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*** * PUBLIC NOTICE * ***

Maryland Stem Cell Commission Issues Nationwide Request for Applications for New Post-Doctoral Fellowship Grants

COLUMBIA, Md. (Dec. 17, 2007) – The Maryland Stem Cell Research Commission (Commission) today issued a Request for Applications (RFA) for new post-doctoral fellowship grants under **RFA-MD-07-3**. The Commission is soliciting nationwide applications from pre-doctoral students and post-doctoral fellows who wish to conduct basic and/or translational research on all types of human stem cells in Maryland.

It is estimated that up to 16 fellowships will be funded with each fellowship being awarded up to \$55,000 per year for up to two years, which is inclusive of all direct, indirect and fringe benefits costs. Maryland-based organizations of all types are eligible as training institutes, including public and private, for-profit and non-profit, universities, colleges, research institutes, companies, medical centers, and others.

The Commission's goal in creating these fellowship grants is to grow the biotechnology community in Maryland by training the next generation of stem cell researchers. This addresses a purpose of the Maryland Research Stem Cell Act, which is to broaden and advance basic knowledge of human stem cell biology that will be relevant for eventual development of clinical applications, and to enable, support and accelerate such clinical applications for prevention, diagnosis and treatment of human diseases and conditions.

Applications for the fellowship should follow the guideline under the **RFA-MD-07-3**, and must be submitted electronically to TEDCO at mscrinfo@MarylandTEDCO.org by 5 p.m. EST on Thursday, Jan. 31, 2008.

Applications will be evaluated based on the following: the applicant's qualifications and potential for stem cell research, the quality of the proposed training program, the mentor's qualifications and training record, the training environment, and the applicant's relevance to stem cell research. Applicants will be evaluated by an independent peer review committee comprised of scientifically recognized experts in the field of stem cell research that reside out of the State.

Questions by applicants about this RFA may only be addressed by email at mscrinfo@MarylandTEDCO.org. More information about RFA-MD-07-3 requirements can be found at www.MarylandTEDCO.org.

About the Maryland Stem Cell Research Commission

Established as an independent unit within the Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO), the Maryland Stem Cell Research Commission has set up criteria, standards and requirements to administer the Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund in accordance with the Maryland Stem Cell Research Act of 2006. The Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund has been established to promote state-funded stem research. With a \$23 million budget for FY 2008, the Commission will support grants to public and private entities in the State. For more information about the Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund and a list of Commission members, please visit www.MarylandTEDCO.org.