

Penn Minority Scholars in Aging Research

As life expectancy has lengthened, the number and proportion of people suffering from dementia and Alzheimer's disease have increased. This public health challenge disproportionately effects minority populations, particularly older African Americans.

The Penn Memory Center and the Penn Healthy Brain Research Center are committed to assuring that the diverse population of older adults in the U.S. receive the care they need and participate in research that improves that care. To achieve this goal, we need to increase the diversity of clinicians and researchers in the field of aging research.

In response to this need, the Penn Memory Center and the Penn Healthy Brain Research Center are pleased to announce the creation of the Penn Minority Scholars in Aging Research.

Who should apply?

Candidates are students currently enrolled in a medical or doctoral degree program. We invite applicants from minority groups that are underrepresented in the field of aging research: Black or African-American, Hispanic or Latino, American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander.

A successful applicant will tell us about their inspiring interest in research or clinical care focused on cognitive health, cognitive impairment (including dementia or mild cognitive impairment), Alzheimer's disease, or other neurodegenerative disorders. We would also like to know how the applicant came to this interest and how this interest shapes the applicant's vision of his or her career.

What is involved?

The Penn Minority Scholars in Aging Research Program comprises a paid internship that spans either a 12-week block of full-time effort during the summer or an equivalent block of time during the academic year.

See back of flyer for additional details.



This program is co-directed by Jason Karlawish, MD, Professor of Medicine, Medical Ethics and Health Policy, and Neurology, and co-director of the Penn Memory Center; and Roy Hamilton, MD, MS, Assistant Professor of Neurology and Assistant Dean of Diversity and Inclusion for the Perelman School of Medicine.

Scholars will:

- Work with Penn faculty mentor(s) on a scholarly project(s)
- Have an opportunity to observe clinicians in practice
- Attend weekly Penn Memory Center consensus conference to observe patient diagnosis determination and didactic sessions
- Present a final presentation on their project
- Where applicable, scholars will be strongly encouraged to present their work at academic meetings or in peer-reviewed publications.

Topics to consider: Applicants are strongly encouraged to tell us what interests them. The center faculty and staff have particular interests in the biomarkers of Alzheimer's disease and brain aging, ethics, quality of life, clinical care and diagnosis, stigma, caregiving, public medical communication, and noninvasive brain stimulation techniques. Applicants are encouraged to visit www.pennmemorycenter.org to learn about faculty research interests.

How do I apply?

To apply for this program, please submit:

- Unofficial transcript
- Resume
- A one-page essay that explains your background, your interest in aging research, how you came to this interest, what you'd like to do and your career vision. If you have an interest in working with any of the faculty listed on the Penn Memory Center website, please state that on your application.
- The names and contact information of two references

Applications are due by March 31, 2017.

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