

FIVE YEAR MENTORED CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD

Salary Support & Addiction Research Training for Child & Adolescent Psychiatrists

Introduction

The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) is requesting applications for the AACAP Physician Scientist Program in Substance Abuse K12 award; DA 000357-06A1) sponsored jointly by the Academy and the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). The grant provides up to five years of salary support and mentored addiction research training for qualified child and adolescent psychiatrists who intend to establish careers as independent investigators. Letters of Intent are due January 4, 2005. Letters of Intent are required of all candidates intending to submit full applications, which are due April 28, 2005. Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact program staff at the AACAP Office of Research (contact information below) for more detailed information regarding the program and candidate qualifications before submitting Letters of Intent and for technical assistance in preparing final applications.

Background

In recognition of the dearth of child and adolescent psychiatrists with expertise in addiction research, NIDA and the AACAP have joined forces to create a five year training program. This program is committed to identifying and recruiting a broad range of qualified applicants for academic career development and research training in substance abuse. Recruitment of minority applicants will also be emphasized. The overall aims of the Program are: 1) to increase the number of child and adolescent psychiatrist career investigators in addiction research; 2) to foster creation of a collaborative network of outstanding investigators and an infrastructure of addiction research training centers to support research career development for child and adolescent psychiatrists; and 3) to expand research training opportunities in academic centers that currently have limited research training opportunities. It is not necessary for trainees to complete any or all of their training at their sponsoring institution. It is expected that most trainees will require mentors and research training experiences beyond the walls of their home institutions. The Program will provide technical assistance to applicants in identifying appropriate mentors and training sites.

Applicants will design career development and research training programs together with their research mentors that will enable trainees to establish academic careers as independently funded investigators in either basic or clinical research. Examples of possible research topics include any of the following broad areas of substance abuse and addiction research: clinical outcomes research, comorbidity, prevention, services research, development, special populations (minorities, pregnancy, juvenile justice), genetics, psychopharmacology, epidemiology, etiology, pathophysiology, and imaging studies. Other relevant areas of investigation will also be considered as long as the importance, relevance and feasibility of the work can be clearly articulated and justified in the application.

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. LETTERS OF INTENT

Letters of Intent are due on January 4, 2005, by 5:00 pm. EDT. Letters received after this time will not be considered. Letters of Intent are required for submission of full applications.

Letters of Intent plus a copy of the applicant's Curriculum Vitae must be e-mailed or express mailed to the AACAP Office of Research, Training and Education by 5pm EDT. The letters of intent will be reviewed by the selection committee. All applicants submitting Letters of Intent will be contacted by the Program Director with responses providing technical assistance and authorizing submission of a final application by January 23, 2005.

The Letters of Intent should include the following (4 pages maximum):

- a. A statement of the candidate's commitment to an academic research career and participation in the full five years of training and all related activities, including annual retreats, site visits, and mini-retreats at the AACAP annual meetings each October.
- b. A brief summary of the candidate's career, training, and academic experience.
- c. A brief history of the candidate's interest in substance abuse research or clinical work.
- d. A statement of the candidate's interest in a specific research area or question, the significance of the question/area to the field; overview of the proposed career development and training needed to accomplish research goals during the K12 funding period.
- e. A statement that the Letter of Intent or initial proposal has been reviewed, and is supported, by the Department Chair of the candidate's sponsoring (home) institution. The Department Chair's letter of support should include a commitment for ongoing support of the candidate's faculty appointment, research training release time (at least 75%), research and office space, and

the balance of salary support for the full five years of training.

f. Identification of a potential suitable primary mentor for the full five years of training. The primary mentor should generally be located at the applicant's home institution but need not be a child and adolescent psychiatrist or general psychiatrist. The primary mentor must be a senior investigator with appropriate expertise in an area related to the study of drug abuse or addiction. Secondary mentors with more specific expertise in the area of the applicant's proposed research may be identified. Secondary mentors may be located at institutions outside the applicant's home institution. A letter of support from the primary mentor and the mentor's CV should accompany the Letter of Intent. Letters from primary mentors should address the qualifications of the applicant as well as their commitment as mentors throughout the K12 training period. *If a primary and/or secondary mentor has not been identified at this time, a statement should be made to that effect.* The AACAP can assist candidates with the identification of mentors. Applicants may contact the Program Director prior to submission of their Letter of Intent for assistance in identifying mentors. Each applicant will also be contacted by the Program Director or member of the K12 Executive Council after submission of Letters of Intent to provide technical assistance in identifying appropriate mentors and career development and training plans.

g. A statement of support and commitment by the primary mentor should accompany the Letter of Intent.

f. Full name and addresses, including home and office addresses, telephone numbers, fax numbers and email address. This will be used only to expedite communication.

Questions regarding the program may be directed to the K-12 Program Director (Principal Investigator) Paula Riggs M.D., or to Trish Davidson, MPA, Director of the Office of Research, Training, and Education, AACAP by email: Paula.riggs@uchsc.edu; tdavidson@aacap.org

Letters of Intent should be e mailed or express mailed as follows:

Trish Davidson, MPA
Director of the Office of Research, Training and Education
American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP)
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20016

Email: tdavidson@aacap.org

2. FINAL APPLICATIONS

Complete applications are due on April 28, 2005, by 5:00 pm EDT. Applications must be e-mailed to tdavidson@aacap.org by 5:00 pm EDT. The AACAP office must also receive 6 copies of the complete application and appendices by express mail by 5:00 pm EDT (see AACAP address below).

The applicant must be a child and adolescent psychiatrist with a commitment to academic career development as an independently funded investigator in the area of child/adolescent substance abuse. Women and minority candidates are especially encouraged to apply. US citizens, noncitizen nationals, individuals with permanent residence status are eligible for this award.

Applicants should use the PHS 398 form to complete the application and follow instructions for the Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Award (K08; PA-00-003) or the Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award (K23; PA-00-004) including sections addressing the qualifications of the candidate; career development and training plans; research proposal; letters of support from the candidates' primary mentor and Department Chair. Letters of support from secondary mentors may be included in the appendix.

SUPPORT

The grant includes salary support for 75% of the trainee's salary, not to exceed \$90,000 plus fringe benefits. Additional support of \$12,500 per year is provided to cover research and training costs. Primary mentors receive a stipend of up to \$5,000 per year. The availability of all AACAP grants is based on adequate funding.

SCHEDULE

January 4, 2005	Letters of Intent due
April 28, 2005	Complete applications due (PHS 398) by email and 6 copies by express mail
May 23-24, 2005	Top 10 candidates face to face interviews with selection committee
May 27, 2005	6 K 12 Awardees notified
June 1, 2005	Start date for 6 trainees

**FINAL APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE E-MAILED TO tdavidson@aacap.org
MAIL 6 COPIES TO:**

**PAULA RIGGS MD, K 12 PROGRAM DIRECTOR
C/O TRISH DAVIDSON, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH,
TRAINING, AND EDUCATION, AACAP
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20016**