The focus of The Warren Alpert Foundation is to improve the health of the public through grants and programmatic activities progressing towards attaining or perfecting medical treatments or cures through basic research, translational and outcomes research as well as through health education.

Request for Proposal (RFP) for Universities, University Departments, or Centers to Enhance Training and Retention of Scholars in Computational Biology/Artificial Intelligence including investigators at Masters (leading to advanced degrees), Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Levels.

Background: Computational Biology/AI (CBAI) is a rapidly growing field that has become increasingly important in biomedical research with tremendous impact in health care. Advances in computational techniques have enabled scientists to analyze large amounts of data, making it possible to uncover new insights and develop new treatments for diseases. Indeed, this is at the heart of ground breaking solutions for personalized therapy and therapeutics. Despite the growing demand for CBAI biologists, there is a shortage of qualified individuals in this field. To address this need, we are seeking proposals that will enhance the development and retention of scholars in the field of CBAI including investigators at Masters (leading to advanced degrees), Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Levels.

Objectives: The objective of this RFP is to identify and sponsor programs that have the capacity to provide high-quality training and support to developing scholars focused on healthcare related CBAI and the underlying science in developing therapeutics and treatment modalities. Proposals should outline a comprehensive plan to achieve the following objectives:

1. Provide scholars with a rigorous education in CBAI that prepares them for successful careers in academia, the health care industry, or government.

2. Foster a supportive and inclusive community that promotes collaboration, mentorship, and career development opportunities for scholars.

3. Develop programs that encourage and support diversity and inclusion in the field of CBAI.

4. Implement strategies to enhance the retention development of scholars and researchers in the program and increase the number and quality of graduates who pursue careers in CBAI related to heath care.

5. Generate and support internships or similar opportunities for scholars that reinforce career paths and development.

Proposals should include the following information:

1.   Overview: A brief summary of the program's description, proposer's experience, and ability to provide training and education focused on the health care related field and technology development of CBAI.

2.   Curriculum: A description of the curriculum for post masters, doctoral, and post-doctoral programs in CBAI, including course descriptions, requirements, and expected outcomes.

3.   Faculty: A description of faculty members who will be involved in teaching and mentoring participants, including their expertise in health care related CBAI and their accomplishments in research, teaching, and mentoring.

4.   Facilities: A description of the facilities and resources available to support scholars in the program, including computing resources, laboratory facilities, and access to data and other resources.

5.   Diversity and Inclusion: A description of programs available or proposed and initiatives to promote diversity and inclusion in the program, including efforts to recruit and retain scholars from underrepresented groups.

6.   Retention and Career Development: A description of programs and initiatives to support the retention of scholars in the program and to prepare them for successful careers in health care CBAI.

7.   Budget: A budget summary for the proposed program, including expenses for faculty, staff, facilities, and a listing of existing or pending funding for the present proposal and how this may differ from existing NIH or NSF programs.

Proposal Evaluation: Proposals will be evaluated on criteria attached to this RFP.

Submission Details: Proposals should be submitted by email to the following address: **gschiesser@warrenalpertfoundation.org** by <mark>July 16, 2023.</mark>

 Any questions or inquiries about this RFP should be directed to Mr. Gus Scheisser, Executive Director, 90 Elm Street, Providence, Rhode Island, 02903, telephone 401-383-1331.