



## RCCN Workshop Virtual Travel Awards for Early Career Investigators

### *"Inclusion of Older Adults In Clinical Research"*

**Pre-Workshop ECI Session: February 17, 2021**

**Workshop: February 23 -24, 2021**

**Virtual**

The goal of the NIA's [Research Centers Collaborative Network \(RCCN\)](#) is to bring together researchers from the 6 NIA Centers programs to foster the development of cross-center collaborations around issues important to the health and well-being of older adults.

The RCCN is sponsoring a workshop series to address problems of high relevance to multiple NIA Center programs. These workshops will feature the sharing of paradigms, conceptual models, and key insights from perspectives of the participating centers programs.

The fifth workshop, *"Inclusion of Older Adults in Clinical Research"*, will be held virtually February 23 and 24, 2021. The scope of the workshop is broad and will include discussions about efforts to increase recruitment of older adults, perspectives from different disciplines, the inclusion of minority participants, real and perceived barriers to recruitment, and setting priorities to advance the pace of inclusion of older adults, to name a few. A draft agenda can be found [here](#).

The format of the workshop will include a series of brief talks (think TED talks) providing high level conceptual introductions of key aspects of the workshop topic. Presentations will be followed by moderated discussions. The meeting will have dedicated sessions discussing areas that would be most promising for inter-center collaboration. An RFA for trans-disciplinary pilots will be issued following each workshop available to investigative teams with researchers from two or more different center programs to address promising areas arising from the workshop proceedings.

**Virtual Travel Awards** are available for approximately 10 early career investigators or investigators in-training, who will also participate in the special pre-workshop session on **February 17**, from 1-4 pm ET, that will focus on career development. In addition to being able to fully participate in the virtual workshop, travel awardees will have their registration for the [2021 Gerontological Society of America Annual Meeting](#) supported. Successful applicants will be from institutions with at least one [NIA supported center](#), and who have demonstrated translational or multidisciplinary interests in aging related to the workshop topic. Individuals from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups are particularly encouraged to apply. For



applicants who are not selected for this award but are still interested in attending the meeting, they can register for the public meeting presentations. Detailed information about the meeting and how to RSVP will be sent in the next few weeks.

## Eligibility

To be considered for an RCCN Travel Award, applicants must:

- Be an advanced doctoral student (have completed all requirements for the degree except for the dissertation), postdoctoral fellow or an early stage investigator as defined by the NIH (<https://grants.nih.gov/policy/early-investigators/index.htm#definition>)
- Be at an institution with at least one NIA Sponsored Center (e.g., Shock, Roybal, RCMAR, OAIC/Pepper, ADRC, or CDEA).
- Have demonstrated interest in translational and/or multidisciplinary interest relevant to the workshop topic
- Be available to attend the entire meeting
- Be willing to present a brief oral presentation of on-going or recently completed work

## Selection Criteria

- Qualifications of the applicant
- Academic environment
- Demonstrated interest in a career relevant to translational and/or multidisciplinary research in aging.
- Support of the Director of one the 6 qualifying NIA Centers

## Application:

Applications should be submitted via [the online form](#) by **Monday, January 11, 2021**.

Submissions should include the completed application form, NIH biosketch, as well as a brief statement from a NIA Center Director to AFAR. Decisions will be made no later than **Monday, January 18, 2021**.

**Questions?** Any questions about the workshop or the travel stipend can be directed to Elizabeth Pritchett-Montavon at [elizabeth@afar.org](mailto:elizabeth@afar.org).