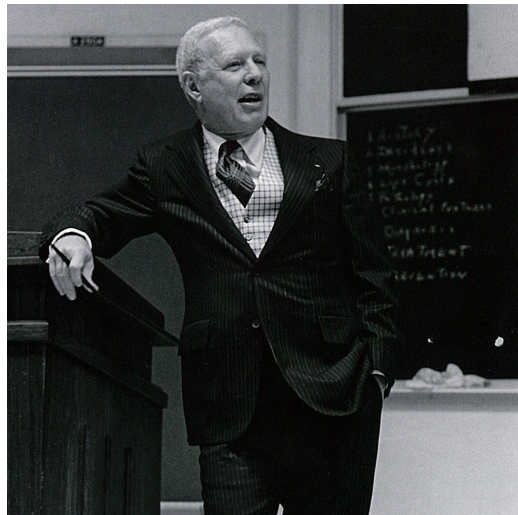




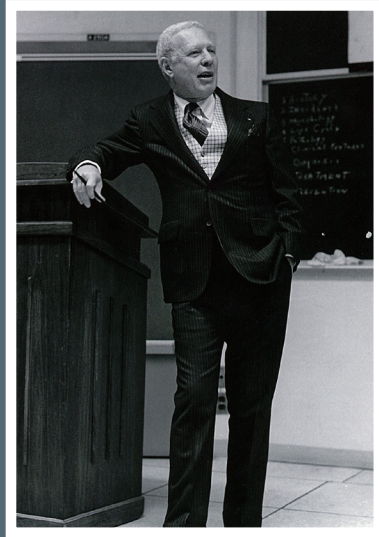
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TROPICAL MEDICINE & HYGIENE
ADVANCING GLOBAL HEALTH SINCE 1903

Benjamin H. Kean

Travel Fellowship in Tropical Medicine



**Application Deadline:
March 18, 2025**



About Benjamin H. Kean and the Kean Travel Fellowship in Tropical Medicine

Benjamin H. Kean, MD (1912-1993), an internationally acclaimed expert in tropical medicine, discovered the causes of several diseases including turista, also known as travelers' diarrhea. Moreover, he was a renowned teacher, researcher and practitioner of tropical medicine whose mentorship and support enabled many medical students and physicians-in-training to begin and sustain their careers in tropical medicine. He fiercely maintained that early hands-on experience in the tropics was the best way to stimulate a career in tropical medicine. Dr. Kean was instrumental in helping many medical students obtain these fundamental experiences that spurred lifetime commitments.

In 1998, to honor Dr. Kean and build on his legacy of engaging students in an interest in and passion for tropical medicine, the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene established a fellowship in Dr. Kean's name — The Benjamin H. Kean Travel Fellowship in Tropical Medicine. The Fellowship honors his significant contributions to the field and perhaps more importantly, enables his passion for teaching and mentoring to continue.

The Fellowship provides travel expenses for medical students who arrange clinical tropical medicine or tropical medicine research electives in areas afflicted by diseases or illnesses common in the tropics.

Kean Fellowship Overview

- Open to full-time medical students in accredited schools of medicine in the United States or Canada.
- Research or clinical training in tropical medicine or global health with at least one month at an overseas site for endemic diseases or illnesses common in the tropics.
- Elective must begin after June 1, 2025.
- Fellowship includes:
 - ▶ 3-years complimentary membership
 - ▶ Round-trip coach airfare to/from the candidate's home institution to the overseas site
 - ▶ \$1,000 US stipend
 - ▶ Complimentary meeting registration to the 2025 Annual Meeting in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
- **Preference given to ASTMH student members.**
- Notice of selection in early May 2025.

Application Deadline:
March 18, 2025

Award Notice

Applicants will be notified of fellowship decisions in early May 2025.

Open to full-time medical students in accredited schools of medicine in the United States or Canada.

Eligibility

- Applicant must be a full-time medical student in an accredited school of medicine in the United States or Canada at the time of the application and at the time of the elective.
- Applicant must propose an elective conducting research or clinical training in tropical medicine or global health with at least one month at a site for endemic diseases or illnesses common in the tropics, starting after June 1, 2025.

Preference will be given to:

- Applications sponsored by a member of the American Committee on Clinical Tropical Medicine and Travelers' Health (ACCTMTH – Clinical Group).
- Applications proposing electives lasting longer than one month.
- Applicants who have not had previous extensive overseas experience.
- Applications that propose study of diseases or illnesses common in the tropics other than HIV/AIDS.
- Applicants with student membership in ASTMH ([learn more](#)).

Funding

Financial support for clinical and research electives in tropical medicine as follows:

- Round-trip coach airfare (best-price ticketing) to and from the overseas location indicated in recipient's application form.
- \$1,000 US stipend to offset additional travel expenses. ASTMH does not reimburse costs for research expenses.
- Complimentary meeting registration to the 2025 Annual Meeting in Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 3-years complimentary membership.

Exclusions

The Fellowship does not support electives in non-tropical areas or participation in organized didactic courses.

Automatic declines:

- Applications indicating a start date before June 1, 2025.
- Applications indicating less than one month at the overseas site.

