

## CAREER TRANSITION FELLOWSHIP

The National MS Society's National Board of Directors has determined that ending the devastating effects of MS will require a cadre of well-trained scientists engaged in MS-related research. The Society's Career Transition Fellowship addresses this need by fostering the development and productivity of young scientists who have potential to make significant contributions to MS research and help ensure the future and stability of MS research.

### GENERAL

The Career Transition Fellowship targets current postdoctoral trainees who demonstrate both commitment and exceptional potential to conduct MS-related research. The award provides approximately \$550,000 over five years to support a two-year period of advanced postdoctoral training in MS research and the first three years of research support in a new faculty appointment.

In order to submit a proposal for research support, investigators must first register with our apply online site ([www.mssocietyapplyonline.org](http://www.mssocietyapplyonline.org)) and complete a pre-application. Staff of the Research Programs Department will review the pre-application to determine whether the research plan is appropriate and relevant to our goals.

### ELIGIBILITY

**Previous Training:** Applicants must hold a doctoral degree (M.D., Ph.D. or equivalent) and must be in a research-oriented postdoctoral training program at an academic, government, or non-profit research institution. Individuals with less than two or more than five years of postdoctoral research experience at the time of application are ineligible for this award. Clinically-related training periods such as medical residencies or sub-specialty fellowships will not be counted towards postdoctoral research experience.

**Citizenship:** There are no citizenship requirements for individuals applying from U.S. institutions. However, individuals seeking support for advanced postdoctoral training at foreign institutions must be U.S. citizens.

**Advanced Postdoctoral Period:** The applicant must arrange for the proposed advanced postdoctoral training with an appropriate mentor and institution prior to submitting an application. Whether this phase is proposed to occur with the applicant's current mentor and institution or take place with a new mentor and institution, the plan should demonstrate that new training will be obtained.

**Faculty Support Period:** The recipient of this fellowship must secure a faculty position at a research institution in the U.S. or abroad prior to completion of the two-year advanced training period. The faculty appointment may be at the same institution used for the advanced training period, providing that independence is demonstrated, or may be at a new institution.

### APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCESS

**The application process for this award involves two levels of review, a pre-application and a full application.** In order to submit a proposal for research support, investigators must first register with our apply online site ([www.mssocietyapplyonline.org](http://www.mssocietyapplyonline.org)) and complete a pre-application. Staff of the Research Programs Department will review the pre-application to determine whether the research plan is appropriate and relevant to our goals.

#### ***Preliminary Application***

**Timing:** The pre-application is due in spring. These will be reviewed and selected candidates will be invited to submit full applications due at the following deadline.

**Requirements for Preliminary Applications:** A one-page summary detailing the proposed research activities being conducted during the postdoctoral and faculty award periods; statement of career goals; a biographical sketch of the applicant and of the proposed mentor detailing prior graduate and postdoctoral training experience and publications; and a letter of endorsement from the proposed mentor and the current postdoctoral mentor (if different from the proposed mentor).

**Evaluation Criteria for Preliminary Applications:** The review committee will evaluate the following elements of the preliminary application:

- 1) The proposed research plan and its relevance to MS.
- 2) The applicant's research productivity as judged by the publication record from graduate and prior postdoctoral training and from information provided by the current postdoctoral mentor.
- 3) The likelihood that the candidate will develop an independent research career related to MS.

### ***Full Application***

Selected applicants will be invited to submit a 12-page proposal detailing research activities planned for a two-year period of advanced postdoctoral training and for the first three years of a faculty appointment. The proposed mentor must provide a letter of support with the application. In addition, letters of recommendation from three other additional individuals must be submitted online. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that all letters are received by the deadline, and an application may be considered incomplete without them.

**Timing:** Candidates will be invited to submit full applications by early June. Full applications will be due in August with the earliest possible start date of July 1 of the following year.

**Concurrent Applications:** Individuals invited to submit a full application for a Career Transition Fellowship may not dual submit an application for a Postdoctoral Fellowship.

**Review Group:** The Society's standing Advisory Committee on Fellowships will review full applications.

**Evaluation Criteria for Full Applications:** The review committee will evaluate the following elements of the full applications:

- 1) The personal and professional qualifications and future potential of the applicant as judged by the recommendation letters and past research productivity.
- 2) The scientific merit, significance and relevance of the training and research plan to MS.
- 3) The potential of the award to facilitate the applicant's development into an independent investigator committed to MS research.

