description of any noteworthy awards, and any actual and/or pending publications*
2. *Research findings*
3. *Use of the \$5,000 for departmental expenses associated with research and education*
4. *An updated CV*
5. *Categorical financial report which may include the following categories:*
 - *Salaries and Related Expenses*
 - *Fringe Benefits*
 - *Equipment*
 - *Research Expenses*
 - *Supplies*
 - *Travel*
 - *Other*
6. *An optional statement of any newsworthy stories concerning the Scholar during the period of the Mobility is Freedom-Scholar Award.*

Send all above materials as a single PDF to: AGRM@mindspring.com_____.

Additional information:

1. Publications and presentations describing work supported by the award should acknowledge the Mobility is Freedom-Scholar Awards Program.
2. Recipients of the award are designated as a Mobility is Freedom Scholar.
3. Procedural questions may be directed to the Mobility is Freedom office by e-mail to: AGRM@mindspring.com.

Decision on Grant Award(s): This Request for Proposal does not comprise any commitment by Mobility is Freedom Fund (MiFF) to select an award winner in any year. Rather, applications will be reviewed and evaluated based on their merit, promise, relevance to the MiFF mission, at and with the sole discretion resting with MiFF as to both review processes and the final decision of whether to fund any grant application.

NOMINATION FORM:

INSTITUTION:

NOMINEE:

FIRST: LAST:

POSITION: YEAR OF FIRST ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT:

DEPARTMENT:

ADDRESS:

CITY: STATE: ZIP:

PHONE:

EMAIL:

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION:

INSTITUTION: YEAR:

DEPARTMENT:

GRADUATE EDUCATION (IF APPLICABLE):

INSTITUTION: YEAR:

DEPARTMENT:

NOMINATOR INFORMATION:

FIRST: LAST:

TITLE:

PHONE:

EMAIL:

SUPPORTING LETTERS

NAME:

INSTITUTION:

NAME:

INSTITUTION:

NAME:

INSTITUTION:

DESCRIPTION OF RESEARCH:

TITLE (\leq 15 WORDS):

DESCRIPTION OF RESEARCH (\leq 100 WORDS):

QUARTERLY REPORT FORM

NAME: MONTH/YEAR:

A. SUMMARY OF PROJECT(S)

PROJECT TITLE:

ROLE:

PROGRESS/GOALS COMPLETED/PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED:

PROJECTED PROGRESS FOR NEXT QUARTER:

ANTICIPATED COMPLETION DATE:

B. ABSTRACTS/MANUSCRIPTS

C. PRESENTATIONS AT MEETINGS

D. ABSENCES