

Physician-Scientist Research Track 2017-18

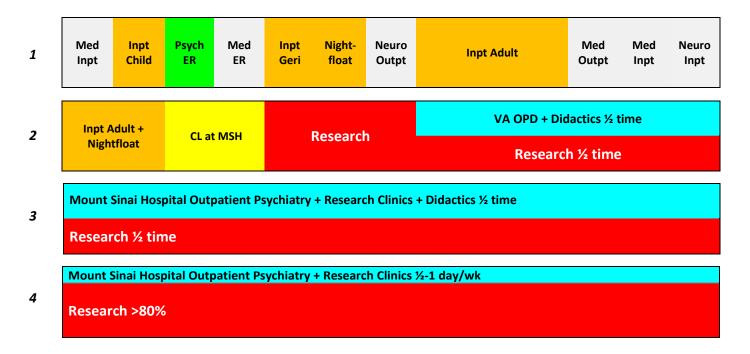
Our Physician-Scientist (Research) Track, which has a separate match number in the National Residency Matching Program (1490400C2), is designed for applicants who have a demonstrated interest and aptitude in psychiatric research.

Note that while this track is not limited to MD/PhD applicants, priority is generally given to those who have participated in **substantial research activities prior to residency**. We anticipate two positions in each entering class.

Program Structure

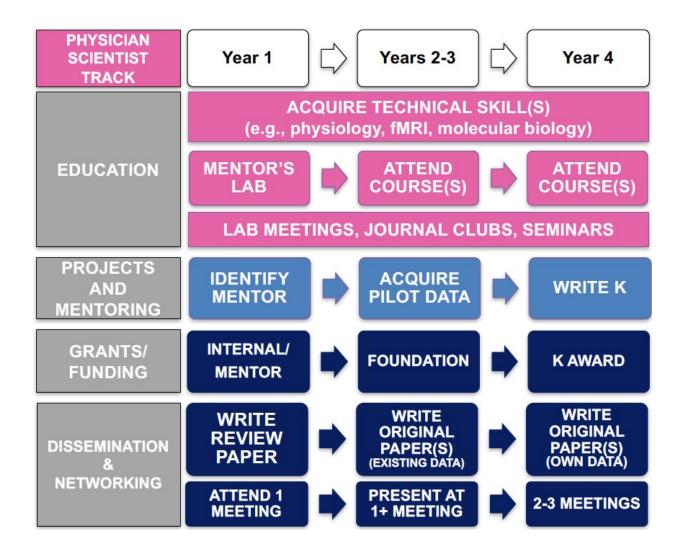
The purpose of the Physician-Scientist Track is to provide substantial protected time for research throughout residency training. Residents have 2-3 full-time research months in the first half of PGY-2. When residents treat outpatients longitudinally, a block research assignment is replaced by a longitudinal allocation of protected time, which we plan as 40% time throughout the latter half of PGY-2 and continuing throughout PGY-3. The fourth year allows even more protected time for research (70%) and is meant to provide for the execution of projects that could be continued following graduation from residency (e.g., obtaining preliminary data and writing a K-award).

Time Allocated for Research





Expectations by PGY Level



Research Support

Mercedes Perez-Rodriguez, MD, PhD, is our Assistant Training Director for Research. Dr. Perez-Rodriguez graduated from our Physician-Scientist track in 2012 and then completed a MIRECC research fellowship in Mood and Personality Disorders before accepting a faculty position in 2014. She is currently Assistant Professor in Psychiatry and Medical Director of the Psychosis Research Integrating Science and Medicine (PRISM) Program. Dr. Perez-Rodriguez's work in the neurobiology of mood and personality disorders has been funded by the NIH, the Brain & Behavior Research Foundation (NARSAD), and the VA.



Dr. Perez-Rodriguez works closely with the other training directors, as well as with Rene Kahn, MD, PhD, and Eric Nestler, MD, PhD, to advise and oversee the professional and scientific development of residents throughout the research tracks, with a focus on successful mentorship relationships and planning for grant submissions.

Given the substantial protected time we've created, Physician-Scientist track residents are expected to intensively pursue their research, translating their scientific interests into demonstrable products. This requires time and energy, and we expect that when such residents are not engaged in clinical responsibilities, they will be involved in research-related pursuits. As such, Physician-Scientist track residents are expected not to moonlight, and as compensation we've sought (through foundation grants and other departmental sources) additional research funding and salary stipends, including the following:

- Augmented salaries
- Funding for research needs (travel costs, equipment, etc.)
- Dedicated research technician time

Applicants should note that this level of financial support is not guaranteed and is dependent on supplementary evaluations and evidence of ongoing progress in research.

Faculty

As of 2017, our Department of Neuroscience is #2 in the country as ranked by NIH, and our Department of Psychiatry is #6, with individual investigators listed among the top funded Pl's.

The Friedman Brain Institute represents the largescale multidisciplinary nature of our work, involving numerous basic science and clinical departments, including the Icahn Institute for Genomics and Multiscale Biology as well as other laboratories at Mount Sinai.

How to Apply

Applicants to the Physician-Scientist Track should indicate their interest to the training directors and select it as one of their chosen ERAS tracks. Given the specialty nature of this track and the **expectation** that applicants will have considerable prior research experience, we will often ask applicants for additional information to supplement their ERAS portfolios, including a scientific biography, a statement of research interest, grades, exam scores, and two letters from research mentors specifically commenting on the applicant's research accomplishments and potential (if not included as one of the ERAS LORs) before releasing our invitations to interview.

If you are selected to be interviewed for the Physician-Scientist track, you will attend our usual interview process as well as have additional meetings which are often held on a second day. Based on the material you provide, we will select some investigators whom we believe share interests with you; likewise we would like to know which scientists on our faculty you may be particularly interested in meeting.