



# **Boston University Alzheimer's Disease Center**

## ***T32 Postdoctoral Training Program Request for Applications***

### **PROGRAM SUMMARY**

The Boston University Alzheimer's Disease Center (BU ADC) is pleased to announce **one postdoctoral fellowship position** for our recently NIA-funded *Alzheimer's Disease Translational Research Training Program (T32)*. This postdoctoral fellowship program addresses a growing need for well-trained Alzheimer's disease (AD) researchers capable of independently facilitating translational studies. The program provides structured and individualized translational research postdoctoral training for basic and clinical scientists, positioning them to make major contributions to the field of AD.

Trainees will benefit from the BU ADC's rich resources and collaborative research community. The program has four main objectives for participating fellows:

1. Establish an integrated knowledge base in the basic and clinical fundamentals of AD with a focus on risk factors, prevention, mechanistic pathways, pathophysiology, biomarkers, diagnostics, and therapeutics,
2. Acquire and refine essential research skills and critical professional skills for success in academic medicine,
3. Receive formal instruction and hands-on training regarding responsible conduct of research with animal and human subjects and the procedures and application processes of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee and Institutional Review Board,
4. Complete a jointly-mentored, interdisciplinary research experience that prepares the trainee for independent investigator status.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

In order to be considered for the program, candidates must be a permanent resident or citizen of the United States with a doctoral degree in clinical science or basic science, interested in developing a career in AD research. Candidates with a background in psychology, neuroscience, biochemistry, pharmacology, medicine (e.g., neurology, geriatrics, psychiatry, pathology) or related area are particularly well-suited for participation.

### **FELLOW TRACKS**

There are two training tracks: the **PhD Fellow Track** (2 or 3 year training period) and the **Physician Fellow Track** (3 year training period). Physician fellows matriculate through a master's degree program emphasizing research methodology and biostatistics during this timeframe.

### **FELLOWSHIP COMPENSATION**

Fellowship stipend levels are in accordance with NIH guidelines based on years of postdoctoral experience and may be supplemented. Program fellows who engage in clinical research will be eligible to apply for the NIH Loan Repayment Program, which encourages promising early career clinical scientists by repaying up to \$35,000 of their student loan debt each year.

### **PROGRAM FACULTY**

Sample program faculty and their relevant research interests are outlined below. Faculty are occasionally added to this list; contact the program manager (details below) if you have another affiliated faculty researcher and potential mentor in mind. Prospective applicants are encouraged to contact program faculty before applying to (1) confirm availability in the prospective mentor's laboratory, (2) ensure appropriate fit with the prospective mentor's research program, and (3) obtain endorsement by the prospective mentor for the prospective applicant's research proposal. The Program Director (Neil Kowall, MD, [nkowall@bu.edu](mailto:nkowall@bu.edu)) and

Program Manager (Christina DiTerlizzi, BA, Cditerli@bu.edu) should be included on email inquiries to program faculty.

Faculty Name	Primary Department	Research Interest
Carmela Abraham, PhD	Biochemistry	Cellular and molecular biology of AD and normal brain aging
Wendy Qiu, MD, PhD	Departments of Psychiatry and Pharmacology	Identifying biomarkers and modifiable and nonmodifiable factors related to Alzheimer's disease and understanding how gene mutations interact with environment to cause diseases in the elderly.
J. Krzysztof Blusztajn, PhD	Pathology & Laboratory Medicine	Molecular and cellular neurobiology of brain development and aging
Andrew Budson, MD	Neurology	Cognitive neuroscience studies of false memories and enhancing effects of music in MCI and AD
Alpaslan Dedeoglu, MD, PhD	Neurology	Neurotherapeutics for AD, animal models of AD
Lindsay Farrer, PhD	Biomedical Genetics	Genetics of AD and other neuropsychiatric diseases, genetic epidemiology
Lee Goldstein, MD, PhD	Psychiatry	Early detection of AD, laser diagnostics, role of metals in AD, protein aggregation
David Harris	Biochemistry	Prion diseases; connections between AD and the prion protein.
Neil Kowall, MD	Neurology	Animal models of AD and neurodegeneration, AD therapeutics/clinical trials
Ann McKee, MD	Neurology	Trauma related neurodegeneration, posterior AD neuropathology, vascular pathological correlates of AD
David Salat, PhD	Neurology	Structural & functional neuroimaging age-related neurodegenerative disease, vascular health and aging
Robert Stern, PhD	Neurology	Chronic traumatic encephalopathy, thyroid-brain relationships, driving and dementia, neuropsychology of AD
Benjamin Wolozin, MD, PhD	Pharmacology	Molecular and cellular biology of AD and other neurodegenerative diseases

