

## Wake Forest Alzheimer's Disease Research Center REC Scholar Positions for Early Career Faculty 2022 Request for Applications (RFA)

The Research Education Component (REC) of the Wake Forest Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (WF ADRC) seeks applications from early career faculty to support their development into independent scientists in the field of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders (ADRD). The main priorities of the program are for REC Scholars to build skills in translational science and team science. Early career faculty with backgrounds in basic science, clinical, translational, or population research are invited to apply. Applicants can be currently working on ADRD research, wish to expand into the ADRD field, or want to apply their current expertise and/or methodology to ADRD research.

### *Support:*

- Protected research time (typically 1-2 years of support)
- Support for a research project (typically between \$10,000 to \$20,000 per year)
- Formal mentoring team
- Priority access to WF ADRC Cores and resources, as well as the national ADRC network – see Supplemental Information
- Funding for coursework and travel to conferences

### *Qualifications:*

- Faculty appointment at the Instructor or Assistant Professor level at the time of application
- Applications are welcome from any department at Wake Forest, Atrium Health, or invited institutions (institutions other than Wake Forest must be willing to waive indirect costs)
- Proposed research relevant to Alzheimer's disease or related disorders (can be ongoing)
- Commitment to a research career in brain aging, Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder
- Availability for protected time dedicated to research and career development activities
- U.S citizen or permanent resident
- Applicants from minority racial and ethnic groups, from socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds, from rural areas, and those with disabilities are encouraged to apply
- See Supplement Information for required application materials

### *Selection Process:*

- Committee reviews applications and makes recommendations
- Appointment by the ADRC Executive Committee
- Endorsement by the ADRC External Advisory Committee

### *Timelines:*

- Application deadline: May 27, 2022
- Candidates notified: June 24, 2022
- Anticipated start date: July, 2022

Please submit applications at this link: <https://redcap.link/phm8at0i>. Applicants may contact REC Co-Leads Sharon Letchworth, PhD ([Sharon.Letchworth@wakehealth.edu](mailto:Sharon.Letchworth@wakehealth.edu)) and/or Shannon Macauley, PhD ([smacaule@wakehealth.edu](mailto:smacaule@wakehealth.edu)) to discuss proposals prior to submitting LOI or application.

**Information session will be held on Friday, May 6th at 1:00 pm via Zoom**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87693903501?pwd=ejkxN3FPUmtdOD21zc1JldUtoQU85UT09>  
**Contact Hari Vittal Rao, PhD at [hvittal@wakehealth.edu](mailto:hvittal@wakehealth.edu) to receive a calendar invitation.**

# Wake Forest Alzheimer's Disease Research Center

## REC Scholar Positions for Early Career Faculty

### 2022 Request for Applications (RFA)

#### Supplemental Information

#### Background

Wake Forest Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (WF ADRC) provides funding, mentoring, and educational support to Scholars through its Research Education Component (REC). The main priorities of the program are for REC Scholars to build skills in translational science and team science.

The scientific focus of the WF ADRC is the link between metabolic and vascular diseases and the transitions from normal aging to mild cognitive impairment (MCI), AD, and related disorders. Research that addresses health disparities in AD is also a goal of the ADRC.

#### WF ADRC REC Scholar Required Application Materials

- Current percent efforts (clinical, administrative, teaching, research)
- Proposed percent effort for the scholarship period, if different
- Requested amount of research support (typically between \$10,000 to \$20,000 per year)
- Current biosketch and other support
- Proposed Primary Mentor, if known (Primary Mentor will be finalized after candidate is accepted)
- Additional proposed mentors and qualifications, if known (Mentor Committee will be finalized after candidate is accepted into the program)
- Letters of recommendation (2 total, including one from your Department Chair confirming the available effort for research and career development)
- Educational / Career Development Plan – Outline training career goals to be achieved and a timeline for milestones during the training period. If formal coursework is planned, specify course and intended degree, if any (e.g. Masters in Translational and Health System Science) (1-2 pages)
- Proposed research project – Include Title, Specific Aims, Research Strategy (Significance and Innovation, and Approach), and Timeline/Milestones; if project is ongoing, specify how this work will be distinct from that funded by other sources (2-3 pages)
  - **Due to National Institute of Aging (NIA) guidelines, applicants may not propose new clinical trials**
  - Analysis of existing clinical trial data or addition of measures to an ongoing trial is permitted; clinical observational studies are also permitted
- References (up to 2 pages)
- Human subjects section or vertebrate animals section (if applicable)

