Request for Application

2024 Clin-STAR Health Equity Research Scholars Program:
Championing the Next Generation of Health Equity Focused Leaders in Aging Research

The program will be designed for a small group of early-career, clinician-scientists in aging research.

The program will support career development and provide mentorship to build knowledge and leadership skills, facilitate scientific exchange and build a collective identity and cohesiveness among the Scholars.

Eligibility Requirements: Participants must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:

- An Early-Stage Investigator (ESI) as defined by NIH¹
- A clinician-scientist from any clinical discipline (e.g., medicine, nursing, social work) engaged in any type of aging research
- Demonstrated interest in a) health equity research and b) developing leadership skills
- Clinician-scientist must be based in the U.S.

Applications are encouraged by individuals from underrepresented groups (URGs) as defined by NIH² and from institutions that do not have significant aging research resources.

Topics will be based on participant preferences. Potential topics span health equity-focused research, leadership and mentorship, for example, negotiation skills, connecting with mentors sensitive to diversity and equity issues, managing a team, developing peer networks, advocating for allyship, incorporating DEIA concepts and approaches in grants/research, engaging diverse populations in research, choosing the right person(s) to mentor.

Expectations

- Participate in 3, 90-minute virtual workshops in 2024.
- Attend in-person Clin-STAR Annual Meeting (November 19-21, 2024, Chicago); travel, hotel and meal expenses covered.
- Join the Clin-STAR DEIA Interest Group
- Participate in 1-1 peer support with previous 2023 scholars

This program is meant as a stepping stone in your career development to engage and embrace the training experience as a group with hopes of continuing peer support beyond the formal program period.
Format: Faculty with relevant content expertise will present and foster group discussion; break-out sessions will be utilized as needed. Topic-related materials will be provided before each workshop and an evaluation of course content will be issued after each workshop.

Group Size: 8 participants

Application: Interested candidates should submit their application to andrea@afar.org. Please complete the application and upload one PDF that includes the following: (1) application cover page; (2) Statement of why you are interested in the program; (3) How you anticipate using the experience, information, and connections made after the program; (4) Topics of interest (see above); and (5) An NIH-style biosketch.

Deadline: Submit the application to andrea@afar.org no later than April 1, 2024 at 5:00 pm EST. No late submissions will be accepted.

Timeline:
RFA Announcement: February 2024
Applications Due: April 1, 2024
Award Announcement: Late April 2024
Program Start Date: May 2024

Please contact Andrea Sherman with any questions at andrea@afar.org

1 An Early-Stage Investigator (ESI) is defined by NIH as a PD/PI who has completed their terminal research degree or end of post-graduate clinical training, whichever date is later, within the past 10 years and who has not previously competed successfully as PD/PI for a substantial NIH independent research award.

2 NIH considers the following groups as underrepresented in biomedical research:
   - Individuals from racial and ethnic groups such as Blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, American Indians or Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders
   - Individuals with disabilities
   - Individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds
   - Women from the above backgrounds at the graduate level and beyond in scientific fields