

Implementation Research Institute (IRI) CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Implementation Research Institute (IRI) is currently accepting applications for the 2023-2025 two-year fellowship opportunity. Applicants with interests in implementation research for mental health and/or co-occurring drug abuse, and/or EBP implementation to improve youth mental health are encouraged to apply.

What is the IRI? The IRI is an intensive learning collaborative of implementation researchers funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH 3R25MH08091606), National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). This unique interdisciplinary training program aims to help researchers launch a research career in implementation science in mental health. The IRI provides experiential learning, didactic training, faculty mentoring, and support for grant writing—all focused on helping participants shape an R01-level research project for competitive external funding.

The IRI was established to advance the field of implementation science in mental health by enhancing the career development of investigators. Implementation research is the study of processes for integrating empirically supported treatments (ESTs) into usual care, and holds high promise for reducing the gap from treatment discovery to community practice. IRI participants will join a learning collaborative of implementation researchers for two years, spending one week each summer at an institute at the **Center for Mental Health Services Research (CMHSR)** at Washington University in St. Louis, and receiving individualized mentoring to help them shape a research agenda in implementation science and prepare a competitive research grant proposal.

Who should apply? We invite applications from ambitious early-stage investigators with a doctoral degree (or MD) and demonstrated experience and enthusiasm in the study of mental health and/or co-occurring drug use services, who wish to conduct ground-breaking research in implementation science. The IRI will support a cohort of participants who seek expert mentoring and collaboration to advance their research capacity in areas referenced by NIH PARs on “Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health (PAR-22-105). *Minority applicants are strongly encouraged to apply.*

Implementation Research Institute (IRI) Leadership

Enola Proctor, George Warren Brown School of Social Work, Washington University
John Landsverk, Senior Research Scientist, Oregon Social Learning Center
Stacey McCrary, George Warren Brown School of Social Work, Washington University
Byron Powell, George Warren Brown School of Social Work, Washington University

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS JANUARY 23, 2023

Campus Box 1196, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130-4899 • <https://iri.wustl.edu>

IRI benefits. IRI Fellows will be appointed for two-year terms, joining a scholarly network of fellows and faculty with expertise in implementation science. Each IRI Fellow will receive:

- A one-week on-site training in 2023 (June 20-24) and 2024 (TBD) at Washington University in St. Louis with travel funds to and from their home institution and St. Louis provided.
- Bimonthly, long-distance, mentoring with an IRI core faculty member to help craft a competitive implementation research proposal in mental health and/or co-occurring drug abuse.
- Travel funds to support a 2-day site visit to a funded implementation research project.
- Training to mentor others in implementation science and develop implementation research capacity.

Candidates should have or be:

- Early career researchers with doctoral degrees in medicine, social work, psychology, health services, nursing, anthropology, public health, education, management, or relevant fields.
- Demonstrated interest in implementation research in mental health and/or co-occurring drug abuse.
- Prior or concurrent experience relevant to implementation research such as evidence-based intervention development and/or testing, mental health service research, or research in co-occurring substance abuse.
- Prior experience writing a grant for external federal funding or comparable funding (e.g., an NIH F31, R03, R21, R34, or K award); however, such applications need not have been successful. Accepted fellows cannot have yet been awarded an implementation science-related R01 or equivalent.
- A home institution with an on-site mentor who can support the Fellow's progress in grant writing and scholarly publication.
- The ability and commitment to attend and actively participate in two consecutive summer institutes and the mentorship process.

A complete application must include the following, in order:

- A completed application form via Qualtrics [IRI Application 2023](#)
- A current curriculum vitae
- A current biosketch
- A biosketch for up to two mentors at the applicant's home institution who will support the applicant in future applications for external federal grant funding, including the mentor who provides a letter of recommendation (see below)
- Two samples of published or accepted articles (preferably first-authored) in the area of, or closest to, dissemination and implementation research.
- A research concept paper not to exceed 3 single-spaced pages excluding references, size 12 font. IRI Faculty recognize that concept papers will vary according to the author's discipline or professional background; however, the basic elements below must be incorporated into the text.
 - An analysis of the "problem in care" to be addressed through dissemination or implementation research, its background, and its significance to the field
 - The research aims and how they relate to the NIH PARs on "Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health" ([PAR-22-105](#), [PAR-22-106](#), [PAR-22-109](#)) and the [NIMH Strategic Plan](#)
 - The methods or approaches to be used
 - The institutional and mentorship support to be provided

All materials must be submitted via Qualtrics by January 23, 2023 in a single document (PDF format) for upload in Qualtrics. A complete application must also include the following:

- One recommendation letter from your supervisor, dean, or department chair emailed [here](#).
- One recommendation letter and Qualtrics survey from a senior-level mentor who will commit to supporting the applicant's goal of submitting at least one competitive dissemination and implementation research grant proposal to NIH or VA during the fellowship period. The survey, which includes a spot to upload the recommendation letter is found [here](#).