

Hoi Sang U Research Awards



The **Hoi-Sang U Honor Your Mentor Fund** was established in 2018 to support research into the molecular mechanisms of neurosurgical diseases with a focus on neurotrauma, neuro-oncology or aging.

Applications for the **Hoi Sang U Research Awards** are now being accepted by the **Neurosurgery Research & Education Foundation (NREF)**.



Hoi-Sang U, MD, FAANS, was born July 2, 1946, in Hong Kong. He was educated at Yale College and graduated in 1968. He received his M.D. from Tufts Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts, in 1972

He completed his residency training at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Medical Center under world-renowned neurosurgeon Dr. Charles B. Wilson. He spent several years as a Post-Doctoral Fellow and Research Biologist in the Department of Biology, University of California, San Diego (UCSD), and since 1983, served as the Chief of Neurosurgical Services at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in San Diego. Dr. U joined the faculty of UCSD in 1978, serving as Professor of Neurological Surgery. He was appointed Vice-Chief of Academic Affairs for the division of Neurological

Surgery in 1995 and served in this role until 2010.

Dr. U has an extensive background in all aspects of neurosurgery, including neurovascular, skull base, and transsphenoidal surgery. He is an internationally recognized specialist in the treatment of the vascular anomalies known as AVMs. Dr. U's other surgical interests include treatment of brain masses, including meningiomas, astrocytomas, craniopharyngiomas, and pituitary adenomas.

Award Application

Yes! It is my intention to apply for an award to be granted by the **Hoi Sang U Honor Your Mentor Fund** within the Neurosurgery Research & Education Foundation (NREF).

I. General Information

Fund Purpose	To support research into the molecular mechanisms of neurosurgical diseases with a focus on neurotrauma, neuro-oncology or aging.
Award Description	One-time grant to supplement research expenses, such as publishing costs, travel, etc.
Eligibility	Applicants must be physicians who are currently in approved residency training programs in neurological surgery in the United States, Canada or Mexico.
Amount of Award	Up to three (3) awards of \$3,000 each will be granted for the fields of brain tumors, traumatic brain injury, and neurodegenerative diseases.
Application Deadline	Submit application and supporting documents to info@nref.org by Friday, March 27, 2026 . Award notification is scheduled for Spring 2025.
Reporting	A final summary report (500 words) is required within forty (40) days of project completion.

II. Contact Information

Applicant Name: _____

Address (at which you receive mail): _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip Code _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

III. Field – Awards will be given in up to three (3) areas. Please select the award for which you would like to be considered:

- Brain Tumors
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Neurodegenerative Diseases

IV. Required Documents – Please submit the following to info@nref.org by Friday, March 27, 2026:

- **Abstract** - One-page abstract (250 words) describing the research project
- **Applicant Statement** – One-page essay (500 words) describing how the award will help you attain your research goals
- **Curriculum Vitae** – Including: positions, awards & honors, selected peer-reviewed publications and/or research support
- **Letter of Reference** – Letter from a board-certified neurosurgeon who is a member of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS)
- **Photo** – Professional, high-resolution photo in JPG format

The application and supporting documents must be submitted to info@nref.org by Friday, March 27, 2026.

V. Agreement of Responsibility

I have reviewed this application for NREF Honor Your Mentor Fund Award and to the best of my knowledge, the information enclosed is accurate. I agree to release and hold harmless the Neurosurgery Research & Education Foundation (NREF), its members, officers, and agents from any complaints or claims or demands for damage or otherwise, by reason of any act of omission or commission that they may make in connection with this application, including but not limited to the evaluation of the application and the final decision with respect to its approval and/or funding. It is understood that the decisions as to whether this application qualifies me for approval and/or funding rests solely and exclusively on the NREF Board of Directors, based on the recommendations of the NREF Fund Manager(s), and that their decision is final. I understand that I will be legally bound by the foregoing.

Applicant: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____