### **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

Please see application details below for required elements. The Training Review Committee will review all applications. Select applicants will be invited to interview. Application materials must be received as soon as possible so all applicants can be reviewed and the committee's decision can be made as soon as possible. Position availability is contingent on continued grant funding from the National Institute on Aging.

Applications should be submitted to:

Neil Kowall, MD  
T32 Program Director  
Boston University Alzheimer's Disease Center  
72 E. Concord Street, Robinson 7800  
Boston, MA 02118  
nkowall@bu.edu

For more information on the T32 fellowship program, please contact:

Christina DiTerlizzi, BA  
Education Programs Manager  
Boston University Alzheimer's Disease Center  
e-mail: cditerli@bu.edu  
phone: 857-364-2140

*Established in 1996, the Boston University Alzheimer's Disease Center is committed to conducting cutting-edge AD research, providing clinical care and support to AD patients, and contributing to quality education of the next generation of AD investigators. For more information on the BU ADC, please visit:*

*<http://www.bu.edu/alzresearch/>*



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## Postdoctoral Training Program Application

Please complete and return this form along with the following required elements:

- A **two-page statement of research experience and interests**, including potential project ideas to be conducted during the fellowship and intended primary and secondary research mentors. The statement should be developed with assistance from the proposed mentorship team. Applicants are encouraged to contact potential mentors for guidance well before the deadline.
- A **two-page statement of long-term career and research goals** (as they relate to AD research) and how the applicant would benefit from participation in the program.
- **Three letters of reference** sent directly to the Program Director from the referee.
- Current **curriculum vita**
- **Graduate transcripts**
- Scientific **writing sample**

### Demographic & Contact Information

Applicant Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address for Correspondence \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a citizen of the United States? Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a permanent resident of the United States? Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

Sex

Male \_\_\_\_\_

Female \_\_\_\_\_

Racial & Ethnic Self-Description  
(check all that apply)

American Indian/Alaska Native \_\_\_\_\_

Black or African American \_\_\_\_\_

Asian \_\_\_\_\_

Hispanic or Latino \_\_\_\_\_

Native Hawaiian or Other \_\_\_\_\_

White \_\_\_\_\_

Pacific Islander \_\_\_\_\_

This program is particularly interested in encouraging applications from the following groups (check all that apply – please note, NIH requires this T32 program to report the frequency of the following categories from the entire applicant pool):

\_\_\_\_\_ Individuals from racial and ethnic groups that have been shown by the National Science Foundation to be underrepresented in biomedical and clinical research on a national basis.

\_\_\_\_\_ Individuals with disabilities, who are defined as those with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.

Individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who are defined as either individuals who come from a family with an annual income below established low-income thresholds or individuals who come from a social, cultural, or educational environment, such as that found in certain rural or inner-city environments that has demonstrably and recently directly inhibited the individual from obtaining the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to develop and participate in a research career.

**Education History (start with college and include all details through most recent degree/training experience, including residency or fellowships if appropriate)**

Academic Degree/ Training Experience	Institution	Year

Title of Dissertation (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Dissertation Advisor (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

**T32 Program Information**

Preferred Start Date \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Research Project Title \_\_\_\_\_

Intended Primary Faculty Mentor \_\_\_\_\_

Intended Secondary Faculty Mentor \_\_\_\_\_

Have you contacted intended faculty mentors?                      Yes                      No

If yes, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

