

Practice Research Training Scholarship

Funded by the American Academy of Neurology

Application Deadline: October 1, 2019

The American Academy of Neurology is pleased to offer a two-year award to support practice-based research, which is defined as “clinical research that evaluates translation of evidence into best clinical practice.” This may include evaluation of health services, quality of care, implementation of therapies, physician performance, or patient adherence. It is intended to create unique training opportunities previously difficult to access for neurologists. This award aims to recognize the importance of good practice-based research or comparative effectiveness research (CER) and encourage young investigators to use studies to improve health systems and services. The AAN Research Program demonstrates the AAN Board of Directors’ dedication to promoting neurology and neuroscience research and training.

This award consists of a commitment of \$65,000 per year for two years, plus a \$10,000 per year stipend to support education and research-related costs for a total of \$150,000. Supplementation of the award with other grants is permissible, but to be eligible to apply for this award, the other grant source(s) cannot exceed \$75,000 annually.

HOW TO APPLY

1. Visit AAN.com/view/ResearchProgram
2. Select “2020 Practice Research Training Scholarship”
3. Select “Apply now”

Please only submit one application - applicants are not allowed to submit applications for more than one award. Your application may be considered for another category at the discretion of the review committee, however, the system will only allow one application per person. Visit the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) portion of the website for more information.

IMPORTANT DATES

October 1, 2019: Application deadline – Note that this is the deadline for all documents, including those from the reference, mentor, and chair. Applications will be declined if this information is not submitted by October 1.

January 2020: Notification of recipients

July 1, 2020: Funding begins

ELIGIBILITY

1. Research must be directed to care in the clinical neurosciences and must meet the definition of clinical practice research. For example, clinical trials of therapies would not meet the definition of clinical practice research, but trials of methods to improve physician adherence to guidelines would.
2. Recipient must be an AAN member interested in an academic career in neurological research who has completed residency or a PhD no more than 5 years prior to the beginning of this award (July 1, 2020). If you have completed both residency and a PhD, your eligibility is based on when you completed residency. If you completed a fellowship of any kind after residency, your eligibility is still based on the date you finished residency.
3. Must identify a mentor who is a proven clinical practice researcher. This person does not have to be a neurologist, and the proposed research may be distinct from that of the mentor. For example, an expert in patient adherence or quality improvement in general medicine might be an excellent mentor for someone interested in studying these issues in the clinical neurosciences. Other appropriate mentors might include health services researchers, health economists, or health policy experts.

EVALUATION AND SELECTION

Applications are evaluated by reviewers based on the following criteria:

- Applicant’s ability and promise as a clinician-scientist based on prior record of achievement and career plan, letters of reference, and NIH Biosketch (30 percent)
- Quality and nature of the training to be provided and the institutional, departmental, and mentor-specific training environment (30 percent)
- Quality and originality of the research plan (40 percent)

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS FOR APPLICATION

1. PDF of Three-page Research Plan, including brief statements of aims, background, contemplated approaches to methodology and any supporting preliminary data/figures. References do not count toward the page limit. The research plan should be written by the applicant and should represent his/her original work. However, the applicant is expected and encouraged to develop this plan based on discussion with the proposed mentor. It is appropriate, but not required, for the proposed work to be specifically related to the mentor’s ongoing research.
2. PDF of Applicant’s NIH Biosketch. See this [link](#) for the most recent NIH Biosketch template

Once the above information is fully completed and submitted by the applicant:

3. The **chair** will receive an email with a link asking them to check a box confirming that the applicant’s clinical service responsibilities will be restricted to no more than 20 percent of your time. The chair will NOT be asked to submit a letter.
4. Two **references**, identified by the applicant, will receive an email with a link to submit a letter of reference supporting the applicant’s potential for a clinical, academic research career and qualifications for the scholarship.
5. The **mentor** will receive an email with a link to submit a letter of reference detailing his or her support of and commitment to the applicant and the proposed research and training plan. The letter should specifically indicate the mentor’s role in the development and preparation of the applicant’s research plan and should include:
 - How the proposed research fits into the mentor’s research program
 - Expertise and experience in the area of research proposed and the nature of the mentor’s proposed time commitment to the supervision and training of the applicant
 - Mentor’s prior experience in the supervision, training, and successful mentoring of clinician scientists
 - Potential for applicant’s future research career and comparison of applicant among other residents
6. The **mentor** will also be required to upload a NIH Biosketch.
7. Applications will not be processed or reviewed until the letters of recommendation are submitted. The applicant will receive an email confirmation upon receipt of each support letter. To send a reminder email to the letter writer, log back into the application and select “Re-send Recommendation Request” located in the Support Information section of the application.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Bridget McDonald, Program Manager, Education and Research Grants
Phone: (612) 928-6186
Email: bmcdonald@aan.com