



SAMHSA

mfp

Minority Fellowship Program



● SAMHSA ● MINORITY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM ●

HISTORY

In the early 1970s, the Center for Minority Health and the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) became concerned about the lack of mental health professionals who could provide culturally competent care to an increasing ethnic minority and culturally diverse population, with ever-expanding needs for mental health research and services.

While it was believed that ethnic minority mental health researchers and providers could best address many of the problems faced by these various populations, only a small number of such professionals were in place.

In 1973, the Center invited the American Sociological Association (ASA) to submit a grant proposal to support doctoral-level training and ethnic and racial minority sociologists. In 1974, NIMH awarded the ASA a small training grant for the purpose of supporting doctoral education for ethnic minority researchers and clinicians.

Shortly thereafter, invitations to submit training proposals were extended to the other core mental health professions: the American Nurses Association (ANA), the American Psychiatric Association (ApA), the American Psychological Association (APA), the Council of Social Work Education (CSWE). Each organization responded with enthusiasm, and thus began the most consistent, focused, and effective national program to train ethnic minority providers and researchers in substance abuse and mental health disorders, prevention, and treatment.



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MISSION

Minorities make up roughly one fourth of the U.S. population, but only about 10 percent of American mental health and substance abuse providers are ethnic minorities. Through the Minority Fellowship Program (MFP), the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) provides federal grants to increase the number of PhD prepared nurses, psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and marriage and family therapists from underrepresented ethnic minority groups who will:

- Conduct research about substance abuse and mental health disorders prevention and treatment within minority populations, across all age groups and in a variety of settings;
- Assume leadership roles in the initiation of scientific investigations and service utilization phenomena that occur among ethnic minority populations;
- Expand and contribute to the evidence-based practice of substance abuse and mental health disorders prevention and treatment among ethnic minority populations throughout the lifespan; and
- Function as leaders and members of interdisciplinary research, public health policy, and direct-service care teams with the objective of improving the overall health status of ethnic minority populations.



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GOALS

- To target training support to increase the pool of doctoral-level ethnic minority behavioral health professionals who are committed to improve services for ethnic minorities with mental health and or substance abuse disorders;
- To create a nucleus of ethnic minority behavioral health professionals who will provide leadership, consultation, training and services administration expertise to State and community agencies, primary care provider organizations and educational institutions for services delivered to ethnic minorities with mental and or substance abuse disorders;
- To collaborate with national mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment organizations to accomplish training support and to enhance interdisciplinary efforts to increase quality of care and access to mental health and substance abuse services for underserved ethnic minority communities;
- To ensure that training is consistent with the latest developments in the evolving behavioral health delivery and financing mechanisms; specifically, programs should work toward the goal to have all MFP Fellows well trained in both mental health and substance abuse;
- To expand evaluation of services in underserved ethnic minority persons with mental health and substance abuse issues.



● AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION ●

FELLOWSHIPS

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE MARCH 1 ANNUALLY. PLEASE VISIT WWW.EMFP.ORG FOR THE ONLINE APPLICATION.

Currently, the MFP administers a pre-doctoral and post-doctoral fellowship program. These 3-5 year pre-doctoral and 2-year post-doctoral fellowships are offered to masters and doctorate prepared nurses committed to studying minority psychiatric mental health and substance abuse disorders.

To apply for a fellowship, you must be:

- An American citizen or have permanent Visa status;
- A Registered Nurse;
- An individual with a Master's or Doctoral degree in psychiatric mental health or substance abuse nursing and pursuing doctoral or post-doctoral studies in psychiatric mental health and or substance abuse nursing;
- An ANA member;
- A member of an ethnic racial minority group: American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian American, Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander; and
- Able to demonstrate a commitment to a research career in nursing and substance abuse and or psychiatric mental health disorders affecting ethnic minority populations.

Awards include a stipend to help defray educational and living expenses. The amount of the post-doctoral stipend is based on federal guidelines and varies depending upon years of experience. Tuition and dissertation assistance is also available for pre-doctoral fellows. Progress is assessed annually and reappointment may be continued for up to five years pending satisfactory compliance with program requirements.



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REQUIREMENTS

- A program of study that reflects a focus in mental health and or substance abuse disorders, prevention, and treatment in a variety of populations including children, elders, individuals with severe mental illness and so forth;
- Evidence that you are acquiring the necessary knowledge and skills that will assist you in addressing the purpose and goals of the MFP during your career;
- Documentation of clinical expertise with individuals and families in a variety of acute and recovery settings;
- Certification by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) as an Adult Psychiatric & Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, a Family Psychiatric & Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, an Adult Psychiatric & Mental Health Nurse Clinical Specialist, or a Child and Adolescent Psychiatric & Mental Health Nurse Specialist;
- Certification in other specialties such as pediatrics, community health nursing, home health nursing, and informatics, will be given special consideration, and could serve as the backdrop for facilitating the attainment of your certification in psychiatric & mental health nursing;
- Certification in substance abuse is expected for those individuals who have a subspecialty in this area. Submission of proof of certification is required when the application is submitted;
- If certification is not yet attained, a specific plan for completing the certification requirements must accompany your application (For more detailed information and certification requirements, please visit the ANCC website at www.nursecredentialing.org).



