Summary of MSTP Issues for F30/F31 Applications

1. Inform Cliff and Kathy BEFORE developing the application. Your home department is likely to NOT understand issues specific to MD-PhD students, and the MSTP needs to coordinate certain financial issues relative to your application.
2. Always ask for the maximum period possible.
3. Consult with Kathy to determine the length of the maximum allowable period. Dual degree students are allowed a total of six years of support on any NRSA training grant or fellowship. This includes the MSTP and CTSTP training grants. It’s OK if you request support for more time than you ultimately need. Unused money will just go back to the NIH.
4. Always ask for the maximum budget needed.
5. Calculate the budget to show the cost of nine graduate credits per semester, even if you may take fewer credits. Again, it’s OK to ask for more money than you may ultimately need. Any balance left over will go back to the NIH.
6. If you are applying for an F30, the last two years of the budget period should show the cost of Medical School tuition, not graduate tuition.
7. If you are applying for an F31, you cannot request support for MD training, so all budget years should show the cost of graduate tuition. You should still request the maximum allowable period.
8. Check the CWRU bursar website (http://www.case.edu/finadmin/controller/bursar/tuition_2011.htm) for current tuition charges per credit hour. Usually you can assume a 4% tuition increase per year.
9. Consult the list at the end of this appendix to determine what mechanisms (F30 or F31) and institutes cover MD-PhD training.
10. Choose the NIH institute that best matches your research. If more than one is applicable, choose the one that best funds MD-PhD training, preferably one that covers the MD phase.
11. Indicate that the CWRU MSTP T32 does not provide financial support for all phases of MD-PhD training, and that you do not have current funding from the CWRU MSTP T32, so there is no question of overlap. This needs to be stated explicitly. We recommend that the mentor's letter of support clarify this issue of non-overlap.
12. How to specify research vs. clinical activities for the years of training: In general, the reviewers want to see research training activity, so bring this out as the primary focus of the proposal, but it is OK to indicate how your clinical interests will tie in with your research goals. You don't need to spend much time on describing clinical training, but you can mention it as a phase of your training. Don't miss the opportunity to indicate research in a year when it might be there. For example, if the training period will include a mixture of research and clinical periods (e.g. the end of your PhD and the beginning of Med year 3), then put down an appropriate mixture of research and clinical. You can also include a small amount of clinical time (5-10%) during the PhD phase if you intend to do MSTP Clinical Tutorial. Remember, for med year 4 you might do research electives (we recommend that you propose this). We suggest that you write in your training plan that you intend to do some research electives that year (don’t worry, you won’t be locked into this plan). If you propose this, you might put Med year 4, the last year of your training, as something like 60-70% clinical, 30-40% research.
13. Tell Cliff Harding and Kathy Schultz when the grant is awarded, and send a copy of your Notice of Award to Kathy.
14. The MSTP provides a $2,000 annual stipend bonus in the final two MD years to MSTP
students who are awarded F30/F31 fellowships that include funding for those years. The bonus is prorated and applied in each month for which the student's fellowship provides funding. PhD departments may also provide a bonus for fellowship funding in the PhD phase; see Appendix J.

15. Resources for F30/F31 applications are available on the School of Medicine Graduate Education website (http://casemed.case.edu/gradprog/prodevwriting.cfm) under direction of Dr. Alison Hall, who provides grants workshops at MSTP retreats. We are considering developing additional resources on the MSTP website through efforts ongoing in MSTP Council.

F30/F31 Funding Opportunities for MD-PhD Students

NHLBI F30 MD-PhD (PA-11-125), supports MD and PhD phases

NINDS F31 for MD-PhD (PAR-11-127), supports PhD phase but will not support MD phase costs

NIH Parent F30 for MD-PhD (PA-11-110), supports MD and PhD phases and includes:

- National Cancer Institute (NCI)
- National Institute on Aging (NIA)
- National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)
- National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD)
- National Institute on Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR)
- National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK)
- National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)
- National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)
- National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)

NIH PA-11-111 F31, supports PhD phase (do not need to be URM) and includes:

- National Cancer Institute (NCI)
- National Institute on Aging (NIA)
- National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)
- National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD)
- National Institute on Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR)
- National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)
- National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)
- National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)
- National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM)

NIH F31 Diversity NRSA (PA-11-112) for Under-Represented Minority (URM) students, supports PhD phase and includes: