



## Advanced Psychology Fellowship in Mental Illness Research and Treatment VA MIRECC VISN 2 NY / NJ Healthcare System Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

**Overview:** The Mental Illness Research, Education, and Clinical Center (MIRECC) of the New York/New Jersey Veterans Healthcare Network is accepting applications from psychologists for a 2-year Post-Doctoral Advanced Fellowship Program in Mental Illness Research and Treatment. The Fellowship program is APA accredited\* and aims to train psychologists to become leading clinical recovery-oriented physician-scientists with a focus on serious mental illness in veterans. Our mission is to pursue a discovery-to-recovery approach for serious mental illness by determining causes, identifying predictors, and developing treatments that overcome barriers and enable recovery.

**Program Description:** The Fellow's primary appointment will be at the James J. Peters VA Medical Center (JJPVAMC) in the Bronx, NY, and the Fellow will also receive an appointment at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. The opportunities for training will reside in the research, clinical, and educational programs at the JJPVAMC of the MIRECC and the affiliate Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York City, typically within the Department of Psychiatry.

The MIRECC research programs are internationally recognized in a broad range of research areas including cognitive neuroscience; neuropsychology; evidence-based psychosocial interventions (Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Psychosis, Dialectical Behavior Therapy, Suicide Prevention, exercise for neurocognition); and implementation science. Research areas of expertise and interest among the faculty include using neuroimaging, psychophysiology, and molecular biological techniques to better understand the neurobiology of serious mental illness; psychosocial and behavioral approaches for the treatment of psychosis (e.g., CBT for psychosis), suicide (e.g., dialectical behavioral therapy), and cognitive impairments associated with schizophrenia, depression, and suicide (e.g., cognitive remediation, aerobic exercise); digital mobile assessment and interventions (MHealth); predictors of neurocognitive and daily functioning (e.g., exercise, sleep), and implementation science to promote evidence-based practices. VA Fellowship sites are linked electronically for didactic, academic, and research efforts. The Director and the MIRECC faculty have a strong commitment to translational research that links basic science to clinical research and clinical research to services research. MIRECC Fellowship faculty members and their research interests can be found at <https://www.mirecc.va.gov/visn2/ContactInfo.asp>. Fellows' mentorship can also include other faculty from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai <https://www.icaahn.mssm.edu/about/departments/psychiatry>

Our interdisciplinary program aims to train psychologists to become outstanding clinical researchers in high priority areas of mental health. Fellows devote the majority of their time to patient-oriented research, education activities, and direct patient clinical care. Individualized, mentored research and clinical training are combined with a state-of-the-art curriculum that emphasizes research methods, statistics, epidemiology, mental health systems, quality improvement methods, education, and service delivery. In collaboration with their mentors, Fellows will develop and implement a research project, publish and present findings, participate in grant writing, and utilize the latest technology for educational activities and clinical service delivery.

**COVID-19:** As we continue to monitor and adapt to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Bronx VA has implemented a number of policies and procedures to ensure the safety and well-being of all patients, staff, and trainees. We have adopted measures to allow training activities to be conducted remotely, when possible, and will continue to collaborate with our fellows so that they can safely meet their training needs and professional goals throughout their fellowship. Applicants are encouraged to contact Dr. Yulia Landa at [yulia.landa@mssm.edu](mailto:yulia.landa@mssm.edu) for additional questions about the Bronx VA's COVID-19 policies.





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**Start Day:** The start day is flexible. The fellowship will begin between July 1st and October 1st, 2022.

**Stipend and Benefits:** Salary and benefits are competitive. Our fellowship is an equal opportunity training program.

**Eligibility:** Applicants must be U.S. citizens, hold a doctorate from an APA accredited program in clinical or counseling psychology, and be enrolled in or have completed an APA accredited internship in clinical or counseling psychology. Doctoral requirements, including dissertation, must be completed prior to the start of the Fellowship.

**Application Due Date:** Applications are due **December 31, 2021**.

### **How to Apply**

The program is using the APPA CAS (APPIC Psychology Postdoctoral Application) online system. For more information about the application process please go to <https://www.appic.org/Postdocs/APPA-CAS-Postdoc-Application-Information>.

### **Applicants Are Asked to Submit the Following Documents**

- A letter of interest that includes:
  1. career goals and how these align with the mission of the VISN 2 MIRECC;
  2. chosen primary research mentor and how the applicant's education, research, and clinical experience aligns well with this mentor's research program;\*\*
  3. a short description of a possible research project you would like to pursue, and
  4. the clinical and research skills that the applicant would like to hone during their Fellowship;
- A current Curriculum Vitae;
- A signed letter of completion or expected completion from academic and internship/residency programs;
- Three letters of recommendation; and
- Graduate school transcripts.

**\*\*Please note that applications will only be considered when a specified mentor has been identified in the cover letter.** A close working relationship with an identified mentor allows our Fellows to maximize their productivity and develop a successful career trajectory. Applicants are encouraged to consult with their chosen mentor early in the application process. Faculty bios can be found at [www.mirecc.va.gov/visn2/ContactInfo.asp](http://www.mirecc.va.gov/visn2/ContactInfo.asp).

**The VA VISN 2 MIRECC encourages applications from qualified candidates of all backgrounds including but not limited to ethnic and racial minorities, women, sexual minorities, and persons with disabilities.**

Please feel free to contact the Fellowship Director, Dr. Yulia Landa with any additional questions at [yulia.landa@mssm.edu](mailto:yulia.landa@mssm.edu).

\*Accreditation is provided by the APA Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation: 750 First St, NE Washington, DC 20002-4242 / [apaaccred@apa.org](mailto:apaaccred@apa.org) / (202) 336-5979

