



Avon Global Breast Cancer Clinical Scholars Program

The Avon Foundation for Women is launching a new **Avon Foundation for Women Global Breast Cancer Clinical Scholars** program to provide intensive training in the United States for specialists in the breast cancer field from around the globe.

Goal of Program: To provide clinically-focused scholarship opportunities for breast cancer specialists from outside the United States to receive advanced training at a leading U.S. breast cancer center affiliated with the Avon Foundation for Women. The **Avon Global Scholars** will take advanced skills back to their home countries to improve treatment and care of women facing breast cancer.

Approach: The program will bring up to 50 outstanding clinician scholars to one of twelve Avon Foundation-funded breast cancer centers in the U.S. for a 4-week to 8-week intensive training/preceptorship for them to learn or become expert at new clinical skills.

Eligibility: Scholars will be physicians (M.D., D.O., F.A.C.P., or equivalent) working in breast cancer clinical care, who are primarily early to mid-career, who would benefit from a short program of advanced, intensive training at a leading U.S. medical center. Scholars must have approval from their home institutions and a commitment from their home institution that they have an employment position upon their return.

Key Dates: 2012 Group 1 Application and Review Schedule:

November 1, 2011	RFA Release Date and stage 1 applications accepted
January 6, 2012 (5:00pm EST*)	Stage 1 application due date
January 30, 2012	Decisions announced on Stage 1 applications Mentor / Applicant matches announced Stage 2 application development begins
February 27, 2012 (5:00pm EST*)	Stage 2 application due date (invited candidates only)
March 15, 2012	2012 scholars announced

** No late applications will be accepted*

• How will Scholars be selected?

There are two stages of review and selection. In Stage 1 the potential mentors at the host institutions will review applicants and select the strongest matches for their program. In Stage 2, the Avon Foundation Scientific Advisory Board will review the scholar/host matches and select the final awards.

• When will the first Scholars begin their work? How many scholars in first class?

The first group of 25 will begin in September 2012. The second group of 25 will begin in June 2013.

• **What are the specialties available for study?**

Breast cancer surgery; pathology; breast imaging (radiology); medical oncology; clinical trial design and community/public health

A goal is to have defined skills, defined learning or a defined work-product by the end of the 4-8 week training that can be taken by the scholar back to his/her home institution.

Examples of work products:

- Become expert at pathology techniques and quantifying ER/PR or HER2 marker staining
- Develop skills in core needle breast biopsy performance, interpretation and patient management
- Develop core skills in clinical research such as development of a patient registry database or clinical trial design
- Increase understanding of how to structure and conduct multi-disciplinary review of patient cases and proposed treatment plan
- Develop skills to take a drug/agent with anticancer activity in culture to preclinical testing, pharmaceutical assessment and Phase 0/Phase I trials
- Develop skills to perform epidemiological studies using a breast cancer database
- Understand how to develop a system of patient navigation or tracking in areas where barriers exist to delivery of long term follow up clinical care
- Increase skills in public health approaches to reducing stigma to breast cancer diagnosis, understanding benefits to cancer screening

Stipend: The Avon Global Scholars award is not intended to completely cover all travel or daily expenses during a recipient's travel. For example, the award does not cover medical care, medical insurance, travel insurance or taxes. All incidentals (room service, telephone, laundry, movies, etc.) will be paid for by the recipient. The recipient is financially responsible for all travel, living and related expenses not covered as part of the Global Scholars program.

It is expected that most scholars will be on a sabbatical leave from their home institution, and therefore will receive salary support from their home institution and be able to maintain any benefits (health insurance, retirement benefits) at their home institution during the time period that they are Avon Global Scholars. Up to \$10,000 will be available to cover economy class transportation, living, meeting and housing costs while participating in the Avon Global Scholar program. Travel must be booked through Avon's preferred travel agency. The stipend up to \$10,000 (minus all costs directly paid by Avon) will be paid by host institution to the Scholar.