



Rusyniak Memorial Medical Student Research Fellowship 2025-26

University of Rochester, Department of Neurosurgery

The Rusyniak Memorial Medical Student Research Fellowship is designed to allow medical students to engage in clinical or translational research with mentorship by a UR Neurosurgery faculty member. The Rusyniak Research Fellowship awards are funded by an endowment established within the Department of Neurosurgery and recognize the commitment of Dr. W. George Rusyniak to the education and inspiration of medical students with interests in Neurological Surgery.

Eligible medical students should have completed one or more years of medical school either at the University of Rochester or at an accredited program in the United States or Canada. Non-UR medical students are encouraged to contact Dr. Matthew Bender (matthew_bender@urmc.rochester.edu), Dr. Jonathan Stone (jonathan_stone@urmc.rochester.edu), Dr. Melissa LoPresti (melissa_lopresti@urmc.rochester.edu), Dr. David Paul (david_paul@urmc.rochester.edu) or Dr. Thomas Mattingly (thomas_mattingly@urmc.rochester.edu) for information regarding research opportunities in the University of Rochester Department of Neurosurgery.

Summer fellowship awards of \$6000 will be awarded to interested medical students who have completed one or more years of medical school. Research projects will be pursued under the mentorship by a UR Neurosurgery faculty member and interested applicants are encouraged to connect with faculty mentors in advance of submission of the application.

Year long fellowships of up to \$30,000 are also available to interested medical students with a demonstrated record of productive research in Neurosurgery who plan to spend a "year out" of Medical School pursuing a research project with a UR Neurosurgery faculty mentor.

The deadline for submission of the application for a summer research fellowship is Thursday, May 15, 2025 for the three month fellowship period between June and August, 2025 and for the year long fellowship beginning July 1, 2025.

The application for summer fellowships should include (a) a personal statement/why this is important to you and (b) a 1-2 page scientific proposal crafted with guidance from your UR Neurosurgery mentor addressing title/topic, hypothesis, research methods, data analysis and expected outcomes, (c) your mentor's letter of intent to provide mentorship and support of your research (d) a letter of recommendation from your proposed Neurosurgery faculty mentor.

Applications for the year long fellowships should include (a) a personal statement; (b) a detailed research proposal including specific aims, background & significance with preliminary data, research design & strategy, itemized budget, discussion of available resources and the available research environment; (c) your mentor's detailed letter of intent addressing mentorship and support and an evaluation of your detailed research proposal and (d) a letter of recommendation from your proposed Neurosurgery faculty mentor.

Applications should be submitted to Adrianna Robinson (adrianna_robinson@urmc.rochester.edu) at the University of Rochester Department of Neurosurgery.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Pilcher", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Webster H. Pilcher, MD, PhD
Ernest & Thelma Del Monte Distinguished Professor of Neuromedicine
Chair, Department of Neurosurgery
University of Rochester Medical Center