

T32 short-term application guidelines

NIH Grant T32AR073157, “Pre and Post-Doctoral Training in Joint Health”

Rush University Medical Center

Updated: May 2026

This program funds research in musculoskeletal science, is funded by the National Institutes of Health and is administered locally by Dr. Rick Sumner (Anatomy & Cell Biology). Short-term traineeships (2-3 months) are described in this document. Please note that the deadline and application form itself are identical to those used for the Summer Research Fellowship. In fact, applications not accepted for the T32 will automatically be considered for the Summer Research Fellowship. The essentials of the T32 program are listed here:

- The focus is musculoskeletal research, widely defined.
- The mentor or co-mentor should include a T32 faculty member (see link, below).
- The deadlines and application form are the same as used for the Summer Research Fellowship with the additional requirement of a CV/Resume.
- You are encouraged to discuss your interest in the program with Dr. Sumner during the fall, i.e., well before the application deadline.
- Applicants must not have any outstanding deferred grades during the M1 year to participate in the T32 short-term training program.
- You must commit to work on your project for 8 weeks, the bulk of which will usually occur between the last day of M1 and the end of the first 3 weeks of the M2 year (approximately early June to late July).
- T32 short-term trainees will participate in RMC-5EI (Basic Biomedical Research) and RMC-590D (the Professional development course – research track) during the training period.
- T32 short-term trainees are expected to submit an abstract to the Rush Trainee Research Day in the following year and may have the opportunity to co-author abstracts submitted to national meetings and publications.
- T32 short-term fellows are paid a stipend (i.e., are not an employee), whereas Summer Research Fellows are considered employees so there are some key administrative differences. NIH-supported stipends are \$2,447/month (2026). The Rush Medical College student who earns a T32 short-term position is typically granted a 2 month short-term traineeship.
- T32 short-term trainees are expected to provide annual follow-up information, as requested by grant administrators at Rush.

T32 web site: <https://www.rushu.rush.edu/rush-medical-college/departments/department-anatomy-cell-biology/anatomy-cell-biology-education-offerings/nih-t32-training-grant-joint-health>