#### Expectations of REC Scholars:

- Funding is typically for 1-2 years. Scholars must demonstrate progress and meet objectives during the first year and have clearly defined goals for the second year to qualify for additional funding.
- At the beginning of the training program, each Scholar will work with the REC Program Committee to outline an Individual Training Plan that will stipulate the coursework, research objectives, training experiences, team science education, and career goals.
- Once funded, REC Scholars will be matched with a Primary Mentor and Mentor Committee based on the needs of their training program. Twice a year, Mentor Committee will meet with the Scholar to provide advice on research, education, and career goals, as well as to monitor progress. Scholars are encouraged to meet with mentors on a one-on-one basis during their training term.
- Attendance at the national Spring and Fall ADRC Meetings is expected and funded during their training term. Funding to attend one scientific conference per year is also provided.

- Scholars are expected to present training progress and research results to the WF ADRC Executive Committee and the WF ADRC External Advisory Committee, and at WF ADRC events such as seminar series, REC writing workshops, and/or inter-ADRC events.
- Scholars are expected to prepare at least one abstract/presentation for a scientific conference during their training period.
- Scholars are expected to prepare at least one manuscript for publication during their training period. Publications resulting from research supported by this scholarship must cite the ADRC P30AG072947 grant. Publications must to be registered and compliant in PubMed Central.
- REC Scholars are encouraged to apply for WF ADRC Development Project/Pilot Grant funding.
- REC Scholars are expected to draft (preferably submit) an application for independent funding (e.g. K-award, R-award, Alzheimer's Association funding) during the course of their training program.
- REC Scholars are encouraged to participate in externships with other ADRCs or institutions that specialize in ADRD research.
- REC Scholars are expected to participate in scientific education outreach in the community.
- REC Scholars are strongly encouraged to use and/or produce ADRC resources:
  - Production of resources or methodologies useful for the ADRC
  - Use of existing resources from one or more of the following:
    - Requests for human biospecimens and data (e.g., cognitive data, demographic data, biomarker data, brain imaging data, brain, blood, and/or cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) samples) can be made via the following link: [www.WakeShare.org](http://www.WakeShare.org)
    - Requests for non-human primate resources can be submitted here: <https://redcap.wakehealth.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=YJCR4PDDNJ>
    - Brain specimens from our affiliated brain bank at the University of Washington can be requested here: <http://depts.washington.edu/mbwc/adrc/page/research-resources>
    - The National Alzheimer Coordinating Center (NACC), which contains data from clinical evaluations, neuropathology, and magnetic resonance imaging from the 39 past and present Alzheimer's Disease Centers (ADCs) supported by NIA can be requested here: <https://naccdata.org/requesting-data/nacc-data>
    - The National Centralized Repository for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (NCRAD), which is a national resource for clinical information and biological samples, such as DNA, plasma, serum, RNA, CSF, cell lines, and brain tissue from multiple ADCs and AD-related clinical studies: [https://ncrad.iu.edu/accessing\\_data.html](https://ncrad.iu.edu/accessing_data.html)
    - Collaboration with other ADRCs
- REC Scholars will provide updates on their training and educational activities twice a year.
- REC Scholars will be expected to provide interim and final reports on the research supported by this scholarship.
- For 5 years after the end of the training period, REC Scholars will be surveyed annually for scientific productivity, leadership experience, and career progress. Thereafter, REC Scholars will be surveyed every 5 years.
- REC Scholars are encouraged to participate in the review process for future REC Scholar application cycles.