



Whitaker
International Fellows
And Scholars Program

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Whitaker International Program Establishes New Summer Grants Program

NEW YORK, NY, October 5, 2011—The Whitaker International Program, administered by the Institute of International Education (IIE), is launching the Whitaker International Summer Grants Program for young US citizen or permanent resident biomedical engineers . Applications are now available online for the first round of grants which will be for July 1 to August 30, 2012.

With support from the former Whitaker Foundation, IIE will provide bioengineers and biomedical engineers funding for eight (8) weeks to pursue, in an international setting, a high-quality activity relevant to their field of focus in biomedical engineering (BME). Grants can support research, or course work in BME, or an internship in industry. By providing young bioengineers and biomedical engineers the opportunity to go abroad, the Whitaker Summer Grants Program will achieve the following objectives:

- Improve the expertise of the participants as scientists,
- Build individual and institutional partnerships, and
- Establish dialogues between the scientific community in the U.S. and rest of the world.

There will be one competition each year for the summer program. The awards will include a fellowship award, living costs, round-trip international airfare, and health insurance.

To be eligible for the award an applicant must:

- have U.S. citizenship or permanent residence in the U.S. ;
- be a current Master's or Ph.D. student at a U.S. University in bioengineering or biomedical engineering.

Any overseas academic institution, research lab, or corporation may host a grantee if it can offer an outstanding professional experience in biomedical engineering. Grant applicants must obtain their own placements, but the suitability of these placements will be reviewed as part of the application.

The experience must lead to a substantial enhancement of the student's professional experience in biomedical engineering.

The competition is now open, with an application deadline of February 6, 2012. Award winners will be selected by a review committee, which will evaluate applications in spring of 2012 for awards to run from July 1, 2012 and end with a final program debriefing at the end of August, 2012. For more details and application guidelines, please visit www.whitaker.org.

The Whitaker Foundation was created in 1975. Throughout its history, the Foundation primarily supported interdisciplinary medical research, with a focus on biomedical engineering. Most of the Foundation's efforts were directed toward the establishment and enhancement of formal educational programs and the support of especially talented students and faculty. In 2006, the Foundation ceased operations, and committed its remaining funds to a grant program focused on strengthening international collaborative links between young leaders in BME worldwide. Under the guidance of the Institute of International Education, the *Whitaker International Program* is designed to bring international experience and insight to the field of biomedical engineering.

The Institute of International Education, based in New York, was founded in 1919 as an independent, nonprofit organization and has become a world leader in the international exchange of people and ideas. It administers the Fulbright Program, the U.S. Government's premier public diplomacy initiative, and works to solve global problems and to foster mutual understanding among the peoples of the world.