### ACTIVATION OF FACULTY SUPPORT PERIOD

Transition fellows must secure a faculty appointment at an academic or non-profit research organization prior to the end of the advanced training phase in order to initiate the faculty support phase of the award. Faculty appointments at the institution associated with the advanced postdoctoral training period will be allowed provided that fellows demonstrate their independence from the postdoctoral mentor. Upon acceptance of a faculty position at a new institution or promotion to a faculty-level title at the current institution, a fellow must immediately notify the Society to request the activation of the faculty phase of the award.

Prior to activation of the faculty period of the award, the following documents must be submitted the Society for review:

- 1) A formal request for initiation of the faculty support period.
- 2) A final progress report for the advanced postdoctoral period, including a final letter of evaluation from the mentor and a final financial report from the institution.
- 3) A completed transfer document including a detailed budget for the faculty support period.
- 4) A letter of support from the chair of the department at the institution of employment, confirming an independent faculty appointment and detailing the nature of the appointment, the institutional resources, and the financial support provided to the new faculty member.
- 5) Other supporting materials, including relevant institutional review body details (e.g. IRB and/or IACUC approvals, etc.).

The request for activation of the faculty support period will be reviewed in an expedited fashion by Society professional staff in consultation with members of the Advisory Committee on Fellowships and the Research Programs Advisory Committee, as needed.

It is expected that the fellow will continue the previously approved research plan during the faculty period. Under exceptional circumstances, the research plan, as outlined in the original application, may be reconsidered. In such instances, a revised research plan detailing the proposed changes and providing justification for the revisions must accompany the documents listed above. Society staff may request outside review of the revised research plan, and the Society may decline the request for activation of the faculty period if the revised research program is found to lack scientific merit or relevance to MS.

## CAREER TRANSITION FELLOWSHIP

If a faculty appointment is not secured prior to completion of the advance postdoctoral training period, or if the required documentation is not submitted; or if the proposed research has changed to a degree that is not acceptable, funding for the faculty phase will not be initiated and the award will be terminated after the two-year advanced postdoctoral training period.

### CONDITIONS OF AWARD – ADVANCED TRAINING PERIOD

**Duration of Advanced Training Period:** The duration of the advanced training period will be up to two years. The Society is willing to consider requests for reinstatement of the award if it is interrupted by military service, maternity leave or other major events.

**Salary:** The salary levels requested for each year of the training period must be based on the Society salary scale listed below. The amount of the salary must relate to the applicant's professional status and previous training and experience. The current annual salary for postdoctoral trainees is determined by the number of FULL years of relevant postdoctoral experience at the time of appointment. Relevant experience may include research experience, internship, or residency. The current salary scale for the Society's Postdoctoral Fellows is as follows:

#### **Salary Scale for the National MS Society Postdoctoral Fellows**

<u>Years of Relevant Postdoctoral Experience</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Less than 1	\$41,576
1	\$43,792
2	\$46,954
3	\$48,807
4	\$50,635
5	\$52,812
6	\$54,899
7 or more	\$57,361

No additional costs for fringe benefits are allowed. No departure from the established salary schedule will be allowable. The salary for each additional full year of salary support is the next level in the salary structure.

Supplementation or additional support to offset the cost of living may be provided by the awardees institution but must not require any significant obligation from the trainee. The extent of supplementation must be stated in the application, and the Society must be notified of subsequent additional support. Fellows may spend up to 10% of their time in teaching or clinical duties, if appropriate. However, it is the intent of this fellowship award that the majority of the fellow's time will be spent on the approved Society training program.

Similarly, Society postdoctoral salaries may be used to supplement other support to reach the total amount recommended by Society Advisory Committees. Under no circumstances may the conditions of salary supplementation interfere with, detract from, or prolong the trainee's approved Society training program.

Awards are paid to the training institution on an annual quarterly basis. The fellow, the mentor, and the awardee institution will each be advised by letter of the duration and amount of the award and will be provided with a budget that reflects the approved expenditures for each award year. Payment of subsequent years is dependent upon a) availability of funds; and b) receipt, review, and approval by the Society of annual financial and research progress reports. Fellows are considered employees of the institution and their salaries are paid by the institution according to the payment policy and schedule of the institution.

**Relocation Costs:** Funds to cover the cost of travel to the institution where the training is provided are available but only for the fellow and not for family members or for transportation of household belongings. The relocation costs must be requested at the time of the application and the amount requested must be comparable to economy class transportation by air or equivalent.

