

The Regan Fellowship

Offering medical residents opportunities to learn while serving in the developing world

The Organization

Throughout the world, Operation Smile volunteers repair childhood facial deformities while building public and private partnerships that advocate for sustainable healthcare systems for children and families. Together, we create smiles, change lives, heal humanity.

Operation Smile has worked in 42 countries and coordinates programs in more than 60 Medical Mission sites. Last year, medical volunteers provided free surgeries for 9,221 children through international and local, in-country medical missions.

The Regan Fellowship

Made possible by a generous grant from the Regan family, and driven by the desire to see young medical professionals become involved in life changing service opportunities, the Regan Fellowship invites medical residents to attend Operation Smile surgical missions, participate in Operation Smile medical research initiatives, and network with other medical volunteers dedicated to changing lives.

Residents of Plastic Surgery, Anesthesia, and Pediatrics are eligible to apply for the Regan Fellowship. The applicants selected for this opportunity will spend 10 -14 days on an Operation Smile surgical mission observing, learning and assisting in surgery, anesthesia or pediatric care. These residents will take part in changing the lives of underprivileged children with facial deformities. In a little over one week, the Regan Fellow works with the Operation Smile team to help bring hope and happiness to as many as 175 kids who would never have received treatment otherwise.

In addition to working with the team during the mission, the Regan Fellow will also support Operation Smile research initiatives related to cleft lip and cleft palate. By participating in this research, the resident offers hope to future generations as Operation Smile seeks to uncover the causes of cleft lip/cleft palate, and works to perfect the treatment of these deformities.

Before attending a mission, residents chosen for this program will communicate with a mentoring physician to discuss Operation Smile's vision, and understand their responsibilities. The Regan fellows will be working alongside this mentor during the mission experience. Regan Fellows will also be invited to attend an annual conference where they can share their experiences and ideas with their peers.

Time and time again, volunteers testify that these surgical missions are life changing, not just for the children that are helped, but also for the volunteers helping them. The Regan Fellowship is a great opportunity for medical residents to experience the privilege of serving others as well as to increase their knowledge and experience in a stimulating environment.

For more information on the Regan Fellowship, contact the education department at info.education@operationsmile.org.

Regan Fellow Guidelines

Operation Smile's commitment to the patients and families we serve around the world includes the development of future medical volunteers to continue the delivery of care. Also of great importance is the investment in research on cleft lip/ cleft palate, to better understand causation and to improve treatment.

Under the Regan Fellowship, medical residents are offered the opportunity to attend a surgical mission where they will gain invaluable experience working alongside an experienced Operation Smile physician, and also help carry out Operation Smile research initiatives at the mission site.

Regan Fellow Profile

- Senior Residents of Anesthesia, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, and Pediatrics can apply for the Regan Fellowship.
Exceptions may be made for junior residents on a case by case basis.
- Candidates must demonstrate an interest in global medicine and humanitarian aid, and a desire to engage in voluntary service.
- A letter of recommendation from a senior faculty member must attest to the resident's personal and professional strengths.

Expectations of Regan Fellows

- Regan Fellows will complete pre-mission preparation, attend an international Operation Smile mission, and attend an annual Operation Smile conference.
- Regan Fellows will agree to full responsibilities of team membership. This includes agreeing to the Code of Conduct for volunteers on missions.
- During the mission, Regan Fellows will be assigned specific responsibilities according to their specialty and the nature of the mission. *(see next section)*
- Participation in Operation Smile medical work will always take place under the supervision of a mentoring physician.
- Participation in Operation Smile research initiatives will be required. The fellows will choose from a list of existing research projects or may propose their own.
- Follow up reporting will be required of each Regan Fellow regarding their experiences and observations.

Regan Fellow Roles on International Missions

Plastic Surgery Fellows:

- Fellows will be responsible for ensuring that the operative details of each procedure are correctly filled out every day. They will be required to show all the plastic surgeons how these forms are to be filled in one day prior to the first surgery day. This information must be presented to their mentor at the end of each surgery day.
- During screening, the fellow will assess patients alongside the other plastic surgeons.
- During surgery week, the fellow will observe and assist alongside his/her mentor. All patient contact will be supervised in the OR.

Anesthesia Fellows:

- During screening, the fellow will assess patient health alongside the team anesthesiologists.
- The resident will be assigned to a table in the operating theater, and will be staffed at that table by a designated OSI Anesthesiologist. The resident's mentor will be the designated anesthesiologist who will staff that resident unless the mentor is serving as Anesthesia Team Leader and will therefore spend most of the mission as a floater.

Pediatric Fellows

- Pediatric residents will work closely with the team pediatrician to assess patients during screening and administer care in the post-op ward during surgery week.

Ongoing Research Projects

Plastic Surgery:

- Suture material and quality of scar in cleft patients
- Worldwide surgical practices of cleft care: unilateral cleft lip
- Worldwide surgical practices of cleft care: bilateral cleft lip
- Worldwide surgical practices of cleft care: cleft palate

Regan Fellowship

Mentor Profile

As Operation Smile strives to inspire and develop the upcoming generation of medical volunteers, an essential component for the success of this endeavor is a select group of medical professionals dedicated to the instruction and mentoring of younger volunteers. When residents attend surgical missions as Regan Fellows, they will participate under the supervision and guidance of an experienced physician who is willing to act in this role. In order to guarantee a quality experience for the Regan Fellow and a safe environment for the patients, the following criteria must be met by the mentor:

