Applicant Tips from ACLS:

- Read the **website** thoroughly to understand application instructions and formatting requirements, as well as to log in early to start building your online application;
- Create a checklist of application components and a healthy timeline to complete;
- Match your research plans with the program's objectives;
- Spent quality time on the abstract – this is the first impression and should be seen as an additive to the application and _**not**_ a duplication of other application materials – refrain from copying/pasting the first paragraph of the proposal;
- Every piece of the application counts, don't overlook any elements;
- Successful applications focus on research projects and plans, unsuccessful applications discuss ideas for a research project;
- Discuss in the application how 9-12 months as a fellow will be used thoughtfully and efficiently;
- Be clear and direct in your writing, be sure to avoid jargon;
- Ask a friend or colleague to read/proof each draft, in addition to seeking feedback from resources such as faculty advisors and committee;
- Prepare your reference writers to produce a strong letter: provide for them a draft of your proposal as well as a brief overview of the fellowship's mission and objectives;
- Check ACLS **FAQ website** often (continuously updated);
- Use ACLS **online resources**, including their **fellowship proposal writing guide**;
- Ask questions (applicants may email **fellowships@acls.org**);