Health Scientist Administrator (Program Officer) Geriatrics and Aging Processes Research

Health Scientist Administrator (Program Officer) Opportunities at NIMH  
Geriatrics and Aging Processes Research Branch  
Division of Translational Research  
National Institute of Mental Health  
Department of Health and Human Services

The Division of Translational Research (DTR) at NIMH directs, plans, and supports programs of research and research training that translate knowledge from basic science to discover the etiology, pathophysiology, and trajectory of mental disorders and develop effective interventions for children and adults. DTR supports integrative, multidisciplinary research in the following areas: the phenotypic characterization of and risk factors for psychiatric disorders; neurobehavioral mechanisms of psychopathology; trajectories of risk and resilience based on the interactive influences of genetics, brain development and aging, environment, and experience; and the design and testing of innovative neuromodulatory, psychosocial and psychopharmacological interventions. The Division is looking for a motivated individual to serve as a Program Officer in the Geriatrics and Aging Processes Research Branch.

The selected candidate will stimulate, plan, advise, and direct program activities for a portfolio of aging-related research projects and grant or cooperative agreement awards in the area of translational research. The individual will have responsibilities for identifying and formulating programmatic needs and achieving an integrated and responsive effort in clinical and systems-level neuroscience research relevant for understanding the etiology and trajectories of serious mental illnesses associated with the aging process and old age, and/or novel intervention development and testing for these disorders. A Program Officer candidate for this position is expected to be an accomplished scientist with a good understanding of how biomedical research is performed and expertise in one or more of these fields: human psychiatric genetics; lifespan development and aging, particularly the use of imaging or other neurobiological or computational methods to understand neurodevelopmental processes and their relationships to mental disorders; adult psychopathology, including mood and anxiety disorders, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, neuropsychiatric symptoms in Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias, suicide, and related disorders; or the development and testing of novel interventions in mid-life and/or older adult populations. Candidates with expertise in related fields that emphasize multidisciplinary approaches to understanding the underlying causes of and developing effective treatments for aging-related mental disorders will also be considered. A publication record, prior research experience and evidence of a familiarity with current literature in the biology and neuroscience of mental illness are essential.

The position provides an opportunity to impact priorities, develop new research initiatives and to contribute to the advancement of a national program of research. General responsibilities will
include administering and managing an extramural portfolio of research grants, interacting with researchers and program officers for related programs at NIMH, NIH, and other funding agencies, and developing new research initiatives.

Strong organizational, oral, written and communication skills are also required. Experience with the grants process is preferable. Salary will be commensurate with the experience of the candidate. A full package of federal Civil Service benefits is available, including: retirement, health and life insurance, long term care insurance, leave, and a Thrift Savings Plan (401K equivalent). The successful candidate is subject to a background investigation and public financial disclosure requirements.

Qualifications
Applicants must be U.S. Citizens and have an MD, PhD or equivalent degree in an accredited college university including acceptance of the dissertation, in an academic field or the health or pertinent sciences allied to health or health related research.

How to Apply
Interested candidates should send a letter of interest, including a curriculum vitae to NIMHsearch@mail.nih.gov.

The NIH encourages the application and nomination of qualified women, minorities, and individuals with disabilities. HHS and NIH are Equal Opportunity Employers.

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