

ADVANCED POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP IN VETERAN MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

The Center of Excellence for Suicide Prevention's two-year fellowship program is designed to provide psychologists and physicians with the experience necessary to **become leaders and innovators in suicide prevention research** among Veterans. Consistent with the strategic mission of our Center, our fellowship program puts primary emphasis on **public health approaches to suicide prevention** in a vibrant interdisciplinary setting that fosters rich and creative collaborations.

Our Research

Fellows collaborate with investigators and clinical supervisors from the fields of psychology, psychiatry, medicine, nursing, social work, epidemiology and health services.

Meet **some of** the investigators currently accepting fellows for the 2024-26 program!



Nicholas Allan, PhD

targets brief interventions addressing risk factors for **mood, anxiety, substance use** and **suicide-related outcomes**.



Tracy Stecker, PhD

aims to increase **help-seeking behavior** and mental health **treatment engagement**.



Peter Britton, PhD

studies **risk mitigation** among Veterans who are **hospitalized** or call the **Veterans Crisis Line**.



Craig Bryan, PsyD

develops and tests **upstream suicide prevention strategies** among Veterans to enhance **screening, assessment and prevention**.



Elizabeth Karras-Pilato, PhD

studies the use of **communication strategies** in public health approaches among at-risk Veterans.



Lisham Ashrafioun, PhD

conducts overlapping research on **chronic pain management** and **substance use**, particularly **opioid misuse and mitigation**.



Wilfred Pigeon, PhD

focuses on **sleep disturbance** especially as it relates to **suicidal thoughts, behaviors**, and co-occurrence with **medical & mental health conditions**.

Fellowship Training Director



Todd Bishop, PhD

Dr. Bishop conducts research to better understand how **sleep disturbances** impact the **development and course of suicidal behavior**.

Program Eligibility

Prospective PhD applicants must have completed a doctoral degree program in clinical or counseling psychology, as well as a doctoral internship in psychology.

Prospective MD or DO applicants must have completed a residency and be board certified or board eligible in their medical specialty.

Applications due November 20, 2023 and can be found on the CoE website.

VA ADVANCED FELLOWSHIP IN VETERAN MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION



ABOUT THE FELLOWSHIP

The VA Center of Excellence for Suicide Prevention and the affiliated University of Rochester Center for the Study and Prevention of Suicide (UR- CSPS) is pleased to announce the availability of a postdoctoral fellowship position for a psychologist or physician. The two-year program is supported by the VA Advanced Fellowship Program in Mental Illness Research and Treatment.

Program Goal: To prepare the next generation of leaders and innovators in suicide prevention research, education, and clinical care. We offer specialized training focused on suicide prevention strategies, with emphasis on at- risk populations including older Veterans; Veterans with depression, PTSD, or other mental health disorders; Veterans with substance use disorders and comorbid conditions; and Veterans facing health challenges such as chronic pain and sleep disorders. We also offer unique clinical and research opportunities in crisis response strategies and other brief interventions to address suicide risk. The fellowship is associated with (but not identical to) the UR-CSPS NIMH T32 Research Fellowship in Suicide Prevention. Prospective fellows may apply to both fellowships.

Fellowship Activities: Participants spend approximately 75% time in research and 25% in related clinical activities, work closely with senior research and education mentors, participate in core didactic offerings of the VA Hub Site and UR-CSPS, obtain advanced clinical training in VA sites matched closely to research interests, prepare at least one paper for publication and one national presentation each year, and complete a suicide prevention education project.

Training Faculty

Nicholas P. Allan, PhD
Lisham Ashrafioun, PhD
Matthew J. Barry, DO
Todd M. Bishop, PhD
James T. Bridges, PhD
Peter C. Britton, PhD
Craig J. Bryan, PsyD
Eric D. Caine, MD
Kenneth R. Conner, PsyD, MPH
Yeates Conwell, MD
Wendi F. Cross, PhD
Claudiu C. Dumitrescu, PsyD
Stephanie A. Gamble, PhD
Elizabeth Karras-Pilato, PhD
Wilfred R. Pigeon, PhD
Tracy A. Stecker, PhD

Fellowship Director:
Todd M. Bishop, PhD



(585) 504-9787



todd.bishop@va.gov

Application Instructions

Send letter of interest, CV, graduate transcripts, and 3 letters of recommendation (one letter must be from the Director of Training of your APA-accredited doctoral internship) to:

Todd M. Bishop, PhD c/o
Tracy Dilcher
Department of Veterans Affairs
400 Fort Hill Ave (COE)
Canandaigua, NY 14424 or
tracy.dilcher@va.gov

Psychologist Applicants:

Application Date:	Preferred deadline November 20, 2023
Start Date:	Flexible July 1 – October 1, 2024
Salary and Benefits:	Stipend starts at \$52,005 for Year 1. Fellows are eligible for health and life insurance benefits through the Department of Veterans Affairs.
Requirements:	Entry into the program requires U.S. citizenship and completion of a doctoral degree, including dissertation defense, from an APA-, CPA- or PCSAS-accredited clinical or counseling program prior to the start date of the fellowship. Applications from those participating in new VHA psychology internship programs, in the process of applying for APA accreditation, may be acceptable provided that such programs were sanctioned by the VHA Central Office Program Director for Psychology and VHA Central Office of Academic Affiliations at the time of applicant's enrollment.
Accreditation Status:	Non-accredited
For more information:	Visit our website https://www.mirecc.va.gov/suicideprevention/education/fellowship.asp or contact Training Director Todd Bishop, PhD via Program Coordinator, Tracy Dilcher at tracy.dilcher@va.gov , (585) 393-7812

Physician Applicants:

Application Date:	Preferred deadline November 20, 2023
Start Date:	Flexible, but preferred July 1, 2023
Salary and Benefits:	Stipend based on previous years of ACGME-accredited residency or fellowship experience. Opportunities to supplement stipend are available. Fellows are eligible for health and life insurance benefits through the Department of Veterans Affairs. Hiring flexibility is available with potential options of part-time appointments.
Requirements:	Entry into the program requires that all Physician Applicants complete an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) residency and be Board eligible in their specialty at the commencement of the Fellowship. All applicants must document current, unrestricted U.S. medical licensure and the completion of ACGME or American Osteopathic Association (AOA)-accredited specialty and subspecialty residency training. The Physician Component of the Fellowship permits non-citizens of the U.S.
Accreditation Status:	Non-accredited
For more information:	Visit our website https://www.mirecc.va.gov/suicideprevention/education/fellowship.asp or contact Training Director Todd Bishop, PhD via Program Coordinator, Tracy Dilcher at tracy.dilcher@va.gov , (585) 504-9787

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