

## FAQs

**Q. What is the deadline for application?**

A. March 1 for fellowships beginning in July of the same year.

**Q. What is the dollar value of the Heed Fellowship?**

A. It is a merit award of \$10,000 paid in monthly increments to the Fellow. It cannot be reduced by the institution for any reason.

**Q. Are taxes deducted from the merit award?**

A. No.

**Q. If I receive a Heed Fellowship will I receive a W-2 form for the award?**

A. No; please check with your accounting advisor for reporting assistance. A letter will be sent by our bank confirming the amount you received in the year.

**Q. If selected, is the fellowship program allowed to retain any of the Heed award to support salary or research expenses?**

A. No. This is a merit award to the Heed Fellow and cannot be reduced by the institution for any reason.

**Q. My fellowship is a 2-year program, and I am currently in my first year. Am I eligible to apply?**

A. Yes.

**Q. I understand that I must be a citizen of the USA to apply - is this true?**

A. Yes.

**Q. I am currently a USA Green card holder/permanent resident. I have already applied for my USA citizenship which I anticipate getting soon, but not before the application deadline. Am I eligible for the Heed Fellowship application?**

A. No; individuals are eligible if they are a citizen or naturalized citizen at the time of application.

**Q. I am in a United States-based fellowship but some of my fellowship research will be conducted in another country. Am I eligible to apply for a Heed Fellowship?**

A. Yes.

**Q. I just finished my fellowship in July. Can I still apply for this award?**

A. To be eligible you must be applying for your first year of fellowship or, in the case of a two-year fellowship, anticipating the second year prior to the application deadline.

**Q. I applied for the Heed fellowship last year but was not selected. Am I eligible to apply again since I will be in my second year of fellowship?**

A. Yes.

**Q. Are neuro-ophthalmology fellows who graduated from a neurology residency rather than an ophthalmology residency eligible to apply for the Heed fellowship?**

A. Yes.

**Q. I will be starting my fellowship in Neuro-ophthalmology and wish to apply for the Heed Fellowship. On the applicant page, it states that the applicant should submit a letter from the Ophthalmology Chair or Residency Program Director who supervised the applicant's residency. My residency is in Neurology; am I still eligible to apply?**

A. Yes; in this circumstance the letter should be from the Neurology Chair or Residency Program Director.

**Q. What specifics is the board looking for in an applicant?**

A. Special consideration is given to the candidate who is planning an academic career in a medical school.

**Q. I applied for a Heed fellowship previously and was not selected. Is there any advice you can provide as I put my application together for this year?**

A. No. The committee's decisions are confidential. Approximately 100 applications are received with funding of approximately 20 fellowships annually; competition is rigorous. You are encouraged to apply again; if an application is not submitted, there is no chance to be selected.

**Q. Will I be able to revise the application if it has not yet been submitted?**

A. Yes.

**Q. If I complete and submit the application, can I revise it if an error is found?**

A. Yes, as long as the applications have not yet been submitted for the review process. You will notify the Administrator who can 'unsubmit' the application so that it can be revised. Printing a copy of the application prior to submitting it is suggested.

**Q. Are there any Heed activities that fellows can attend once they become alumni?**

A. Yes. Former Heed Fellows become members of the Society of Heed Fellows, our alumni organization. The Society funds fellowships and hosts the annual Heed Luncheon where a former Heed Fellow is honored with the prestigious Heed-Gutman Award.

**Q. Will I receive a certificate when I complete the one-year Heed Fellowship?**

A. Yes, upon completion of the fellowship year and submission of a Final Fellowship Experience Report, a certificate will be mailed to you.

**Q. If I relocate, should I send Heed my change of address, new phone number, and e-mail address?**

A. Yes. An up-to-date database is maintained to communicate with Heed Fellow alumni.