**Institutional Allowance:** An allowance of no more than \$7,850 per year may be made to help institutions defray the costs of providing the fellow's training, but only when such funds are requested in the original application and approved by the Society. These funds should be used primarily to help underwrite the costs of individual medical insurance for the fellow, either by enrolling the fellow in a group plan, or turning over the funds to the fellow to help pay for his/her independent plan. These funds may not be used to cover medical insurance for the fellow's spouse or for family members. Travel to scientific meetings, research supplies and related expenses may be paid from the balance of the institutional allowance. No other funds are

## CAREER TRANSITION FELLOWSHIP

provided to defray the costs of research or training. Funds may not be used to offset any tuition or other similar fees. Purchase of personal computers is not an allowable expense.

**Indirect Costs:** Indirect costs are not allowed during the advanced training period.

**Research Allowance:** A research allowance of \$25,000 per year will be provided for the duration of the advanced training period. The research budget may include laboratory personnel costs (excluding applicant's salary which is requested separately), including fringe benefits at the rate current in the sponsoring institution and proportional to that part of the salary contributed by the Society, patient costs directly relevant to the research and not obtainable from other sources, equipment and consumable supplies (including any type of laboratory supplies and purchase and maintenance of experimental animals), limited travel funds and occasionally other costs. The awardee institution holds title to equipment purchased with award funds.

Expenses for domestic or foreign travel may be charged to an award only when included in the application and within the amount specifically approved in the award.

Funds from the award may not be used to pay for secretarial, purchasing, accounting, financial record keeping, laundry and maintenance services. Funds may not be used to offset any tuition or other similar fees. Office equipment, computers and supplies and books and journals may not be purchased with award funds unless specifically requested in the application and approved in the budget of the award.

Unless prior approval in writing has been obtained from the Society, expenditures are likely to be disallowed for items that were not specifically included in the budget of the award.

**Tykeson Conference on MS for National MS Society Fellows and Faculty Awardees:** Through a generous contribution from Mr. Donald Tykeson (active volunteer and member of the Society's National Board of Directors), the National MS Society will hold a meeting of all Society fellows and faculty awardees on alternate years. All Society fellows and faculty awardees whose awards are active at the time of the conference are required to attend at the Society's expense. The goal of this meeting is to improve the sharing of research information among the Society awardees, develop a sense of community among our investigators, strengthen their commitment to MS, and establish new collaborations among these investigators.

**Unexpended Funds:** Any unexpended funds remaining at the end of the first year of the training period may be carried over to the second year. Unexpended funds remaining at the termination of the training period must be returned to the Society.

**Change in Terms of the Award:** Any change to the conditions of an award, including a change in the direction of the research project or in the level of activity by the fellow or mentor, requires prior approval by the Society. Failure to notify the Society will be considered grounds for revocation the award.

**Transfer of a Fellowship:** The transfer of an award from one institution to another along with transfer of the fellow cannot be made without prior approval in writing by the Society. A new application face sheet and budget request will be required from, and must be approved by, the new institution. For research involving human subjects and/or animals, written approval from the new institution's Institutional Review Board and/or the Animal Care and Use Committee must be received prior to initiation of payment. In addition, the original institution must submit an acceptable report of expenditures and return all unexpended funds to the Society before a final transfer can be made. No interruption of financial support should be involved if the request to transfer the award is received by the Society at least 90 days prior to the anticipated date of transfer and the financial report is submitted from the original institution prior to the transfer date.

**Change of Mentor:** If the fellow's mentor becomes unable to continue the supervision of the fellow's training, a replacement may be named by the sponsoring institution pending the prior approval by the Society. Any fellow considering a change in mentor for other reasons must notify the Society in writing to obtain prior approval. However, in the event that the fellow is unable to continue with the training period, the fellowship award is non-transferable and the award will be terminated prematurely.

**Personnel Policies:** Transition fellows are not considered employees of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society but rather of the institution where the training is provided. The transition fellowship is to be administered in accordance with the prevailing policies of the sponsoring institution, including vacations, sick leaves, holidays, etc.

**Non-Research Activities:** Transition fellowships are awarded to support training in research and are not intended to support clinical training directed toward the completion of internship and/or specialty board certification or as a substitute for funding the conduct of research ordinarily provided by the award. Similarly, transition fellowships cannot be used to provide support for individuals whose primary responsibility is teaching and/or service, although fellows are allowed to spend up to ten percent of their time in teaching or clinical duties, if appropriate.

