

# Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Center (GRECC) Gainesville, Florida

## VA Fellowship in Advanced Geriatrics



### Vision Statement

Improving healthcare through advanced training of emerging interprofessional leaders

### Mission Statement

To aid in attaining the VHA's mission to provide "exceptional health care," the VA Fellowship in Advanced Geriatrics broadly targets training in health care education, advanced clinical practice, research, and policy initiatives that improve the health and well-being of our Nation's Veterans.

### Program

The fellowship provides unique preparation for future leaders in health care by providing hands-on mentored educational experiences to develop skills in specific clinical areas and more broadly for health care system and health care education system transformation through policy, system redesign and research. Through creative partnerships, use of new technology and innovative educational modalities, this fellowship promotes and fosters the highest standards of leadership, intellectual integrity, research and patient care. At its core, the program seeks to provide robust educational opportunities for the next cohort of health care leaders and change agents who will continue VHA's efforts to provide exceptional health care to Veterans.

### Eligibility

#### Physician Fellows

Have completed an ACGME- or ECCOPT-accredited physician residency program. Physicians whose initial certification is in Internal Medicine, Family Medicine or Psychiatry must also have completed an accredited subspecialty residency in Geriatrics or another subspecialty. Special Fellows are expected to be board certified in their primary specialty and board eligible in their subspecialty by the time of VA Fellowship in Advanced Geriatrics appointment and to meet credentialing and privileging requirements to qualify as a licensed independent practitioner.

- Are **not** enrolled simultaneously in another accredited physician residency program.
- Have an active, full and unrestricted license to practice in the U.S.
- Are ABMS or ECCOPT- recognized board certified or eligible with demonstration of active pursuit of board certification. Physicians whose initial certification is in Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, or

Psychiatry must also be sub-specialty board certified or eligible, with demonstration of active pursuit of sub-specialty board certification.

- Have required Education Commission for Foreign Medical Graduate (ECFMG) documentation.
- Citizens of countries other than the United States must possess appropriate visa to participate in this program. U.S. citizens shall receive preference.
- Demonstrate special interest in geriatrics.
- Demonstrate likelihood for embarking on a geriatrics-related career that will be of service to U.S. Veterans receiving care from the VA.

### **Postdoctoral associated health fellows must meet the following criteria:**

- Have graduated from an accredited clinical doctoral program including all required residency or internship experiences that prepare them for eligibility for VA employment. This includes clinical disciplines such as nursing, dentistry, optometry, psychology, podiatry, pharmacy or audiology/speech pathology. Psychology fellows must have completed an accredited doctoral program, including an internship program accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA).
- Have completed one year of post-doctoral clinical training in the discipline, preferably but not exclusively in geriatrics.
- Are **not** enrolled simultaneously in another accredited post-doctoral program in an associated health discipline.
- Be a U.S. citizen.
- Demonstrate special interest in geriatrics.
- Demonstrate likelihood for embarking on a geriatrics-related career that will be of service to U.S. Veterans receiving care from the VA.

### **To Learn More and Apply**

For more information or to apply for a VA Fellowship in Advanced Geriatrics:

Contact Constance Uphold, PhD, ARNP, Advanced Geriatrics Fellowship Director and Associate Director of Research, GRECC at [connie.uphold@va.gov](mailto:connie.uphold@va.gov)

Additional information on the program:

click here: <https://www.va.gov/oa/advancedfellowships/advanced-fellowships.asp>

or click here: <http://www.va.gov/grecc> to learn more about VA GRECC.

### **Recent Fellow**

The testimonial provides insight into the breadth and depth of fellowship opportunities as well as their many career-strengthening benefits.



#### **Dana M. Otzel, PhD, ATC, LAT, Rehabilitation – Gainesville GRECC**

I thoroughly enjoyed working with leading scientists Drs. Stephen Borst and Kenneth Heilman, both GRECC researchers. Dr. Borst, now retired, served as my primary mentor on my Career Development Award projects. These experiences led to productive collaborations with Drs. Joshua Yarrow and David Clark. The fellowship offers protected research time to develop proposals – in my case, this led to funded projects and several publications.