The James B. Bussel, MD, ITP Young Investigator Award

The James B. Bussel, MD, ITP Young Investigator Award is competitively awarded to support excellence in academic ITP research by providing a selected student deemed to be of exceptional promise and a highly meritorious project with a $2,500.00 scholarship award funded by the Platelet Disorder Support Association.

Colleague, friend, and fellow PDSA medical advisor Doug Cines, MD, said Dr. Bussel “was a pioneer, not only of research in ITP, but for a generation of trainees who could follow his experience. His career shows that is possible to succeed scientifically and academically as a clinically oriented investigator even in rare diseases like ITP if you are persistent and have a creative mind. There are many young investigators and countless patients with ITP who have not met Jim personally and have no idea how much they owe to his contributions to research and patient care.”

To honor Dr. Bussel for all that he has done and continues to do to make a difference in the lives of ITP patients, their families, and his contributions to mentoring and advancing the scientific careers of promising clinical investigators, the PDSA Board of Directors established the “James B. Bussel, MD ITP Young Investigator Award” in 2017.

Eligibility
Any U.S. or Canada - based undergraduate or first-year medical or graduate student interested in the laboratory or clinical study of Immune Thrombocytopenia (ITP) is eligible to apply. The student must have already secured a training program (i.e. internship) with an ITP specialist and hold a minimum GPA of 3.0 at their academic institution.

Amount and Duration of Award
$2,500.00 will be available to the student at the start of their program to cover cost of living expenses and/or travel. Internships must last at minimum eight (8) weeks in duration.

Application Requirements
1. 250 word abstract describing the proposed research project including: primary aim, background, overview of proposed methods, 1-4 sentences describing proposed statistical analysis of the projected results, relationship of projected results to primary aim, a maximum of ten supporting references.
2. 250 word essay discussing the student’s interest in research and ITP.
3. Letter of support from student’s primary institutional mentor describing plan of mentoring, support of laboratory or clinic, financial need of student, and commitment and assessment of candidate.
4. One additional letter of recommendation submitted by a science professor or faculty member familiar with the applicant’s capabilities and interests.
5. Curriculum Vitae or Resumé

Application will be due and submitted to the PDSA no later than May 15, 2019. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. The essays and applications will be reviewed and judged by an impartial panel of PDSA Medical Advisors. Applications and letters of recommendation can be sent to PDSA Research Coordinator, Jared Whitman, at jwhitman@pdsa.org.