**Vacations:** Vacations and absences will be subject to institutional policy.

**Military Service:** The Society will consider reinstating an award which is interrupted by military service, provided the request is made (1) within three months of the awardee's discharge from military service, and (2) not more than three years after entering the armed forces or public health services.

**Maternity/Paternity Leaves:** The Society will consider an unfunded extension of term or interruption and subsequent reinstatement of an award due to maternity/paternity leave

**Termination of the Advanced Training Period:** The advanced training period will automatically terminate after two years and subsequent payments will be placed on hold. It is expected that after two years the fellow will have secured a faculty appointment and requested activation of the Faculty Period of the award. If a faculty position is obtained prior to the end of the two years of advanced training, the remainder of the training period is forfeited, and any unexpended funds must be returned to the Society.

If a fellow or a mentor elects to terminate the training period on a date prior to that indicated in the letter of award, the Society must be notified immediately in writing of the action taken and of the date involved. Grounds for revocation of an transition period will be deemed to exist: (1) if a fellow is unable to carry out the research at the original institution; (2) if a mentor requests in writing that the fellowship be terminated because of unsatisfactory performance by the fellow; (3) if a fellow requests in writing that the fellowship be terminated for any reason; (4) if the fellow's mentor becomes unable to continue the supervision of the fellow's training and a replacement acceptable to the Society is not named within 30 days by the sponsoring institution; (5) if the fellow changes any aspect of the award from that which was originally approved by the Society, including the mentor, the department, the institution and/or the specific aims of the research studies, without prior notification and approval by the Society; (6) when annual reports of progress and recommendation for continuation are not received from both the mentor and the fellow within one month of the end of each award anniversary year; or (7) for a cause established by due process of law; or as a consequence of institutional review committee's determination of fraud or malfeasance.

### CONDITIONS OF AWARD – FACULTY SUPPORT PERIOD

**Activation of Faculty Period:** Transition fellows must secure an independent faculty appointment at an academic or non-profit research organization in order to initiate the faculty support phase of the award. Faculty appointments at the institution associated with the advanced postdoctoral training period will be allowed provided that transition fellow demonstrates independence from the postdoctoral mentor.

**Research Program:** The transition fellow is expected to spend at least 75% of the working time on fundamental or clinical research, the remainder being reserved for patient care, teaching, or service.

**Relationship between Fellow and Sponsoring Institution:** The awardee is personally responsible for conduct of the research program, while the institution serves as the official recipient of the award. The fellow will not in any sense be an employee of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society but rather of the institution. For the faculty phase of the award, it is expected that the institution will develop plans for continuing the recipient's appointment and for continued salary support beyond the award. Included in the request for activation of the faculty phase must be a letter from the chair of the department expressing the department's commitment to the fellow in terms of laboratory space, time to conduct the research, and salary support.

**Term and Amount of Award during Faculty Period:** The faculty period of the award provides \$125,000/year in direct costs, for a non-renewable three-year period paid through the sponsoring institution. The transition fellow and the awardee institution will each be advised by letter of the duration and amount of the award and will be provided with a budget that reflects the approved expenditures for each award year. Payment of subsequent years is dependent upon a) availability of funds; and b) receipt, review, and approval by the Society of annual financial and research progress reports.

### *General Categories of Expenditures*

Transition fellows may request funds for the following categories of expenditure: salaries for professional and non-professional personnel, patient costs, permanent equipment, consumable supplies, travel, other expenditures not included under the above categories, and indirect costs.

**Personnel:** The salaries of all personnel paid from award funds shall be in accordance with the prevailing policies of the awardee institution. Requested salaries are not to be used to replace salaries or portions of salaries already assured by institutional or other funds.

1) **Professional Support**

- ◆ Professional Salaries: The transition fellow must spend at least 20% of his or her time working on the award in order to request salary support. However, the salary requested may not exceed 75% of the investigator's salary. Salary for other investigators associated with a award may be requested in proportion to the time they spend directly on research supported by the award
- ◆ Funds that were originally awarded for salary support of awardee may not be rebudgeted and used for any other purpose, e.g. to support salary of laboratory personnel. If funds are freed as a result of salary support from another resource, these released funds must be returned to the Society.
- ◆ Fringe benefits will be paid by the Society at the rate current in the sponsoring institution, on that part of the salary contributed by the Society.
- ◆ Salary Cap: The Society will not pay pro-rated salaries that exceed **\$199,700**.
- ◆ Postdoctoral Research Associates may be supported by this award, using the salary scale below. The current annual salary for postdoctoral associates is determined by the number of FULL years of relevant postdoctoral experience at the time of the application. Relevant experience may include research experience, internship, or residency. No departure from the established salary schedule will be allowable. A biographical sketch must be included for any postdoctoral associate listed on awards.