- Embrace the Operation Smile philosophy and demonstrate a dedication to Operation Smile principles and objectives
- Either:
 - Have substantial mission experience with Operation Smile (5 or more missions and/or Team Leader experience); or
 - Occupy a faculty position in a residency program, or an equivalent position of leadership, teaching, or training in his/her discipline
- Express a desire to cultivate the upcoming generation of Medical volunteers
- Assume responsibility to instruct and advise the Regan Fellow while on the mission
- Agree to supervise the Regan Fellow during all patient contact
- If requested, provide a letter of endorsement that corroborates his/her integrity and responsibility in both professional and personal matters and confirms ability to instruct and educate
- Upon completion of mentoring experience, provide Operation Smile with a brief report indicating possible ways to continue cultivating Regan Fellow's growth

Fellowship Opportunities
RESIDENT VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Revised March, 2009



Changing Lives One **Smile** at a Time

Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Personal Phone: (____) _____ Work Phone: (____) _____

Fax: (____) _____ Email: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Residency Program: _____ Expected Completion Date: _____

Place of Work: _____

Work Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Preferred Mailing Address (check one): Home Address Work Address

Residency Program Director and/or name of Operation Smile volunteer sponsoring your application:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Email: _____ Phone: (____) _____

MISSION PREFERENCE: Please indicate the mission(s) in which you are interested:

Mission Site/Country: _____ **Dates:** _____

Mission Site/Country: _____ **Dates:** _____

Mission Site/Country: _____ **Dates:** _____

DISCIPLINE: Please indicate if subspecialty within your field. Example: Pediatric Anesthesia, or Plastic Surgery.

Anesthesia **Subspecialty:** _____

Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery **Subspecialty:** _____

Pediatrics **Subspecialty:** _____

Fellowship Opportunities RESIDENT VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Revised March, 2009



Changing Lives One Smile at a Time

CURRENT EXPERIENCE: Please indicate which types of patients/programs you have had experience with during your residency program.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pediatrics (0-6 years old) | <input type="checkbox"/> Burns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth (7-14 years old) | <input type="checkbox"/> Orthopedics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adult (over 14 years old) | <input type="checkbox"/> Craniofacial |

Please provide details and dates of any Fellowships you are currently in or have completed:

Specialty Training: School / Hospital

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Cleft Lip | |
| Cleft Palate | |
| Burns | |
| Flaps | |
| Microsurgery | |
| Peds Anesthesia | |
| Other | |

Board Certified: YES Specialty: _____ Date: _____ NO

Board Eligible: YES Specialty: _____ Date: _____ NO

Have your medical privileges ever been suspended? YES NO

If YES, please explain: _____

PALS Certification: YES Certification Date: _____

ACLS Certification: YES Certification Date: _____

Fellowship Opportunities RESIDENT VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Revised March, 2009



Changing Lives One Smile at a Time

Have you ever participated in any overseas medical/healthcare work? YES NO

If YES, explain: _____

1st Language _____

2nd Language _____ Level of Fluency _____

3rd Language _____ Level of Fluency _____

Shirt Size: XS S M L XL

Lab Coat Size: XS S M L XL

PASSPORT INFORMATION

Passport #: _____ Passport Type: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____

Nationality: _____

Issuing Authority name and city: _____

Date Issued: _____ Expiration: _____

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Please send this completed application along with:

- **Current Curriculum Vitae/Resume**
- **Current copies of licensure**
- **Current copy of Board certification** (if applicable)
- **Copies of diplomas and degrees**
- **Current copy of ACLS certification** (Anesthesia Volunteers)
- **Current copy of PALS certification** (Anesthesia and Pediatric Volunteers)
- **Letter of advocacy from your Residency Program Director and/or Operation Smile volunteer sponsoring your application**

Curriculum Vitae should include full contact information including permanent residence in addition to school residence, education history, current certifications (such as BLS, ACLS, PALS and others) society memberships, publications, employment history, volunteer history, and other information indicating the applicant's humanitarian efforts. Resident positions on missions are usually reserved for those in senior standing in their programs.

Fellowship Opportunities

RESIDENT VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

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Changing Lives One **Smile** at a Time

Copies of licensure, board certifications, medical degrees and life support certifications do not need to be certified originals specifically for this Operation Smile application, but must arrive clear and fully legible.

Letter of advocacy should include a clear statement that the author has knowledge of the activities, performance, and dedication of the applicant, and that the author firmly believes the applicant will benefit from the medical mission as well as be a benefit to the mission.

Please have letters of advocacy addressed to Dr. Donald Mackay, Director of OSI Fellowships. Letters from program directors should be printed on institution's letterhead and all letters should include contact information for the author. Letters from Operation Smile Medical Mission Volunteers should indicate the mission(s) and year(s) on which the volunteer has served.

It is very important that you send all of the above information together with the completed application. If any of the above information is not in the application packet, the application is incomplete and this could delay processing. You will be notified if your application is incomplete.

Completed application packets will be reviewed by a selection committee, at which time you may be interviewed by telephone or asked to submit additional information. Operation Smile will inform you of the results of your application.

If an applicant is selected for a fellowship, his/her participation will be on a volunteer basis. All expenses related to the program will be covered by fellowship funding unless otherwise indicated.

Participation in a mission is a privilege and an honor. Volunteers regularly report it is one of the most intense, powerful and life-changing events they have ever experienced. This application is an important first step.

Please send all materials to:

**Operation Smile
Attn: Education
6435 Tidewater Drive
Norfolk, VA 23509-1600 USA**

Or,

Fax or Email them to:

**Fax: 757.321.7772
Email: info.education@operationsmile.org**

I have read the above and certify that the foregoing is true, correct and complete. I shall promptly inform Operation Smile if there is any change to the facts herein.

Signature: _____ Date: _____