Duke Institute for Health Innovation (DIHI)
Clinical Research and Innovation Scholarship

Time Commitment: 10-12 months
Amount: up to $25,000
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The Duke Institute for Health Innovation (DIHI) is a platform and resource for Duke University and Duke Health faculty, staff, trainees, and students to advance transformative innovations in health and healthcare delivery. DIHI is a hub that facilitates collaboration with those external to Duke Medicine and is an entry point for the Duke University Health System (DUHS) to develop and test new models of care, validate new technologies and lead research to develop insights on complex system transformations.

Every year through a request for proposals, DIHI and DUHS select innovation projects to pilot within the healthcare system. Funded pilots address actual and important problems encountered by care providers, patients and their loved ones in the DUHS, and represent urgent health challenges nationally. Each project is led by Duke clinical and research faculty in tandem with operational leaders to ensure that the innovative pilots not only meet rigorous standards, but also are tested and validated in a real clinical setting within DUHS. A list of funded projects and involved faculty can be found at the following URL: http://www.dihi.org/projects. Every year, funding decisions are made in February for pilots to begin in March.

Third year Duke University School of Medicine students can play a pivotal role through active participation in developing, testing and evaluating DIHI supported pilot projects. The DIHI clinical research and innovation scholarship will support a student to join an innovation pilot project team for the duration of third year. The student will be expected to pose an original research question that pertains to the project and must attend and lead team meetings. His/her proposed project must be developed with faculty leaders of one of the DIHI supported pilot. The project must align with the work and interests of faculty, residents, fellows, as well as graduate students across the university to develop, test and evaluate the pilot innovation.

The DIHI clinical research and innovation scholar will have the privilege of working closely with senior health system leaders and will be expected to attend regular meetings with DIHI team members and advisors. The student will be included in discussions relating to innovation across the four DIHI pillars (implementation and health delivery science, health technology innovation, health leadership development, and applied health policy) and will represent DIHI at events and conferences outside of Duke related to healthcare innovation.

At the conclusion of the scholarly experience, the student’s innovation project should be submitted for publication and for presentation at a national conference. The student may also contribute to a grant to secure future funding for the innovation project. The student will present his/her work to Duke leaders, including a detailed report that will be finalized in consultation with DIHI leadership.

www.dihi.org