

**VA Advanced Fellowship Program in Mental Illness Research and Treatment
at the VISN 5 Mental Illness Research, Education, and Clinical Center (MIRECC)**



**VA Maryland Health Care System
Baltimore Medical System**

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<http://www.mirecc.va.gov/visn5/research/fellowship.asp>

The VA Advanced Fellowship Program in Mental Illness Research and Treatment at the VISN 5 MIRECC has one post-doctoral psychologist fellowship position and one post-residency psychiatrist fellowship position in Mental Illness Research and Treatment. The goal of these two-year fellowships is to train psychologists and psychiatrists to become leading clinical researchers in the area of serious mental illness. Fellows develop independent programs of research on topics related to psychosocial treatment development and implementation of recovery-oriented services. The fellowship program provides opportunities for mentored research training in psychosocial treatment development; individual, group, family, and community interventions; health services and implementation research; and research in psychopharmacology. Fellows engage in supervised clinical training, delivering clinical services both in settings that serve Veterans with serious mental illness as well as in other programs within fellows' areas of interest. In addition, fellows participate in educational activities with local, VISN-wide, and national reach within VA and benefit from academic experiences focused on biostatistical methods, health informatics, grant writing, and overall career development. Fellows spend approximately 65% of their time in research-related research and clinical activities, 25% of their time in clinical service and training activities, and 10% of their time in didactic and administrative activities. We are committed to ensuring a range of diversity among within our Fellowship and welcome applications from candidates representing different geographic areas, ages, racial and ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, disabilities, and life experiences.

We are one of 25 sites in the national VA Advanced Fellowship Program in Mental Illness Research and Treatment. Our Fellowship Program follows the broad organizational structure of the national program, which aims to provide clinical research activities in concert with clinical experiences over a two-year time frame. MIRECC Fellowship sites around the nation are linked electronically and by two-way interactive videoconference for learning, information sharing, and the development of a national laboratory in advanced psychiatry and psychology. Our program is affiliated with the University of Maryland, School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry; this provides an outstanding collaborative and interdisciplinary setting for fellows. Our program has been in existence and offering postdoctoral training since 2003. Our fellows have established careers as experts in serious mental illness research and clinical care in VA, academic, and hospital settings.

The VA Capitol Health Care Network (VISN 5) serves Veterans from the entire state of Maryland, and portions of Virginia, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania, as well as the District of Columbia. Fellows' offices and research activities are housed in the Baltimore VA Medical Center, located in downtown Baltimore and adjoining the University of Maryland School of Medicine and Medical Center.

Detailed information about the VA Advanced Fellowship Program in Mental Illness Research and Treatment at the VISN 5 MIRECC can be found on the national MIRECC website at <http://www.mirecc.va.gov/mirecc-fellowship.asp> and at the VISN 5 website at <http://www.mirecc.va.gov/visn5/>. Potential applicants are encouraged to contact Dr. Melanie Bennett at Melanie.Bennett@va.gov for more information.

Applicants for the post-doctoral psychologist fellowship position must have graduated from an American Psychological Association (APA) accredited doctoral program in clinical or counseling psychology (or be on track to complete their graduate program prior to beginning the fellowship) and must have completed an APA-accredited internship. Applicants for the post-residency psychiatrist fellowship position must have completed Accrediting Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) or American Osteopathic Association (AOA) accredited residency training, must be either board certified or actively pursuing board certification, and specifically interested in pursuing a clinical research career focused on psychiatric disorders and associated conditions.

A successful candidate for the fellowship program will have participated in active programs of research with resultant presentations/publications and will have a history of specialty training in serious mental illness. The fellowship adheres strongly to a scientist-practitioner model of training. The candidate will demonstrate a commitment to the scientist-practitioner model as evidenced by history of research in serious mental illness, as well as training in empirically supported treatments for those with these conditions. Successful candidates will also demonstrate a commitment to serving Veterans and an interest in VA. Those who do not meet these eligibility requirements will be notified by the site as soon as possible.

The Postdoctoral Fellowship abides by the policies stated in the Association of Psychology Post Doctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC), American Psychological Association (APA) and VA Office of Academic Affiliation (OAA) regulations. Applicants are referred to the APPIC website, www.appic.org, APA website, www.apa.org, and OAA website, www.va.gov/oaa/ for a detailed description of the policies. The VAMHCS is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Our postdoctoral fellowship program values cultural and individual diversity and welcomes applicants from all backgrounds.

Application & Selection Requirements and Procedures

Psychologist Applicants

Applications for the post-doctoral psychologist fellowship position are due **January 31, 2017**. Except under very unusual circumstances, all application materials must be submitted through the APPA CAS (<http://appic.org/AAP-APPA/APPA-Postdoc-Application-Information>). The following documents are required for application to our program:

1. A letter of interest that outlines career goals, expectations, and goodness of fit with the mission of the VA Advanced Fellowship Program in Mental Illness Research and Treatment at the VISN 5 MIRECC
2. A current curriculum vitae
3. Official graduate transcripts
4. Three signed letters of recommendation, one of which must be from an internship supervisor

The Fellowship Steering Committee will review all completed applications and will extend invitations for on-site or telephone interviews during late January and early February. Offers will be extended by the Director of Fellowship in line with the uniform notification date of **February 27, 2017**.

Psychiatrist Applicants

Applications for the post-residency psychiatry fellowship position will be accepted and reviewed by the Fellowship Steering Committee on a rolling basis until the position is filled. Psychiatrist applicants can send or email materials directly to the Fellowship Director at the address below. The following documents are required for application to our program:

1. A letter of interest that outlines career goals, expectations, and goodness of fit with the mission of the VA Advanced Fellowship Program in Mental Illness Research and Treatment at the VISN 5 MIRECC
2. A current curriculum vitae
3. Official graduate transcripts
4. A signed letter from your graduate program Director of Clinical Training or mentor that lists date of dissertation proposal, anticipated or actual date of dissertation defense, and anticipated or actual date of graduation
5. Three signed letters of recommendation, one of which must be from an internship supervisor

All questions and inquiries should be sent via email to:

Melanie Bennett, Ph.D., Director of Fellowship Training
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410-637-1859, Melanie.Bennett@va.gov.