**Enhancing Diversity in Alcohol Research (EDAR)**

**Who should apply?**

* Trainees currently enrolled in a doctoral psychology program that requires a clinical internship year, and applying to internship programs this Fall 2024.
* Trainees who are members of an underrepresented group in the biomedical, behavioral, clinical, and social sciences workforce (as defined by [NOT-OD-20-031](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-20-031.html)) including:

1. Individuals from racial and/or ethnic backgrounds, including Black or African American, Hispanic or Latinx, American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and other Pacific Islander.
2. Individuals with disabilities that substantially limit one or more major life activities (i.e. as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990).

*and/or*

1. Individuals from a family with an annual income below established low-income thresholds published by the U.S. Census Bureau, or those from educational environments such as rural or inner-city communities with demonstrable limitations in educational opportunities necessary to become competitive and prepared for participation in a research career.

**The primary goals of the program are:**

1. Attract URM psychology trainees into internship programs with robust alcohol research training opportunities.
2. Retain URM psychology trainees in alcohol research by engaging them in NIAAA-supported T32 programs and providing them the skills to become near-peer mentors.

**The program will provide:**

1. Culturally responsive individual mentoring from established investigators and near-peer mentors, including personalized guidance through the internship and postdoctoral application phases.
2. Mentorship focused on the development of an independent alcohol-focused research project (e.g., poster or oral presentation) for presentation at the annual meeting of the Research Society on Alcoholism (RSA).
3. Mentorship training to become near-peer mentor for other trainees interested in alcohol research.
4. Didactics on internship and postdoctoral applications (workshopping CVs, application essays, cover letters), professional development, and managing challenges in academia.
5. Training in scientific writing (manuscripts, identifying grant mechanisms, grant writing).
6. Financial assistance with internship applications and travel to on-site interviews ($2,000 max per trainee) and financial support to attend the annual RSA conference ($3,500 max per trainee).
7. Networking opportunities with NIAAA-sponsored T32 postdoctoral fellowship program directors and training faculty.
8. Bi-annual evaluations with individual mentors and the EDAR Leadership Team.
9. Training in the responsible conduct of research through mentorship, CITI course completion, and access to the Core Clinical Research Training (CCRT) course through the South Carolina Clinical and Translational Research Institute (SCTR) with waived registration fees.

**Sample Didactic Topics:**

**Year 1**

* Identifying Internship Programs with Alcohol Research Training and NIAAA-funded Faculty
* Internship Application Preparation: Curriculum Vitae Workshop
* Internship Application Preparation: Cover Letters & Essays
* Current Intern Panel
* Career Pathways
* Pre-Application Interview Preparation, Responding to Bias and Microaggressions, Cultural Awareness
* Interview Debriefing, Discussion of Interview Successes/Challenges and Problem Solving
* Overview of NIH Grant Mechanisms
* Near-peer Mentorship Training
* Responsible Conduct of Research & Values-Aligned Leadership
* Internship Transition Logistics

**Year 2**

* Fellowship & Faculty Application Strategies
* Near-peer Mentoring Process
* Introduction to NIH T32 & other federally-funded fellowships
* NIH Grant Funding: Diversity-focused opportunities & Loan Repayment Program
* NIH Grant Funding: Training & Early Career Award Mechanisms
* Professional Negotiation
* Budgeting 101: Startup Packages & Grants
* Research Society on Alcoholism (RSA) Conference Orientation