Postdoctoral Position
Clinical Research Training Center TL1 Program
Washington University in St. Louis

A postdoctoral position is available in the School of Medicine at Washington University in St. Louis to demystify the processes of commercialization of new technology/ translational discoveries by learning how to move projects to the next stage of commercialization and how to establish value-creating milestones, costs, and timelines. These postdoctoral opportunities are rooted in an exciting culture of start-up companies and commercialization of biotechnology. In the past two years, St. Louis has been named one of the best start-up cities in the world. St. Louis now hosts a rapidly advancing start-up ecosystem that pairs multiple maker spaces, accelerators, and coworking facilities with larger biotechnology and informatics companies. Together, these create a variety of opportunities for start-up funding at multiple levels. Washington University is a major driver of this exciting local community of biotechnology innovation and commercialization. The selected applicant must choose between one of the following two program tracks:

Track 1: Entrepreneurship
This position will study the translation of biomedical research into viable technologies and startups. Applicants should identify whether they plan to work with their own ideas and/ or commercializable products during this appointment or if they will work with their mentor’s projects. Primary mentoring within the Skandalaris Center will be under the direction of Mr. Emre Toker and will focus on learning and experiencing new ways to translate scientific discoveries into commercializable products and innovations in order to improve human health. Our objective is to better equip trainees to distill and advance the most promising opportunities to improve human health through innovation and entrepreneurship. This track requires participants to complete a Distinction in Entrepreneurship certificate. Applicants for this track should also identify an additional mentor within the description of research interests and must have the named mentor provide a letter of support for the application.

Track 2: Research Innovation and Technology Transfer
Fellowship training will focus on identifying past and current trends with the goal of identifying novel opportunities for future improvement via entrepreneurial activities. By blending innovation in both the research and commercial strategies underlying the approval of new biomedical products, Center for Research Innovation in Business (CRIB) seeks to anticipate future unmet needs and opportunities to ensure and maximize the efficiency and continuity of new medical innovations. Primary mentoring in the (CRIB) will be under the direction of Dr. Michael Kinch and will identify and analyze the sources of innovation responsible for creation of medical interventions, including pharmaceuticals, vaccines, and medical devices.

Trainees in this track will evaluate university discoveries for commercial potential and identify current factors responsible for affecting commercialization and licensing of technologies. Trainees will receive additional opportunities to learn about patenting, licensing, and technology transfer via didactic and experiential training in the Washington University Office of Technology Management.

The current position will engage courses and mentored experiential learning experiences to complement research training programs and provide core innovation and entrepreneurship skills. Additional mentorship will be provided through the TL1 Program Directors, Drs. Jay Piccirillo, Jeffrey Peipert, and Susan Stark. Highly motivated individuals with good communication skills and a keen interest in learning about entrepreneurship are encouraged to apply.

A PhD, MD, MD/PhD, or DVM obtained and a record of academic accomplishment is required. Competitive salary and benefits are offered. Applicants must be citizens or non-citizen nationals of the United States, or have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence. Appointments for this position will typically be held for two years.

Candidates should apply online at http://crtc.wustl.edu/tl1postdoc/. The online application will require a curriculum vitae, cover letter, one-page description of research interests, and two letters of reference. An
interview in person or online will be required for applicants in the final round of selection.