

Scholarship of the Lt. Joseph P. Kennedy Memorial Research Fund

This can be described in terms of an announcement in the 1963 catalogue along the following lines:

"A full tuition scholarship (present value \$1,260 per year) is available from funds of the Joseph P. Kennedy Laboratories for Molecular Medicine (see p. this catalogue) for a first-year medical student of outstanding qualifications and interests in pursuing a career in medical research bearing on the etiology of mental retardation. The indicated fields of scientific activity include molecular biology, heredity, neurobiology or developmental medicine. The scholar would also be expected to qualify for appointment as a part-time and summer research assistant in the Kennedy Laboratories during his medical studies. The scholar may not accept any employment during his medical studies that does not directly further his career in medical research. The award is renewable annually on evidence of continued high performance towards these goals."

Such a scholarship may help greatly to steer students into the Stanford program, and to dramatize our concern for developing talent in this field. It would first become operative in September, 1963, and would entail a moral commitment for the five-year period beginning then, but at a rate of only \$1,260 per year, fortunately not taxable to the student. The medical admissions office informs me that about six highly qualified applicants each year badly need financial aid of this kind beyond the availability of current income from scholarship funds. Actually, even more students must fail to apply to Stanford in the first place out of financial discouragement.

As this is not really an endowed scholarship and to avoid the complications of a new agreement for a pilot experiment, it is formulated as a scholarship from the Kennedy Laboratory fund rather than the Foundation. We have time to decide whether to continue the program with new starts in succeeding years--hopefully the President's program for national medical scholarships may erase the need for it, if Congress can eventually be persuaded to adopt it.