

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
CA WRIISC Special Fellowship Program for Physicians with Research Interests in
Mental Health and Neuroscience (VAPA-WRIISC-SFP)

The Office of Academic Affiliations, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is now accepting applications for a two-year special Fellowship training program for physicians in Clinical Research and Treatment. The Fellowship can begin between July 1st and October 1st, 2012. The Fellowship site is part of the VA Palo Alto War Related Illness and Injury Study Center (WRIISC) and is affiliated with Stanford University. This interdisciplinary program aims to train physicians, with residency training from a broad range of specialties, including but not restricted to neurology, psychiatry, radiology and internal medicine to become outstanding clinical researchers. Our center specializes in Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), memory problems (including dementia) and chronic pain. Individualized, mentored research and clinical training is combined with a state-of-the-art curriculum that emphasizes neuroscience (with a particular emphasis on advanced neuroimaging techniques), mental health systems, quality improvement methods, education and service delivery. The VAPA-WRIISC-SFP site is linked to the two other WRIISC fellowship sites (Washington, DC, East Orange, NJ) as well as the VA Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Center (MIRECC) fellowship program (based at Palo Alto) for didactic, academic, and research efforts. Fellows devote 75% of their time to research and education activities and 25% to clinical training. There is also opportunity to explore projects in psychology and dementia with WRIISC, MIRECC, and Stanford faculty. In collaboration with their mentors, Fellows will develop and conduct a research project, publish and present findings, participate in grant writing, and utilize the latest technologies for research, educational activities, and clinical service delivery.

A. To be eligible to apply for the WRIISC Fellowship Program, an M.D. or D.O. applicant must be able to provide evidence of:

1. U.S. citizenship or immigration status (current, unexpired visa and ECFMG [Education Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates] certificate that is valid indefinitely; or evidence of naturalization or permanent U.S. immigrant status) (Applicants on a J-1 visa must have current ECFMG sponsorship as well.)
2. All state medical licenses verified in all states where claimed by applicant
3. Unrestricted and current state medical license (any state)
4. Board eligible or board certified
5. Completion of education and training (medical school diploma, ACGME [Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education] accredited residency training)
6. Other relevant certification (ECFMG or other certifications)

B. To apply for the WRIISC Fellowship Program, applicants must submit: a) a letter confirming they can fulfill the eligibility requirements; b) a personal statement describing their interest in the Fellowship; c) 3 letters of recommendation; and d) a current curriculum vitae. These materials can be submitted directly to Stacy Moeder, MHA, MBA at the WRIISC Palo Alto Fellowship site, (650) 493-5000, "1", "1" then x63316 or stacy.moeder@va.gov.

C. If the applicant is identified as the candidate of choice at this site, they will be required to produce all documents listed in above section A and the following additional documents:

1. Transcripts from all educational institutions
2. VA Form 10-2850d, "Application for Health Professions Trainees."

For more information, please contact the MD Fellowship Program Director at the following site: Palo Alto VA/Stanford, CA – Wes Ashford, MD, PhD @ wes.ashford@va.gov.