



FIRST PHYSICIAN RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP 2026 APPLICATION

Introduction

The Foundation for Ichthyosis & Related Skin Types (FIRST) is a national non-profit organization whose mission is to educate, inspire and connect those affected by ichthyosis and related skin disorders through emotional support, information, advocacy and research funding for better treatments and eventual cures. FIRST is the only organization in America devoted exclusively to helping ichthyosis patients and their families.

FIRST is offering a Physician Research Fellowship to identify and train the next generation of clinicians who will treat patients with ichthyosis and who, through their own clinical and laboratory investigations, advance our understanding and treatment of this group of disorders.

The successful candidate will be a Board certified or eligible dermatologist in a tertiary care academic institution and must be nominated by their institution and mentor, who will attest to the likelihood of the applicants' opportunities to continue his/her interest in patients with ichthyosis.

The Fellowship award is \$75,000, renewable once. It is not intended to be the primary source of salary support. This award can be used in addition to other awards, where permitted, and/or to supplement institutional salary support. If salary has been guaranteed through another mechanism, this award can be used to support the fellow's research and ichthyosis-related clinical effort.

Please complete the following 3-page application and submit it to our office by December 1, 2026. If you have any questions, please contact Christine Wassel, Community Engagement Director, at 215.997.9400 or cwassel@firstskinfoundation.org



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Applicant's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (Cell): _____ Email: _____

Attach Curriculum Vitae

Applicant must be a Board certified or eligible dermatologist in a tertiary care academic institution.

Name of Sponsoring Institution/Department: _____

Endorsing Department Chairman or Mentor: _____

Chairman or Mentor's Phone Number & Email : _____

Attach letters of endorsement from sponsoring mentor and department chair.

List the approximate number and specific types of ichthyosis patients followed in your department over the past year:



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Please describe, in detail, how you will meet the requirements for the fellowship.

1. Care of local patients and utilization of resources in the ichthyosis community to advance your depth of knowledge about the clinical aspects care and treatment of ichthyosis patients.

2. Involvement with FIRST and its patient-support activities.



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3. Proposed research directly related to ichthyosis.

4. Personal statement about the origin of your interest in ichthyosis and long-term goals as an ichthyosis-physician scientist.

Deadline for applications is December 1, 2026.

The successful applicant will be notified and awarded the fellowship by March 1, 2027. For questions, please contact Christine Wassel, Community Engagement Director at FIRST at 215.997.9400 or cwassel@firstskinfoundation.org.

PO Box 1067, Lansdale, PA 19446 www.firstskinfoundation.org 215-997-9400