

**MD DEGREE WITH DISTINCTION IN RESEARCH PROGRAM APPLICATION**  
**Robert Wood Johnson Medical School**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Projected Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_ Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_ Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Campus Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Site where research will be conducted: \_\_\_\_\_

Time period during which research will be conducted: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Research Project: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Names & departments of potential *additional* RWJMS faculty members for the DIR Student Advisory Committee**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH:** On a separate page, provide a summary of your education, previous research experience and any publications in resume format.

**ACADEMIC STANDING:** Students must be in good academic standing and have completed the appropriate requirements for their current status in medical school to be considered for DIR.

**RESEARCH PROPOSAL:** The Research Proposal is in two parts: Part I describes the Research Project and Part II describes the student's role in the project and the timeline for research. The entire proposal should be 9 pages or less of text (single spaced, minimum font size = 11).

**PART I – Research Plan (7 pages or less):**

- A. Abstract (150 words or less)**
- B. Introduction/background/significance**
- C. Hypothesis to be tested (include rationale for hypothesis)**
- D. Specific Aims**
- E. Preliminary data (not required, provide only if obtained by the student)**
- F. Research Plan**
- G. Methods (experimental and data analysis)**

**H. If Human Subjects Research -- include the following:**

1. Human subject involvement and characteristics
2. Sources of materials
3. Potential risks
4. Recruitment and informed consent
5. Protection against risk

**I. References (1-2 pages)**

**PART II – Student Role & Timeline (2 pages or less):**

- A. Research Team (include other people working on the project, their names, titles, and role, if applicable)**
- B. Student Role (detailed description of student’s role and time commitment to the project. Examples of items to include description of activities and time spent in sample preparation, data generation/collection, nature of any contact with human subjects, description of any training activities or coursework related to the research project. Be sure to include the amount of time the student plans to spend on these activities.)**
- C. Timeline (with milestones for IRB preparation and approval, if applicable, participant selection/enrollment, if applicable, data collection and analysis, publication preparation, etc)**
- D. Plans for obtaining human subjects (IRB) or animal (IACUC) approval for proposed work, if required.**

**MENTOR LETTER:** A signed letter from the mentor outlining the student’s role in the proposed work and verifying that the student has written the proposal is required. The mentor letter must also explain the scientific merit of the project, confirm the feasibility of the proposed time frame and describe any planned publication of the work. **THIS LETTER IS VERY IMPORTANT AND HELPS THE COMMITTEE EVALUATE THE QUALITY OF THE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE FOR THE STUDENT.**

**MENTOR CV:** The mentor’s CV must be submitted along with the application package.

**Please SUBMIT all files electronically (PDF preferred) to Evelyn Blas in the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs at [blasev@rwjms.rutgers.edu](mailto:blasev@rwjms.rutgers.edu) and copy (cc) Anna Petrova, MD, PhD, MPH, Chair, DIR Committee at [petroran@rwjms.rutgers.edu](mailto:petroran@rwjms.rutgers.edu)**

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING USE OF ANIMALS OR HUMANS IN THE PROPOSED RESEARCH. THESE PAGES MUST BE SUBMITTED ALONG WITH THE DIR APPLICATION.

**CERTIFICATION FOR THE CARE AND TREATMENT OF ANIMALS – (IACUC)**

All animals used in institutionally approved activities will receive appropriate care and use according to Public Health Service policy, recommendations and guidelines contained in the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, and applicable provisions of the Animal Welfare Act. Any application involving laboratory animals must be reviewed and approved by an appropriate institutional committee.

**Please check the appropriate statement(s).**

- No laboratory animals will be used in any of the proposed activities planned in this application.
- Laboratory animals will be used in the proposed activities planned in this application. If marked, you must complete all information below.
- Application in process for submission
- Approval Pending (Submission Date \_\_\_\_\_ Protocol# \_\_\_\_\_)
- Approved (Date \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_)
- Student added to an active animal protocol (Date \_\_\_\_\_ Protocol# \_\_\_\_\_)
- IRB Approved Student Participation (Date \_\_\_\_\_ Protocol # \_\_\_\_\_)

**CERTIFICATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN SUBJECTS (IRB)**

Any application involving human subjects must be reviewed and approved by an appropriate institutional committee.

**Please check the appropriate statement(s).**

- No human subjects will be used in any of the proposed activities planned in this application.
- Human subjects will be used in the proposed activities planned in this application. If marked, you must complete all information below.
- Application in process for submission
- Approval Pending (Submission Date \_\_\_\_\_ Protocol# \_\_\_\_\_)
- Approved (Date \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_)
- Student added to an active IRB protocol (Date \_\_\_\_\_ Protocol# \_\_\_\_\_)
- IRB Approved Student Participation (Date \_\_\_\_\_ Protocol # \_\_\_\_\_)

Mentor \_\_\_\_\_  
Print name Signature Date

The signature indicates that mentor has approved the attached student proposal and agrees to supervise the thesis work.

Student \_\_\_\_\_  
Print name Signature Date

***PLEASE NOTE:*** Application forms must be submitted to the respective committee on or before the due date August 1 or March 1) of the DIR application.

**IRB and IACUC forms must be submitted to the respective committee along with the DIR application. The approved IRB/IACUC protocol must be active (not expired).**