**POSTDOCTORAL TRAINING SUPPORT**

Postdoctoral Research Associates may be supported by this award, using the salary scale below. The current annual salary for postdoctoral associates is determined by the number of FULL years of relevant postdoctoral experience at the time of application. Relevant experience may include research experience, internship, or residency. No departure from the established salary schedule will be allowable. A biographical sketch must be included for any postdoctoral associate listed on awards.

**Salary Scale for Postdoctoral Research Associates**

<u>Full Years of Relevant Postdoctoral Experience</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Less than 1	\$39,264
1	\$41,364
2	\$44,340
3	\$46,092
4	\$47,820
5	\$49,884
6	\$51,582
7 or more	\$54,180

2) **Technical and Non-Professional Support**

Salaries for technical and non-professional personnel may be requested in proportion to the time they will spend on research directly supported by the award.

**Fringe Benefits:** Costs to the awardee institution of Social Security, retirement and group insurance plans may be requested in the application for persons whose salaries are to be paid from the award. All such expenditures are to be in accordance with the prevailing policies of the awardee's institution and proportional to the percentage of the employee's time devoted to the research for which the award is made.

**Dues and Contingency Funds:** Dues to organizations such as federations or societies will not be allowed as charges against award funds. No funds shall be budgeted as "contingency funds" except by special arrangement with the Society.

**Premiums on Hazard and Other Insurance:** In accordance with the institutional practice, and if indicated by the nature of the research, the budget may include funds for payment of premiums on hazard and other insurance to protect personnel paid by the award, but only after prior approval by the Society. No premium payments will be allowed for insurance of equipment and supplies, whether or not purchased with award funds, or for malpractice insurance.

**Patient Costs:** Funds requested for hospitalization and/or professional medical services for study subjects may be awarded if justification is presented in the application to show that such charges are needed for the research proposed and that the usual sources available for these costs are not adequate. All third-party payments received by the awardee institution for such services are to be used to offset the funds allocated in the award for this purpose.

**Equipment and Supplies:** Scientific equipment purchased with Society funds becomes the property of the awardee institution.

The cost of installing equipment purchased with funds of the award is not allowed unless such funds were requested in the application and specifically approved in the budget of the award.

Office equipment, computers, supplies, books and journals may not be purchased with award funds unless specifically requested in the application and approved in the budget of the award.

Consumable supplies may include any type of laboratory supplies, including purchase and maintenance of experimental animals.

**Travel:** Expenses for domestic or foreign travel related to the successful performance of the research may be charged to an award only when included in the request of activation and within the amount specifically approved in the award. Travel expenses whenever charged to award funds shall be in accordance with awardee institutional policies and procedures.

**Other:** Any other expenditure directly related to the cost of conducting the proposed research may be requested in the request for faculty phase activation. However, construction or renovation costs are not permissible expenditures under any circumstances. Award funds may not be used for secretarial, purchasing, accounting, financial record keeping, laundry and maintenance services, or student and tuition costs.

**Indirect Costs:** The awardee institution, through the officer signing the application, may add an amount for indirect costs up to 10% of the sum requested by the fellow except that indirect costs are not allowed in connection with funds requested or expended for: (a) patient costs, or (b) purchase, modification or installation of equipment. For awards made to institutions outside the United States, indirect costs will not be provided. Indirect costs may only be requested for the faculty phase of the award.

**Rebudgeting of Funds:** Transfers between and among categories of the budget approved in the award may be made as follows: (1) transfers between personnel and consumable supplies categories may be made at the discretion of the awardee institution, but (2) no transfers may be made without prior approval in writing by the Society for patient costs, equipment costing more than \$500, travel, indirect costs, or other items not specifically identified in the approved budget.

Unless prior approval in writing has been obtained from the Society, expenditures are likely to be disallowed for items not specifically included in the budget of the award.

**Extension of Term of Award:** An awardee may request extension of the term of the award without commitment of further funds. Otherwise, funds unexpended on the termination date are to be returned to the Society. A request for an extension must include: (1) the amount of money to be carried into the extension period; (2) a statement of why the funds were not used in the original award period; (3) a statement of how the funds will be used during the extension; and (4) a report of the research progress and budget for the previous year, on forms provided by the Society.