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REQUIREMENTS

If your career has been in a different clinical specialty (e.g., pediatrics, community health, administration) by applying for this fellowship, you are committing to a paradigm shift in your profession. That is, you are agreeing to become an expert and leader in psychiatric & mental health, and or substance abuse disorders nursing. The intent and impact of your paradigm shift must be evident in your career goals, your program of study, including clinical practice which matches your focal point in research, policy, education, and any other knowledge and skills acquisition activities that are undertaken during this fellowship. Applicants, their academic advisors, and the dean of the school of nursing or his or her designee, will be asked to sign a statement, Intent to Practice in Psychiatric & Mental Health and or Substance Abuse Disorders Nursing, must accompany the application.

OTHER SCHOLARLY REQUIREMENTS

Each year the MFP at ANA host an Intensive Summer and Winter Institute and other learning activities that are designed to strengthen one's learning. Speakers for these activities will be leaders in their specific areas with a dedication to guide and support MFP Fellows in their development as scientists. Fellows' participation in these learning activities is required. Additional scholarly requirements that must be addressed each year of the fellowship include research and scholarly presentations, publishing in refereed journals, and participating in organizations such as the Midwest Nursing Research Society, the Southern Nursing Research Society, the Eastern Nursing Research Society, and the Western Society for Research in Nursing of the Western Institute of Nursing.



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The nature of the requirements is based on the number of years that one has been a Fellow as follows:

Year One

- Participate in 2 presentations (poster and podium) at local and state conferences;
- Submit academic performance record to the MFP

Year Two

- Participate in 3 presentations (poster and podium) at regional and national conferences;
- Successfully complete academic work; revise plan of study as needed

Year Three

- Participate in 2 presentations (poster and podium) at regional and national conferences;
- Publish two manuscripts on mental health or substance abuse;
- Evidence of participation in a minority community

Year Four

- Publish 2 papers as first author, one co-author on substance abuse and or mental health disorders;
- Participate in local and State initiatives to advance awareness in mental health and substance disorders, prevention, and treatment;
- Complete all academic requirements of the program; Submit abstract for dissertation research;
- Submit career trajectory to the MFP office.

Year Five

- Publish 1 refereed paper as first author; Complete dissertation and submit a copy to the MFP at ANA for approval;
- Provide evidence of involvement in an ethnic minority community of choice;
- Present 2 refereed podium presentations , one national and one international conference;
- Develop a trajectory for career pathways and continuing development;
- Submit application for post-doctoral study.

Fellows are also encouraged to participate in and contribute to the ethnic minority organization (s) that reflect their affiliation and interest. These organizations provide additional support and can be excellent forums for presenting and fine tuning ones research and practice ideas.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: How much money does the MFP award?

A: *The annual stipend amounts vary from year to year depending on Federal allocations to the MFP. The National Research Service Administration stipulates the minimum stipend and the MFP at ANA adheres to those guidelines.*

Q: What are the requirements for participating in the program?

A: *Fellows must pursue their studies full time.*

Q. What is the length of the Fellowship?

A: *The Fellowship is usually awarded for 12 months. A Fellow who wishes to receive continual awards for the maximum five (5) years must complete a progress report each year.*

Q. Are Fellows obligated to repay funds awarded from the Fellowship?

A. *No, in previous years, Fellows were required to repay in service hours.*

Q. What Criteria is Used to Select a Fellow?

A. *Selection of a Fellow is based upon evidence submitted in the application in the following areas: research potential, scholarship, writing ability, knowledge of broad issues in substance abuse and or mental health nursing and a professional commitment to ethnic minority concerns.*

Q. Who selects the fellowship recipients?

A. *Recipients are selected by members of the National MFP Advisory Committee.*



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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Q. Does the MFP select schools for the applicant?
A. *No. However, MFP staff can make recommendations and or suggestions if assistance is requested.*
- Q. Is financial need a requirement for eligibility?
A. *No.*
- Q. If I receive a federally funded grant from another source, may I also accept MFP funding?
A. *No. Individuals currently supported by other Federal training awards are not eligible for support from this program at the same time they are receiving MFP support.*
- Q. What if I receive funding from a private source?
A. *Whether to award an MFP Fellowship to those funded by sources such as private foundations is decided on a person-by-person basis.*
- Q. When are decisions about the awards made?
A. *Awards are usually announced in the spring or early summer*
- Q. May students not yet enrolled in a doctoral program apply?
A. *Yes. However, you must be admitted to a doctoral program by the time the funding year begins.*



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RELATED PROGRAMS

MFP/American Psychology Association
<http://www.apa.org/pi/mfp/index.aspx>

MFP/American Psychiatric Association
<http://www.psych.org/Resources/OMNA/MFP.aspx>

MFP/Council on Social Work Education
<http://www.cswe.org/CentersInitiatives/TrainingCareers/ScholarshipsandFellowships/MFP.aspx>

MFP/Association of Marriage & Family Therapy
http://www.aamft.org/about/MFP/Index_About_MFP.asp

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
<http://www.samhsa.gov/>

SAMHSA MFP Coordinating Center
<http://www.dsgdev2.dsgonline.com/mfpcc/>





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