



NICHD Postdoctoral Research Training Program (T32) in Stress, Trauma, and Resilience (STAR)

Department of Psychiatry & Human Behavior
Alpert Medical School of Brown University

About Us

The Childhood Stress, Trauma, & Resilience (STAR) T32 training program is an intensive research fellowship designed to train and accelerate the careers of PhD and MD postdoctoral fellows to conduct transformative, translational, developmentally-informed research focused on the mechanisms and health consequences of childhood stress, trauma and resilience, and is the only NICHD-funded training program within Brown Medical School. The STAR T32 program seeks to advance the health of children with trauma and other toxic stress exposures including racism and other social drivers of health by training promising researchers in gold-standard and innovative approaches to clinical and translational research methods in a variety of domains. The T32 will enroll 12 postdoctoral fellows (2-3 per year) for two-year terms over the five-year award. Fellows will have a PhD or an MD/residency, including a PhD in a behavioral health-related field (developmental, clinical, biological, neuro or health psychology, public health/epidemiology, neuroscience) or an MD in a related specialty (psychiatry, pediatrics, emergency medicine, obstetrics & gynecology). The program embraces a dual mentorship and apprenticeship model where fellows work closely with one of a broad base of exceptional faculty mentors conducting innovative, NIH-funded, translational research in STAR-related areas often involving minoritized, underserved and disadvantaged populations.

The [STAR T32](#) program will allow fellows to emerge as innovative and productive independent investigators through (i) intensive mentorship in an apprentice model by expert faculty mentors (ii) cutting-edge and foundational didactics, and (iii) formulation of an independent STAR research project and grant proposal. Fellows also benefit from activities and career development opportunities offered through the [COBRE Center for Stress, Trauma, and Resilience](#), which provides infrastructure to catalyze the development of early career faculty. Mentors include PhDs and MDs with a breadth of research interests and transdisciplinary expertise from psychology and psychiatry to public health, pediatrics and emergency medicine. Fellows will receive focused didactic training covering four critical STAR domains: (a) exposures and trauma, (b) pathways and mechanisms, (c) health behaviors and outcomes, and (d) interventions and community partnerships to promote resilience, with cross-cutting focus on lifespan development, community engagement, and social justice.

The fellows will also obtain rigorous foundational training in research design and statistics, grant-writing, responsible conduct of research, professional development, and cutting-edge methodological approaches. The program benefits from a unique and long-standing training infrastructure and culture of collaboration within the Brown Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior and The Miriam Hospital, allowing for a large base of trainee colleagues, faculty experts, didactics and support.

To maximize the opportunity to develop specific expertise, yet encourage exploration of new or complementary research areas, the STAR T32 employs a dual mentorship structure. This model matches fellows with a primary mentor who specializes in the field of stress, trauma, and resilience. In addition, trainees are paired with a secondary mentor to offer diverse perspectives and enhance the training experience.

The fellowship is sponsored by the Clinical Psychology Training Programs at Brown, located in historic Providence, Rhode Island. Providence is a city that combines the accessibility and friendliness of a small town with the culture and sophistication of a big city. Providence has a thriving arts community, vibrant and diverse neighborhoods, and a renowned restaurant scene! The Consortium, which administers this fellowship is composed of eight training sites including Butler Hospital, the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, E.P. Bradley Hospital, Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island, The Miriam Hospital, Rhode Island Hospital, Brown's Center for Alcohol & Addiction Studies, and Women & Infants Hospital.

Mentors

Research trainees select established mentor(s) whose area of research matches well with their own. The primary mentors for the Childhood Stress, Trauma, & Resilience (STAR) T32 training program Training Program are:

STAR T32 Leadership (Also serve as Mentors)

Laura Stroud, PhD, Co-Director
Audrey R Tyrka, MD, PhD, Co-Director
Stephanie Parade, PhD, Co-Director

Nicole R Nugent, PhD, Associate Director,
Ernestine G. Jennings, PhD, Associate Director
Elissa Jelalian, PhD, Associate Director

Mentors

Michael F Armey, PhD
Cynthia Battle, PhD
Beth Bock, PhD
Leslie Brick, PhD
Larry K Brown, MD
Margaret Bublitz, PhD
Linda L Carpenter, MD
Mary A Carskadon, PhD
Yovanska Duarte-Velez, PhD
Kate M Guthrie, PhD
Christopher Houck, PhD
Daphne Koinis-Mitchell, PhD
Karen Jennings Mathis, PhD
John McGeary, PhD
Nicole McLaughlin, PhD
Elizabeth McQuaid, PhD, ABPP
Lindsay M Orchowski, PhD
Jessica R. Peters, PhD
Noah S Philip, MD
Anthony Spirito, PhD, ABPP
Chrys Vergara-Lopez, PhD
Rena R Wing, PhD
Jennifer C. Wolff, PhD

Fellowships

For more information about the RFP Childhood Stress, Trauma, & Resilience (STAR) T32 and other RFP fellowships (*including Child Mental Health T32, Suicide T32, and the Cardiovascular Behavioral Medicine T32*), please visit our website at: <https://clinical-psychology.med.brown.edu/postdoctoral-fellowship/fellowship-applicants> and select the link for [Research Fellowship Program \(RFP\) Applicants](#).

For a listing of **ALL** available fellowships being offered during the **25-26 recruitment year**, please visit the link for [Available Fellowships](#). **New fellowships are added as they become available!**

Eligibility & Support

Applicants must hold (*or anticipate receiving by the start date*) a doctoral degree at time of appointment. All Fellows receive appointments in the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior at Alpert Medical School of Brown University.

Applicants to **NIH-** or **Government-funded** Fellowships must be **a citizen** or a **non-citizen national** of the United States or have been lawfully admitted for permanent residence at the time of appointment. To assure that this will not be a problem, we expect that Fellows already meet eligibility requirements at the time their application is submitted. We welcome applications from PhDs and MDs who are not clinical psychologists for our research fellowship positions.

Stipends range from \$61,008-\$74,088, depending on years of experience postdoctoral degree. Health Insurance and other benefits are provided.

Application

The RFP STAR T32 initial application due date is **December 4, 2024** and has rolling admission until all positions have been filled, contingent upon our pending grant renewal. For further details and application materials, please visit our website or Email: Postdoc_Training@Brown.edu.

Administration

The **Stress, Trauma, and Resilience (STAR) T32** is administered by the: Clinical Psychology Training Programs at Brown: A Consortium of the Providence VA Medical Center, Lifespan, and Care New England, Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Program (PFTP)

Elissa Jelalian, PhD <i>Director, Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Program</i> <i>Director, Research Fellowship Program</i>	Lindsay Orchowski, PhD <i>Associate Director, Research Fellowship Program</i>
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Alpert Medical School of Brown University is an Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action employer and actively encourages applications from women, minorities, and protected persons.