



# Clinic for Special Children

535 Bunker Hill Road, PO Box 128, Strasburg PA 17579 P 717.687.9407 F 717.687.9237

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in conducting research at the Clinic for Special Children. We are a non-profit organization dedicated to providing affordable clinical, laboratory, and research services to children with complex genetic disorders, primarily in the local Amish and Mennonite communities. Our combination of comprehensive clinical care and embedded biochemical and molecular laboratory services allow for longitudinal studies ultimately resulting in patient-focused translational research. Should your application be approved, you would aid us in this mission.

Given the demand of clinical care and research duties on our staff, space for students is limited and awarded on a competitive basis. While CSC staff will provide guidance and mentorship, success of any project will depend on a student's initiative and their ability to work independently. Please intend to spend at least one month engaged in research with us and apply at least three months in advance of your starting date. Typical projects include in-depth study of an individual case or disorder. While clinical and/or laboratory experiences may be part of the course of study depending on a student's focus, *this is not primarily a "shadowing" experience*. Research opportunities at CSC are also unpaid positions. Near the end of your study period, you will be required to formally present findings from your project to CSC staff.

Please complete the following application and send all required documents to Adam Heaps, Executive Director; [aheaps@clinicforspecialchildren.org](mailto:aheaps@clinicforspecialchildren.org). You should hear from a member of the clinic staff within one month regarding the status of your application.

Thank you again for your interest in the Clinic for Special Children.

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The following papers will provide information regarding our unique practice and laboratory. It is recommended that you read these papers prior to filling out the application below: [www.clinicforspecialchildren.org/research](http://www.clinicforspecialchildren.org/research).

#### Recommended Reading Material:

- Strauss, KA, et al. "One Community's Effort to Control Genetic Disease." Am J Public Health. 2012 Jul;102(7):1300-6. Epub 2012 May 17. PubMed PMID: 22594747.
- Strauss, KA et al. "Genetics, Medicine and the Plain People." Ann. Rev. Genomics Hum. Genetics. 10:513-536, 2009.
- Morton, DH et al. "Pediatric medicine and the genetic disorders of the Amish and Mennonite people of Pennsylvania." Am. J. Med. Genet. 121C: 5-17, 2003.
- Strauss, KA et al. "Clinical Application of DNA microarrays: molecular diagnosis and HLA matching of an Amish child with severe combined immune deficiency." Clin. Immunol. 128: 31-38, 2008.
- "Letter to a Student" an essay by Dr. Morton
- Morton, DH. "Through my Window - Remarks at the 125<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration of Children's Hospital of Boston." Pediatrics. 94: 785-791, 1994.
- Puffenberger, EG et al. "Genetic Mapping and Exome Sequencing Identify Variants Associated with Five Novel Diseases." PLoS ONE. 7(1): e28936, 2012.

For students interested in the culture of our patient population, we recommend Amish Society by John Hostetler.



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## Application for Research

### Who Should Apply

- Undergraduates (minimum 2 years completed)
- Medical Residents
- Fellows/Post Doctoral
- Faculty from outside institutions

### Requirements for Study

- Student is in good academic standing or employment
- The student is enrolled in a course of study or has an educational background relevant to the work of the clinic

### Required Documents

- Completed Application
- Personal Statement  
In 500 words or less, please describe your motivation for coming to study at the Clinic for Special Children
- Transcript or proof of employment
- Curriculum Vitae
- Two letters of recommendation from persons familiar with your character, abilities and intent

**NOTE:** While we provide a unique learning experience *within the scope of our normal practice*, it will be the responsibility of any applicant to fulfill any additional educational requirements imposed by his or her institution.

**DEADLINE:** at least 3 months prior to your intended start date

Send all required documents to Adam Heaps, Executive Director; [aheaps@clinicforspecialchildren.org](mailto:aheaps@clinicforspecialchildren.org)



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## Application for Research

**Date**

**Name**

**Mailing Address**

Street

City

State

Zip

**Phone**

**Email**

**Institution**

**Expected graduation date**

(if applicable)

**Requested Dates of Study** (minimum 1 month)

**Specific Research Interests**

**Project focus** (percentage)

**Clinical**

**Laboratory**

**Other**

**Other - please specify**

**\*Franklin & Marshall Students ONLY**

Eyler

Hackman

490

Independent Study