**Termination of Faculty Period:** The faculty period of the award may be terminated before the end of the project (1) if the transition fellow requests, in writing, that the award be terminated; (2) if the transition fellow is unable to carry out the research at the original institution; (3) if the sponsoring institution requests in writing that the award be terminated because of the awardee's termination of his/her academic appointment; (4) if the transition fellow fails to notify the Society of any change in his/her affiliation with the department or institution on record at the time the award was made; (5) if the transition fellow changes any aspect of the award from that which was originally approved by the Society, including significant changes in the specific aims of the research studies, without prior notification and approval by the Society; (6) when annual reports of progress and recommendation for continuation are not received from the transition fellow within one month of the end of each award anniversary year; (7) if the transition fellow is found by an institutional investigation to have committed scientific misconduct or fraud; or (8) by action of the Board of Directors of the Society.

### ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES FOR BOTH PHASES OF THE AWARD

**Annual Financial Reports:** A brief account of the expenses made for each phase of the Transition Fellowship award is due before each anniversary date during the term of an award. Any unexpended funds remaining at the end of each award year may be carried over to the next year during the term of the advanced training period and the faculty period. Unexpended funds may not be transferred from the advanced training period to the faculty period. Forms and instructions for this report will be sent with the annual progress report by 30 days before the anniversary date of the award.

**Final Financial Reports:** The two phases of the award are considered separately, and a full account of all expenses made are due within 90 days of the termination of the advanced training period and within 90 days after the end of the faculty period. Any unexpended funds remaining at the end of either the postdoctoral or faculty periods of the award must be returned to the Society. The form for the final report will be sent with the final progress report and must be forwarded by the awardee to the financial officer of the awardee's institution. These forms are self-explanatory.

**Bonded Financial Officer:** The Society requires that the financial officer administering award funds be bonded. Unless otherwise indicated in the application for an award, it is understood that such officials are bonded as a prerequisite to assumption of office.

### PROGRESS REPORTS FOR BOTH PHASES OF THE AWARD

**Over the term of the award, the Society requires several different types of progress reports from recipients:**

**Annual Progress Reports:** A report of research progress is due before each anniversary date during the term of the award along with a copy of the annual approval letter from the IRB and/or IACUC. Approximately one month before the end of a funding cycle, the Society will email forms and detailed instructions for completing the progress report. Attached to the completed report should be reprints or pdf files of all published reports and preprints of all reports in press or submitted but not yet published of the results of research accomplished under the award. The mentor (during the advanced training period) or the Departmental Chairperson (during the faculty period) must also submit a letter of evaluation and report of progress prior to the start of a new funding cycle.

All progress reports are considered privileged communications and their distribution is limited to the reviewing consultants and research staff of the Society.

Award payments to the institution will be discontinued after each twelve-month period pending receipt of such reports, unless the Society receives prior notification of an acceptable reason for the delay of such reports. When such reports become overdue by three months, the transition fellowship award will be terminated automatically as of the date when the report was due. Awards so terminated will not be reactivated.

**Final Progress Report:** A final report of research progress is required within 15 days after termination of the award. This should cover the entire period of the award. Approximately one month prior to termination of award, the Society will email forms and instructions for completing the progress report. All progress reports are considered privileged communications and their distribution is limited to the reviewing consultants and research staff of the Society.

**A Status Report:** The Society also requests that the fellow submit a brief statement five (5) years after completion of an award, indicating changes in professional status during the intervening period, updates in contact information and the area of current research interest, and providing a bibliography plus pdf files of published articles of work conducted during the interval.

### PUBLICATIONS AND REPRINTS

The responsibility for publication lies with the awardee. The results of any work supported by an award from the Society may be published without review by the Society. Therefore, responsibility for direction of the work is not to be ascribed to the Society.

As soon as a manuscript is accepted for publication, a copy of it, with the name of the journal and the expected date of publication, should be sent by email to the Associate Vice President of Research Information ([cathy.carlson@nmss.org](mailto:cathy.carlson@nmss.org)). Manuscripts will be respected as privileged communications. As soon as reprints of a published article are available, or if a press release from the institution is being prepared for distribution, please send to [cathy.carlson@nmss.org](mailto:cathy.carlson@nmss.org).

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society must be acknowledged in all dissemination materials (e.g., publications, scientific exhibits, scientific presentations, press releases, etc.) related to research supported in full or in part by the Society. The following acknowledgment, or its equivalent, should be used:

***"This investigation was supported (in part) by a Career Transition Fellowship from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society."***

