JDRF Diabetes Psychology Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

KEY DATES
Release Date: Thursday October 10th, 2019
Application Submission Deadline: Thursday January 16th, 2020
Applicants Notified of Mentor Decisions: Friday February 28th, 2020
Applicants Notified of JDRF’s Funding Decisions: May 2020
Earliest Start Date: July 1, 2020

SUMMARY

Description:
In collaboration with nationally recognized clinical psychologists with expertise in diabetes, JDRF International has created a Diabetes Psychology Postdoctoral Fellowship program to increase capacity in diabetes clinical psychology and diabetes psychology research.

Applicant Eligibility:
The postdoctoral fellowship program sponsored by JDRF is a combination of clinical diabetes care and diabetes research. Each applicant must have documented research experience, a career interest in diabetes specialized psychology, and must have completed a doctoral program in the field of psychology.

Program Description:
The program sponsored by JDRF is a combination of clinical diabetes care and diabetes research. Each postdoctoral fellowship is a 12-month term. Fellowships follow a modified academic calendar, starting positions between July 1, 2020 - September 1, 2020.

Applicant
The fellowship is intended for those at a relatively early stage of their career. Ordinarily, the most recent doctoral degree will have been received no more than two years prior to the application submission. Applicants must be based in the United States or Canada.

There are no citizenship requirements for this program. To assure continued excellence and diversity among applicants and awardees, JDRF welcomes applications from all qualified individuals and from persons with disabilities, women, and members of minority groups.

Fellowships cannot be awarded to the same fellow more than one time.

Expectations
At the conclusion of the fellowship, each fellow should have 2 manuscripts either submitted or ready for submission. Fellows should also have submitted to the ADA, APA and/or AADE Annual Meetings for presentation via poster or oral session. All abstract submissions and manuscripts should be shared with JDRF and should acknowledge JDRF. Fellows are expected to acquire a variety of clinical skills throughout the fellowship and to have accumulated enough hours for clinical licensure. The intention of this fellowship program is to equip psychologists for work in the field of diabetes.
Fellows are also expected to participate in the JDRF managed monthly online learning program. The online learning program will include 1 hour deep dive learning opportunities for fellows related to type 1 diabetes and psychology.

In addition to the expectations stated above, all awarded fellows will be required to collaborate on a group project that can be either clinical intervention focused, or research based.

**Operations:**
The fellowship host site will employ the fellow. A mentor at the host site will be responsible for the final selection of each fellow and the institutional hiring process for the fellow. JDRF is the fellowship funder and the overall fellowship program manager. Fellows and mentors will be expected to communicate with JDRF on a regular basis and to complete the necessary reporting forms to manage the fellowship award.

**Location:**
Fellowship host site locations will be in the United States. All locations are attached to an academic institution with a clinical diabetes management program.

- **Albert Einstein College of Medicine**, New York, NY
  - Mentor: Dr. Jeffrey Gonzalez, Professor

- **Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago**, Chicago, IL
  - Mentor: Dr. Jill Weissberg-Benchell, Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine

- **Texas Children’s Hospital & Baylor College of Medicine**, Houston, TX
  - Mentor: Dr. Marisa Hilliard, Associate Professor of Pediatrics

- **Children’s National Medical Center**, Washington, D.C.
  - Mentor: Dr. Randi Streisand, Chief, Psychology and Behavioral Health

- **Joslin Diabetes Center**, Boston, MA
  - Mentors: Dr. Lori Laffel, Chief of the Pediatric and Adolescent Section
  - Dr. Marilyn Ritholz, Senior Psychologist

- **Massachusetts General Hospital**, Boston, MA
  - Mentor: Dr. Ellen O’Donnell, Associate Psychologist

- **The Ohio State University**, Columbus, OH
  - Mentors: Dr. Kathleen Wyne, Professor
  - Dr. Heather Yardly, Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

- **Oregon Health & Sciences University**, Portland, OR
  - Mentor: Dr. Michael A. Harris, Professor of Pediatrics

- **University of Florida**, Gainesville, FL
  - Mentor: Dr. Kimberly Driscoll, Associate Professor

- **Vanderbilt University Medical Center**, Nashville, TN
  - Mentor: Dr. Sarah Jaser, Associate Professor

**Application**
Cover Letter
Applicants should write a detailed cover letter that explains why a fellowship in diabetes is a fit for the applicant. Applicants should detail experience in diabetes in this letter and rank their top three host site choices for this fellowship.

Research Project Proposal
The proposal should be suitable for a 1 year fellowship training period. The project should be specific, substantive, and relevant to Type 1 Diabetes. Please note that the proposed research projects are not guaranteed. Extensive discussions between the applicant and the mentor are expected once the fellowship is awarded in order to identify and establish an appropriate research project focus and goals. Research can be clinically based.

The document may not exceed 3 pages, including all figures and tables. The document will be considered along with the entire application and will provide an example of the applicants writing style and critical thought.

Future Career Plan Statement
The Future Career Plan Statement is limited to 1 page. The applicant must include a statement of career goals and indicate the relevance of these goals to Type 1 Diabetes-related research.

References
Letters of Reference: 3 Total Referees
These references should be able to discuss the applicant’s scientific abilities, clinical skills and overall career potential.

The reference letters must be submitted by the referees via email. These letters need to be sent to preawardsupport@jdrf.org prior to the submission deadline. Applicants will need to provide their referees with the template, which can be found in the additional attachments section of the application. Please note that applicants cannot submit reference letters on their referee's behalf.

Term of Award, Stipend & Application Deadline:
Awards are for a maximum of 1 year. Fellows must devote 100% of their effort toward diabetes care and research during the fellowship term. At the end of the term, fellows should have achieved enough clinical hours for licensure. Recipients of the JDRF award cannot hold another postdoctoral fellowship at the same time. Fellows should be cognizant of licensure requirements at the beginning of the fellowship and establish a plan for achievement with the mentor within the first month of the fellowship.

Fellowship stipends can be requested for up to a maximum of $63,000 USD per year. A portion of the salary stipend can be used for the fellow’s fringe benefits. The mentor will provide specifics of the associated benefits packages during the interview process. Please note that indirect costs are not allowed on JDRF Postdoctoral Fellowship awards.

Instructions to Submit an Application:
Applicants should register and submit their applications in RMS360 (http://jdrf.smartsimple.us).

All applications are due no later than Thursday January 16th, 2020 at 5:00pm ET. Please note that we cannot accommodate any requests for submission deadline extensions.

Review Process:
The submitted proposals will be reviewed by the host site mentors. After the preliminary review, the mentors will determine which applicants will be invited to participate in the interview stage from **December 2019 – February 2020**. Applicants will be notified of the mentors’ decisions by **Friday February 28th, 2020**.

JDRF will review the mentors’ decisions and determine the final funding decisions. Fellowships will be formally awarded by JDRF in **May 2020**. Please note that funding for each host site is not guaranteed and is dependent on the identification of a qualified candidate and the approval of the JDRF Board of Directors.

**Program Contacts:**

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