



## WIRB International Fellows Program Program Overview

### About the International Fellows Program

The WIRB International Fellows Program is designed for global healthcare professionals who intend to establish or improve institutional review boards (IRBs) in their home countries. Our intensive six-month program- and its abbreviated two-month version- help participants to develop the knowledge necessary to create, manage, and/or administer IRBs that will operate in compliance with all relevant regulations and ethical standards intended to protect the rights and welfare of human research subjects.

Both programs are hosted at the WIRB headquarters in Puyallup, Washington and include two weeks of training in human research ethics at New York University (NYU) Langone Medical Center in New York City. The first eight weeks of the 6-month program coincide with the two-month program. The Fellows will supplement their NYU coursework with practical training, mentorship and observation of actual IRB meetings at WIRB in Washington State.

### Training Objectives

Phase 1: Achieve a foundational understanding of the history, roles, responsibilities, and processes of human subject protection.  
Phase 2: Continue phase 1 with in-depth discussions provided by the Division of Medical Ethics, NYU Langone Medical Center.  
Phase 3: Receive training on relevant regulations, guidelines and guidance pertaining to human research subject protection, protocol review, the consent process, human subject populations, and safety.

Following the first eight weeks of training, 6-month fellows will be eligible to enter the review process to be appointed as a board member. The additional training that six month-fellows receive includes intensive training and a mentorship period about the role and responsibilities of being a board member, as well as in-depth exposure to IRB operations.

A complete schedule will be distributed on orientation day.

### Program Activities

A unique component of the Fellows Program is the opportunity to build relationships with WIRB Board experts who hail from diverse scientific and medical backgrounds. As part of the training, fellows will work with board members and WIRB staff to learn about regulatory policies and administrative best practices to ensure that any human subject research conducted is ethically sound and scientifically correct.

Outside of the training program, fellows, WIRB staff, and board members will have the opportunity to participate in various activities. The costs for a portion of the activities are included in the program, but there are some activities that require a fee. A complete list of activities and costs will be provided during orientation. Activities that require a fee are completely voluntary.

## Sample Activities

### Seattle, Washington:

- Seattle Waterfront
- Space Needle
- Seattle Art Museum
- Ballard Locks
- Mariner Baseball
- Sounders Soccer
- 5th Ave Theater

### Washington State:

- Mt. Rainier
- Museums
- Olympic National Forest
- Holiday traditions

### Puyallup, Washington:

- Farmers' Market
- Zoo
- Sailing Trip
- Visit local schools

### New York City:

- City Bus Tour
- Times Square
- Performing Arts
- Museums

### Off-site Visits (Washington State):

- Seattle Children's IRB
- Cancer Care Alliance
- Fred Hutch Cancer Research Center
- PATH
- University of Washington IRB
- Multicare IRB
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

## Cultural Goals

The purpose of the Fellows Program is to provide its participants with the most current thinking and best practices of human subject protection and institutional review boards from the United States. These best practices can then be translated back into the fellows' given home country IRB through their operations, communications, and service.

WIRB offers opportunities to share knowledge and understanding of the needs of review boards in developing countries. In addition to the established curriculum, WIRB will discuss US history and politics, cultural diversity, American culture, holidays, recreation, community service and volunteerism.

## Expenses

The estimates below are calculated for one person to attend the program. Please note that if family members are joining you, the costs will increase since you will be required to pay for their separate accommodations in addition to any living expenses. Actual costs may vary from the table below.

### 2-month Program – in USD

Expenses (estimated)	Daily Cost	Monthly Cost	Total (61 days)
Rent: WA Apartment (2-bedroom) – 47 days*	\$40.00	\$1,240.00	\$2,440.00
NY Hotel (Single room) - 14 days	275.00		3,850.00
Food, entertainment, etc. **		1,875.00	3,750.00
Health Insurance ***		500.00	500.00
Roundtrip airfare to US			1,500.00
Roundtrip airfare from WA to NY			600.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,640.00</b>

\* Based on double occupancy. If you require a 1-bedroom, WIRB can facilitate you obtaining a lease. Approximate cost will be \$82 per day

\*\* Based on \$50 per day (47 days) in WA and \$100 per day (14 days) in NY.

\*\*\* Sufficient health insurance is required for each person.

## 6-month Program – in USD

Expenses (estimated)	Daily Cost	Monthly Cost	Total (170 days)
Rent: WA Apartment (2-bedroom) – 156 days *	\$40.00	\$1,240.00	\$6,800.00
NY Hotel (Single room) - 14 days	275.00		3,850.00
Food, entertainment, etc. **		1,533.00	9,200.00
Health Insurance ***		500.00	500.00
Roundtrip airfare to US			1,500.00
Roundtrip airfare from WA to NY			600.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$22,450.00</b>

\* Based on double occupancy. If you require a 1-bedroom, WIRB can facilitate your obtaining a lease. Approximate cost will be \$82 per day.

\*\* Based on \$50 per day (156 days) in WA and \$100 per day (14 days) in NY.

\*\*\* Sufficient health insurance is required for each person.

### Fellow Board Members

6-month Fellows Program participants who successfully complete the program and assessment period for board member eligibility, will be appointed as WIRB board members. If appointed to the board, these fellows participate in board meetings as voting members and present protocols.

WIRB does **not** provide employment as part of the program.

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