THE EDMOND J. SAFRA FELLOWSHIP IN MOVEMENT DISORDERS

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE
Movement disorder specialists (neurologists with subspecialty training in Parkinson’s disease and other movement disorders) serve as an important bridge between scientific advances in the lab and positive patient outcomes in the care setting. While the demand for movement disorder specialists is increasing, not enough neurologists are receiving this vital training. To address this unmet need, The Michael J. Fox Foundation (MJFF), in collaboration with longtime partner the Edmond J. Safra Foundation, introduced The Edmond J. Safra Fellowship in Movement Disorders. By funding academic centers to train new movement disorder clinician-researchers, this program aims to develop a network of highly trained specialists to be the next generation of leaders in Parkinson’s research and clinical care.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, AVAILABLE FUNDS AND TIMELINE
The Edmond J. Safra Fellowship in Movement Disorders is open to established movement disorder centers worldwide and seeks to support promising MD and MD/PhD applicants. MJFF will award five two-year fellowships ($90,000 per fellow per year, $180,000 total). These funds may cover the fellow’s stipend, benefits and travel allowance. No indirect costs may be claimed for this award.

To allow centers time to identify the most competitive recipients, MJFF will award funding directly to qualified centers. Centers must then nominate prospective fellows for final review by MJFF. This nomination will include submission of the fellow’s CV to apply and a recommendation from the assigned mentor. Individual fellowship applicants are not eligible but are encouraged to inform institutions about this funding opportunity.

As the program is designed to expand the capacity of leading centers to train movement disorder fellows, awarded centers must identify and support a new fellow. Funding cannot be used to support a fellow already enrolled in or selected for the center’s fellowship program.

Applications from movement disorder centers will be evaluated on the following criteria:
• Previous experience training fellows for productive research and clinical care careers
• Research environment and research training program
• Clinical care center and clinical learning opportunities
• Departmental support for the fellow
• Biographical sketches for five faculty members who will be active in the training program

CLASS OF 2024 DEADLINES
• Applications Due: December 10, 2020
• Anticipated Award Announcement: Spring 2021
• Awarded Centers Identify Potential Fellows: September 2021
• Final Selection of Fellows: October 2021
• Fellowship Begins: Summer 2022
THE EDMOND J. SAFRA FELLOWSHIP IN MOVEMENT DISORDERS - CLASS OF 2024

The Edmond J. Safra Fellowship in Movement Disorders awards funding to academic centers to train a new movement disorder clinician-researcher over a two-year period. Centers worldwide are invited to apply.

Please review the instructions and requirements below before you log in to the MJFF Grant Portal. Please note that applications will only be accepted through the Grant Portal.

- Using the template provided (page 2), please give a brief overview of your center’s training opportunities and illustrate how a fellow can benefit from your program. On the “Project Information & Description” tab of your online application, you will be asked to upload your completed template as a pdf.
- All applications are treated confidentially and will be reviewed by MJFF staff in collaboration with external peer reviewers to determine their fit with the program goals.

Submitting an Application

All applications must be submitted through the new MJFF Grant Portal.

Getting Started: New Users
If you have never applied to an MJFF RFA, click the “Register Here” button.
1. Search for your organization in the “Organization Name” field. If your organization is not found, click “Add New Organization” and complete the organization registration.
2. Complete the “Contact Information” fields. Be sure to use an active email address.
3. Click the “Submit” button.
4. You will receive an email to the provided email address.
5. Follow the instructions in that email to set a password and log in to the Grant Portal.

Getting Started: Returning Users
If you have applied to an MJFF RFA in the past, click the “Returning User” button.
1. Input the email address associated with your MJFF account.
2. If the email you entered is in our system, you will receive an email instructing you to reset your password and log in to the Grant Portal.
3. If you do not receive an email, you may try a different email address. If you still do not receive an email, please register as a new user.

Once you have logged in to the MJFF Grant Portal, click the “Funding Opportunities” button to view open funding opportunities. Select “The Edmond J. Safra Fellowship in Movement Disorders – Class of 2024” and proceed to start your application.

Please Note:
Symbols do not transfer correctly to our online system. Please make sure to spell out any symbols (e.g., alpha-synuclein) in your online application.
Please use this template and limit your application to two pages. You may delete the instructional text.

Given that the length and structure of movement disorders training varies from center to center and worldwide, please provide as much detail as possible about your center’s experience and ability to train a movement disorder specialist clinician-researcher. If you have any questions about the application, please email grants@michaeljfox.org.

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE
State how your program has successfully trained fellows for productive careers as movement disorder clinician-researchers.

RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT
Indicate how fellows benefit from your center’s research environment and activities. Also, summarize what research training the fellow will receive (e.g., didactic lectures, mentorship, development and management of his or her own research project, etc.) throughout fellowship. Details may include what research opportunities are available at your center, how the trainee will participate, etc.

CLINICAL CARE
Describe how the center educates fellows in the clinical care of movement disorders. In addition, describe the fellow’s clinical rotations, responsibilities and any unique learning opportunities. Details may include number of patients (new and return) seen each week, required and/or available educational opportunities, etc.

CLINICAL SUPPORT
Summarize how the center and the faculty mentor fellows and support their professional development. How will you guide the fellow to become an expert and leader in movement disorder care and research? Details may include formal research or other training opportunities as well as information on how mentoring will take place.
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

REQUIRED. Please attach biographical sketches (NIH format) for five faculty members who will be actively supporting and/or mentoring the fellow as a separate appendix.