
HOUSTON METHODIST HOSPITAL
Department of Pathology and Genomic Medicine
Histocompatibility and Transplant Immunology Pathology Fellowship

Description: Houston Methodist Hospital, Department of Pathology and Genomic Medicine, in Houston, Texas, an affiliate of Weill Cornell Medical College, offers two two-year fellowship positions (one-year track via ACGME-accreditation through Methodist GME, and the second year via Methodist departmental) in histocompatibility and transplant immunology (HLA) for MD physicians who have completed pathology specialty training, and/or PhD doctorates who have completed their PhD training. *Note: the PhD fellows complete the two-year training program through the Methodist Pathology Department and Methodist Med Staff Services credentialed as an allied health professional.* The fellowship positions are available to those eligible candidates who are interested in pursuing a career in HLA laboratory management and related research. Located in the heart of the Texas Medical Center, Houston Methodist Hospital is a 950-bed private adult teaching hospital with a 1.6 million square foot outpatient center that registers over 310,000 annual outpatient visits. The hospital offers a full range of services from primary to tertiary care, including a multi-organ transplant center and cancer center.

The two two-year fellowship positions are available each academic year, and/or every other academic year (depending on how often filled) under the directorship of Geoffrey Land, PhD, HCLD, and David Bernard, MD, PhD. The Methodist Transplant Center is one of the Nation's largest and performs approximately 300 transplant procedures annually, including heart, lung, liver, kidney, pancreas, and multi-organ. Fellows will study proper testing procedures (component collection and processing) of HLA gene products, donor screening, methodology, and clinical correlation of testing. Tests include ABO grouping, HLA typing, antibody screen, lymphocyte crossmatch (compatibility), and PRA determination. Major equipment in the HLA laboratory includes two Luminex xMAP systems. The program includes rotations in transfusion medicine, hematopathology/flow cytometry, and immunology/serology. Also, rotations at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center (MDACC) that focuses on bone marrow/stem cell transplantation, allele and haplotype frequency determinations, and molecular testing.

Training in laboratory management and information systems is included in all rotations. The program requires scholarly activity in the form of a research project to be completed under staff supervision for publication. Fellows are responsible for the HLA case conference and HLA journal club/research conference at Houston Methodist Hospital and MDACC, and have the opportunity to attend various pathology conferences, along with other residents and fellows in the department. Fellows are expected to successfully pass the ABHI board examination for histocompatibility directors, after completion of the two-year fellowship program.

The program is supervised by two ABHI certified immunologists, and five pathologists with certification in subspecialty areas including molecular genetic pathology, transfusion medicine, and hematopathology.

Requirements: MD Candidates must be board certified or board eligible in clinical pathology, anatomic pathology or anatomic/clinical pathology, and must be eligible for a Texas Physician In Training Permit license, or hold a full physician Texas Licensure. PhD candidates must be complete with PhD program and certificate prior to starting fellowship program.

Stipends: Commensurate with level of post-graduate training.

Applications: Deadline for application is December 31st of the year prior to the intended fellowship year which begins July 1st. Application inquiries are to be directed to: Geoffrey Land, PhD, HCLD, Director, HLA, Houston Methodist Hospital, Department of Pathology and Genomic Medicine, 6565 Fannin Street, M227, Houston, TX 77030

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