Robert E. Fischell Institute for Biomedical Devices

MPowering the State Student Entrepreneurship Fellowship

With support from MPower funds, the University of Maryland, College Park and University of Maryland, Baltimore have developed new, cross-campus programming and infrastructure to foster collaborative research and help recent graduates bring their ideas to market.

The newly established MPowering the State Student Entrepreneurship Fellowship will help transition innovative medical device projects into great business ideas by utilizing various programs offered through the University of Maryland, including the Master of Engineering (M.Eng.) program. Those interested in applying for this fellowship should consider the following criteria:

• The sponsored project(s) should utilize technology developed at the University of Maryland, College Park and University of Maryland, Baltimore.
• The sponsored project(s) can be a continuation of a Senior Capstone project.
• Funding is awarded for one to two years.

Award Details

This fellowship is open to students graduating from the engineering, pharmacy, or related STEM programs. Fellowship benefits include:

• Fellowship recipients will be enrolled in the Master of Engineering (M.Eng.) program, beginning Fall 2020.
• The fellowship stipend may be applied toward tuition costs for the M.Eng. program.
• Fellowship recipients will have access to dedicated lab space and material support for prototype development.
• Fellows will build connections with industry and regulatory professionals.

Selection Process & Criteria

The fellowship application process opens in December 2019 and recipients will be notified before Spring 2020 commencement. The two-phase selection process will include:

1. **Phase I: Written application (Deadline Jan. 18): Submit online here.**
   Requirements include: statement of purpose, business plan, and academic transcripts (unofficial online transcripts are acceptable). There is no maximum or minimum word count for the statement of purpose or business plan.
   Business plans should answer the following:
   What is the unmet clinical need that your idea/product will address?
   What is the societal impact of your idea/product?
   How is the idea/product unique?
   What is the technology that will be used, and how do you envision the product to be manufactured?
   Which regulatory pathway do you expect to take? (optional)

   * Applicants who do not have a current project or product for which they would like to submit a business plan may instead write a business plan for a relevant existing product in their area of interest. There is no minimum/maximum word count.

   * Letters of recommendation are not due until completion of Phase II of the application process. They should be sent directly to fischellinstitute@umd.edu.

2. **Phase II: Presentation of business/medical device idea (By invitation)**

For more information or to apply, click here.
If you have questions about the fellowship or the application process please contact Dr. Martha Wang: martha@umd.edu