

Research Scientist Enrichment Program

Accepting AD-RCMAR Scientist Enrichment Program Applications FY2027- 2028

The Michigan Center for Contextual Factors in Alzheimer's Disease (MCCFAD), a National Institute on Aging funded Alzheimer's disease-related Resource Center for Minority Aging Research (AD-RCMAR), announces a research career enrichment program involving seminar participation and mentoring in AD-relevant research. One of the Center's major goals is to enhance the aging research workforce by identifying and mentoring scientists with an interest in health disparities who can advance research on AD and AD-related dementias (AD/ADRD). We invite applications from those interested in enhancing their knowledge of contextual factors in AD/ADRD. Funds are available for investigator-initiated research projects that support the development of independent NIH-funded projects. Proposals with high likelihood of advancing research on AD/ADRD disparities, especially among Middle Eastern and North African/Arab Americans and Hispanic/Latinos, are particularly encouraged.

Eligibility and Requirements

1. Investigators must demonstrate a sustained interest in advancing scientific research on health disparities.
2. Investigators must be in a postdoctoral or faculty (including non-tenure track) position.
3. Investigators must be either:
 - a) early-career stage, defined as pre-tenure and no previous R01 (or equivalent) level funding;
 - b) mid-career stage and proposing a project that reflects a clear transition into AD/ADRD or health disparities research.
4. Proposals should focus on one of MCCFAD's core areas: epidemiology, tailored care, and/or health economics.
5. Funded investigators are expected to commit to participating in all career enrichment activities, including the formation of an integrative mentorship team, monthly seminars, regular progress reports, RCMAR annual meeting attendance, Gerontological Society of America conference participation, and the Summer Data Immersion Program at the University of Michigan.
6. Expected program deliverables at the end of the program year (June 2028) include:
 - a. Project completion within one year
 - b. One peer-reviewed publication
 - c. A specific aims page draft appropriate for a current NIH grant opportunity

Resources Available

1. Access to mentoring from experts in the fields of AD/ADRD epidemiology, tailored care, health economics, and/or health disparities
2. Group and one-on-one advising in theory, research design, methods and analysis related to pilot project activities
3. Funding for up to \$30,000 in total project costs for a relevant research proposal,

pending NIA approval. Budget should include travel to the RCMAR annual meeting. Funds cannot be used to support senior faculty salaries or to purchase equipment. [Studies involving the use of human or animal subjects must be approved by the appropriate review board at your institution prior to the release of funds]

4. Guidance in the development of independent NIH-funded projects
5. Advanced training in AD/ADRD secondary data utilization through the Summer Data Immersion program
6. The F&A is set at 8% of total Direct Costs.

How to Apply

Applicants should prepare (in Arial 11-point font or larger, no less than .5-inch margins):

- NIH SciENCv biosketch

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants-process/write-application/forms-directory/biographical-sketch-common-form>

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK154494/>

- Applicant disclosure statement indicating any prior funding with the RCMAR or AD-RCMAR program. For applicants with a history of prior RCMAR or AD-RCMAR pilot funding, the name of the RCMAR or AD-RCMAR and members of the RCMAR or AD-RCMAR mentorship team must be provided along with the project dates and a justification for why additional pilot funding support is needed
- 2-page Project Summary/Abstract that provides a succinct and accurate description of the proposed work and includes the following elements:
 1. the project's broad, long-term objectives
 2. specific aims
 3. description of the research design and methods
- A 1-page Project Narrative that addresses the following questions:
 1. How will the pilot project contribute to the MCCFAD goal of advancing social, behavioral, psychological, and/or economic research on AD/ADRD, as well as the applicant's research career objectives?
 2. How will the findings from the pilot study contribute to the submission of an NIA research grant application to a target FOA?
- Cited Literature
- [Detailed Budget](#)
- [Checklist](#)
- Budget Justification
- Provide the name and contact information of one local mentor

Applicants are encouraged to visit the MCCFAD Enrichment Program [FAQs](#). If you have any further questions please email mccfad.isr@umich.edu. Completed applications should be emailed as a single pdf attachment to mccfad.isr@umich.edu by January 20, 2027 Applicants will be notified by March 1, 2027. Funding is expected to begin July 1, 2027.