
Application Procedures and Deadline

Investigators interested in becoming a mentor must submit an NIH format biosketch and a completed Principal Investigator Mentor Form (available on website).

Student applicants must submit the following:

- A completed on line application form
- A 2 page (maximum) personal statement (on line)
- A current transcript (does not need to be official)
- Two copies of a letter of recommendation from a faculty member (one hard copy mailed and an emailed copy sent to start@ucsd.edu).

Application must be received by **Friday, January 18, 2008**. Applications will be reviewed by an Executive Committee comprised of senior leaders in the field. Selected participants will be notified by **Friday, February 22, 2008**.

For additional information or to submit an application, please contact:

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Summer Training on Aging Research Topics
Mental Health Program
UCSD Division of Geriatric Psychiatry
3350 La Jolla Village Drive,
Building 13, 4th floor
San Diego, CA 92161
Email: startmh@ucsd.edu

Or visit our website at:

STARTMH.ucsd.edu

START-MH

National Training Opportunity

*Summer
Training on
Aging
Research
Topics
Mental
Health
(START-MH)
Program*

Mentor Information

Funded by the
National Institute of Mental Health
and coordinated by



START-MH Fellowship

a focus on tomorrow...

The Summer Training on Aging Research Topics – Mental Health Fellowship is a national program designed to give investigators an opportunity to mentor a predoctoral or medical student who may be interested in the field of geriatric mental health. One goal of the program is to increase the number of talented individuals in the “pipeline” of

developing investigators. [START-MH](#) is a 10 week summer program that provides investigators with a mechanism to foster a relationship with students. Investigators will serve as role models

and mentors.

There are multiple ways investigators are matched with students. Investigators will be able to nominate a student they wish to work with or [START-MH](#) will match them with a student interested in their field of research interest and goals or a specific geographic area. Fellows will work on specific projects developed by, or in conjunction with their mentor. Participants are selected on a competitive basis.

Trainees will receive a stipend for the summer program dependent on the number of weeks worked. At the end of the program, trainees are expected to provide a report of their summer activities including an abstract or paper based on their research as well as an evaluation of the program. Trainees will also present a poster on their research at the [START-MH](#) conference to be held at UCSD the first weekend of August (travel expenses paid). The conference will also provide a student an opportunity to discuss and their research experience and plan for future research careers.

Benefits of Being a Mentor

There are many reasons for investigators to become a mentor. There are many potential advantages to investigators including:

- Mentors will contribute in the cultivation of future investigators in the field of aging and mental health research.
- Training will be conducted in mentor’s own lab.
- Mentors would be paired with **Independently funded** students.
- Mentors can sponsor or nominate a pre-selected student.
- Mentors will receive a manual on “Effective Mentoring”
- Research is labor intensive. Mentors will work with trainees who are motivated and who were carefully screened to ensure their ability to

substantially contribute to the research.

- Trainees can provide “fresh lenses” to research questions. This may contribute to a creative approach to research.

Program Information

Mentors

Researchers with a demonstrated track record (as demonstrated through grant support and publication track records) in mental health and aging research are eligible to serve as mentors to student

(predoctoral and medical student) applicants to the

[START-MH](#)

program. Mentors

with federally funded research will be given the highest priority in the evaluation process.

Students

[START-MH](#) scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis to predoctoral or medical students. Applicants must demonstrate an interest in pursuing a career in aging and mental health research. Students from any major or discipline are welcome to apply. Among applicants who meet the requirements, priority will be given to students in the fields of psychology, gerontology, nursing, social work, neurosciences, and pharmacy. Students from educationally disadvantaged backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply. Applicants must either be a US citizen or a Permanent Resident.

