American Psychiatric Association

Diversity Leadership Fellowship

Mental illness cuts across all ethnic and cultural backgrounds with still many disparities and barriers to care. To provide effective treatment to those suffering from mental illness requires a culturally competent psychiatric workforce. Equally important, however, is a diverse workforce that understands and relates to patients of various backgrounds of which they themselves are members.

The APA Diversity Leadership Fellowship (DLF) is designed to meet the following goals: identify and motivate a cadre of ethnic minority psychiatry residents who, through the experiential and training opportunities of the program, will become well-equipped leaders in psychiatry who will teach, administer, conduct services research, and provide culturally competent, evidence based mental health and substance use disorder services to diverse and underserved populations.

Benefits of the Program

The DLF greatly benefits minority residents who by far are underrepresented in the field and are given the opportunity to develop and sharpen leadership skills as well as to gain from mentorship. The program has also provided benefits to International Medical Graduates with origins outside the U.S. to find their way in both the psychiatric community and American culture.

Diversity Leadership Fellows receive funding to attend the annual APA September Council meetings, where they participate in various Council deliberations, the Annual Meeting and, when funding allows, the Institute on Psychiatric Services (IPS) meeting. Over their 2-year commitment, fellows participate in workshop presentations at the APA meetings and are exposed to training opportunities that develop psychiatry leaders with an interest in improving the quality of mental health care for diverse and underserved populations. Fellows also participate in networking and training that would otherwise not be readily available to them.

Eligibility

Psychiatry residents-in-training must be at least a PGY-2 at the time of application and remain in training during the entire academic year. Applicants need not be U.S. citizens or permanent residents, or graduates of a U.S. medical school. All applicants are welcome to apply regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, national origin, religion, sexual orientation or disability. The fellowship is a 2-year commitment.

Applicants must submit three letters of reference, curriculum vitae, and an essay outlining career goals, along with a completed application form.

Application Deadline

Applications and supporting material must be received by January 15

FOR AN APPLICATION FORM OR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT Tatiana Claridad at tclaridad@psych.org