MBI GATOR NEUROSCHOLARS POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP

Mentor Support Statement Applicant Name: _____

Proposed Mentor Name: _____

Department: _____

Mentor Email Address: _____

As the proposed primary mentor for the above-named applicant to the MBI Gator NeuroScholars Postdoctoral Fellowship Program, I confirm the following:

1. I have discussed this fellowship opportunity in detail with the applicant and support their candidacy.
2. If the applicant is selected as a finalist, I agree to participate in a virtual meeting to discuss their interests and determine alignment with the goals and environment of my laboratory group.
3. If the candidate is awarded the fellowship, I agree to the following:
    a. I will work directly with my department's HR team to initiate and facilitate timely hiring, onboarding, and appointment processes in accordance with University of Florida policies. I will also be responsible for covering changes in required fringe benefits from those originally budgeted (if necessary).
    b. I will cover any in-person interview and/or campus visit-related costs. Note: The MBI administrative team will assist with interview logistics and itinerary planning.
    c. I will provide appropriate mentorship, training, and career development opportunities to the applicant.
    d. I will cover research expenses beyond the annual $10,000 allocation intended to enable the applicant’s development of an independent research line.
    e. I will support the applicant in preparing and submitting an extramural funding application (e.g., K99/R00 or equivalent) by the end of the second year of their appointment.
    f. I understand that fellows may be considered for a third year of support based on program policies, available funding, and satisfactory progress.
    g. I will comply with all program expectations, reporting requirements, and mentor engagement activities outlined by the Gator NeuroScholars Program.
    h. **Optional (not required):** To assist with program planning and review, please indicate whether any of the following apply. *These commitments are optional but may be considered during the review process.*

        ☐ I can commit funding to supporting a third year of the fellow's appointment (salary and associated fringe benefits), contingent upon satisfactory progress.

        ☐ I have existing grant funding available to support a postdoctoral fellow and am seeking Gator NeuroScholars funds to supplement ("top off") the fellow's salary and/or research support.
4. I am an active faculty member affiliated with the MBI and will commit to allocating **at least 3% of indirect costs** from all allowable grants to the Institute if the applicant is selected.

Signature of Mentor: _____

Date: _____