Final Report

Fellowship recipients are required to submit a maximum three-page report within 30 days outlining the Fellowship experience and lessons learned. Reports should be submitted to Rhonda Schultz, Manager, Board and Fellowships, rschultz@astmh.org. Periodically, recipients may be invited to present their reports at the Society's Annual Meeting.

2024 Fellowship Recipients



Hanson Cowan, *University of Tennessee Health Science Center, United States*



Christopher Jowdy, *University of Virginia, United States*



Bryan Cummings, *University of Maryland School of Medicine, United States*



Emily Kaplan, *University of Virginia, United States*



Kevin Gianaris, *Indiana University, United States*



Isaac Kim, *The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, United States*



Ashton Hall, *University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, United States*



Victoria Lam, *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, United States*



Eesha Irfanullah, *University of Minnesota Medical School, United States*



Caitlin Lawrence, *University of Connecticut Medical School, United States*



Madison Jones, *University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School, United States*



Zoha Mian, *University of Louisville, United States*

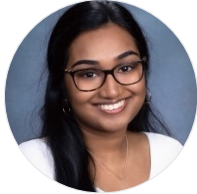
2024 Fellowship Recipients (cont.)



Grayson Privette, *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, United States*



Palak Shah, *Boston University School of Medicine, Boston Medical Center, United States*



Niharika Putta, *University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School, United States*



Stanley Tsou, *Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook University, United States*



Omar Sajjad, *Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth, United States*



Abigail Schulz, *University of Illinois College of Medicine, Peoria, United States*

For the complete list of recipients please visit our [website](#)



Application Process

Online application site opens February 18, 2025. [Submit your application here.](#)

Selection will be based on academic and/or research credentials, recommendations, proposal quality and the likelihood of the Fellowship to spur a career in tropical medicine. Please note that the Fellowship must be used in the awarded year.

Applicants are encouraged to gather all application materials prior to online submission. Although it is possible to edit the application prior to the deadline, the submission process will be smoother and more efficient if the complete application packet of materials is posted in one session.

Application packet must include:

- 1. Career interests:** A one-page (approximate) narrative describing:
 - Interest in tropical medicine (not to exceed 1,000 characters)
 - Prior overseas experience (not to exceed 500 characters)
 - Short- and long-term career objectives (not to exceed 500 characters)
- 2. Curriculum vitae:** Information from CV related to education, training, work experience, prior research experience, any publications or abstracts, honors and awards.
- 3. Letter of recommendation:** One letter of recommendation, submitted as a PDF or Word file, from a supervising faculty mentor from applicant's medical school.

If the applicant's project includes human or animal research, the letter of recommendation from the supervising faculty mentor must confirm that approvals are in place (or document that such approval is in process or will be sought) at both the home institution and the overseas site. If the project does not involve human or animal subjects, the letter of recommendation from the supervising faculty mentor should explain that approval for human or animal research is not applicable for the study.

Please note: Since it is not possible to set up and execute a research project that involves humans or animals in a few weeks, any student proposing to perform such research during the elective must be performing that work as part of an ongoing project.

1. Overseas mentor approval: The applicant is responsible for uploading the overseas mentor approval letter to the application site. Written approval (submitted as a PDF or Word file) from a mentor who will be present at the overseas site during the elective. This person may be the same as the home medical school mentor if they will be on site for the elective. The applicant must obtain this document from the overseas mentor prior to posting to the online application.

2. Elective proposal includes:

- Title of study/project
- Location of overseas site
- Dates and duration of elective
- Description of overseas site (not to exceed 500 characters)
- Specific objectives of elective (not to exceed 500 characters)
- For research projects, a brief description of rationale and significance, methods and anticipated challenges and opportunities (not to exceed 2,000 characters)
- For clinical projects, a brief description of clinical activities and responsibilities (not to exceed 2,000 characters)
- Description of applicant's role in the project (not to exceed 500 characters)

Applicant Checklist

- Career interests narrative
- CV information
- Letter of recommendation from supervising faculty mentor, including mentor confirmation of approval for human or animal research on behalf of both the home institution and overseas institution
- Overseas mentor approval letter
- Elective proposal

Kean Fellowship Committee

Chair, Paul M. Robben MD, PhD
Walter Reed Army Institute of Research

Musa Mohammed Ali, PhD
Hawassa University

Ross M. Boyce, MD, MSc
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill

Katherine Dobbs, MD
Case Western Reserve University

Jennifer Downs, MD, MSc, PhD
Weill Cornell Medical College

Seth A Hoffman, MD
Stanford Division of Infectious Diseases &
Geographic Medicine

Farzana Islam, MD, MPH, PhD
Eminence Associates for Social Development

Nathan C. Lo, MD, PhD
Stanford University

Thomas Laurence Richie, MD, PhD
Sanaria Inc.

Katherine R. Sabourin
University of Colorado

Michele D. Spring, MD, MSPH
State University of New York, Upstate Medical University

Tania Thomas, MD, MPH
University of Virginia

Indi Trehan, MD, MPH, DTM&H
University of Washington

Questions about online application process:
Contact **Rhonda Schultz**
Manager, Board & Fellowships
rschultz@astmh.org

Application timeline:
Application opens February 18
Application closes March 18
Notices sent in early May