

The NIH-funded Health Care Systems Research Network (HCSRN) and Older Americans Independence Centers (OAICs) AGING Initiative is launching a new Clinical Scholars Program intended to catalyze an expansion of interdisciplinary research relevant to the science of Multiple Chronic Conditions (MCCs). The program will create a cohort of emerging leaders who are committed to pursuing training and collaborative opportunities to align their research interests and agendas with issues relevant to the health and healthcare of older adults with MCCs.

The AGING Initiative will select up to 10 scholars per year. Over the subsequent year, scholars will participate in webinar-based curriculum on MCC research, engaging patient and caregiver partners, and career and leadership development. The MCCs Scholars Program aims to foster a nationwide community and mentoring network to extend and sustain MCCs research.

What is MCC Research and Why is it Important?

There is increasing recognition that the most common “chronic condition” in older adults is multiple chronic conditions (MCCs). Yet, due to the dominance of a disease-specific approach to clinical research, there is a dearth of strong research evidence to guide clinical practice and inform shared clinical decision-making relevant to the care of patients with MCCs. Developing partnerships with patients and caregivers is a key component of studying MCCs.

Who should apply to the MCC Scholars Program?

Scholars must meet the following criteria:

- MD, PhD, or equivalent degree (e.g. DO, AudD, DPT)
- Evidence of commitment to research in a field relevant to MCCs and/or aging
- Preference will be given to applicants who are in earlier stage of career (e.g., not yet received an R01 or tenure, or attained these milestones only recently)
- Must attend the virtual workshop on April 28-29, 2021 and 6 webinars during the Scholarship year (may attend additional webinars in future years, if desired)

We encourage applications from trainees, early stage investigators, and individuals from groups under-represented in research careers (e.g., women, ethnic/racial minorities, people with disabilities). We seek applicants who (1) wish to collaborate with other investigators interested in MCCs, or (2) have research activities that could be enhanced by the data resources and/or expertise available through the AGING Initiative. MCCs Scholars do not need to be affiliated with the HCSRN or OAICs.

How do I apply for the MCCs Scholars Program?

Applications should be submitted electronically to the submission site. An updated NIH biosketch is required as well as short responses (400 words or less) to describe: 1) Your interests and aspirations related to MCC research, 2) Prior accomplishments and/or evidence of potential to lead or participate in collaborative research, 3) How your work will have an impact on patients living with MCCs, and 4) Your goals for participating in the MCC Scholars Program. The online application can be found at: http://bit.ly/AGING_MCCs-Scholars_App

What should I do if I have additional questions?

An informational webinar about the Scholars Program will be held on November 12th from 12-1pm ET: [Webinar Registration](#). If you miss the informational webinar, a recording will be posted here: [Webinar Recording](#). Inquiries can also be made directly to Chris Delude at christopher.delude@meyersprimary.org

Key Dates

Announcement Release: October 22, 2020

Informational Webinar: November 12, 2020

Applications Due: January 8, 2021 at 11:59pm ET

Selected Scholars Notified: February 17, 2021

MCCs Scholars Workshop: April 28-30, 2021