



FELLOWSHIP TITLE

Clinical Fellowship in Autistic Adults in Mental Health

FELLOWSHIP DESCRIPTION

[The University of Pittsburgh Department of Psychiatry](#) offers a 1 year paid Clinical Fellowship for Autistic Adults in Mental Health, This fellowship is with the [Regulation of Emotion in Autistic Adults, Children, and Teens \(REACT\) Research Program](#), led by [Carla Mazefsky, PhD](#). The REACT program has a NIH Autism Center of Excellence focused on improving mental health for autistic adults and many other research studies that focus on mental health and wellbeing of autistic people across the lifespan.

Our postdoctoral fellowship, offered through the Department of Psychiatry, is intended for psychologists who have successfully completed American Psychological Association (APA)–accredited doctoral programs and APA-approved internships, and who wish to refine their skills in assessing and treating autistic individuals and other co-occurring mental health conditions. Individuals from historically and systemically excluded communities are strongly encouraged to apply.

FELLOWSHIP TRAINING

The postdoctoral fellow will administer autism diagnostic evaluations as well as psychiatric and neuropsych evaluations. You will be trained and regularly administer the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule, Second Edition (ADOS-2), suicide assessments, neuropsych assessments, and post-traumatic stress disorder assessments to autistic and non-autistic adults. This will also allow for the opportunity to hone differential diagnostic skills. Further, you will serve as a key member of our clinical safety team.

Fellows have the opportunity to work on studies focused on mental health, emotion regulation, and suicidality in autism across the lifespan. Further, there will be exposure to community effectiveness trials testing autism specific interventions compared to other gold standard treatments.

Fellows must have a strong background in autism and neurodevelopmental evaluations. Fellows should have prior training in autism evaluations; research reliability in the ADOS-2 is a plus. Experience with suicide-related assessments is a plus (and willingness to learn and conduct suicide assessments is required).



TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Fellows will have opportunities to get hours toward licensure and be supervised by licensed psychologists. Opportunities for scholarly activity are promoted. The REACT Research Program focuses on community-based participatory research, outreach, and dissemination with opportunities for autism research and our close colleagues run large programs in other neurodevelopmental conditions, including the largest study of Alzheimer's in Down Syndrome. We have many large existing autism data sets that are available for secondary analysis. Along with working alongside the 5 core faculty studying autism across the lifespan within the REACT Research Program, you will also have opportunities to connect with 15+ more with related work. You will have the opportunity to, but not required to, work on research papers as part of our REACT Research Program.

The Clinical Fellowship for Autistic Adults in Mental Health is currently available through a combination of in-person and virtual work. Fellows are expected to be on-site approximately four days out of the week, with some assessments having opportunities to be online based on research participants' preference.

APPLICATION PROCESS

We accept postdoctoral fellowship applications on a rolling basis until February 1, 2024.

Interested candidates should submit a CV and cover letter to Dr. Carla Mazefsky mazefskyca@upmc.edu and Dr. Kelly Beck beckk12@upmc.edu. Candidates being considered will eventually need to submit three letters of recommendation. Please specify the training experience for which you are applying in the subject of your application email. All submissions should receive a receipt of confirmation within three-to-five business days. If you do not receive a confirmation, kindly resubmit the application.

Interviews are offered virtually, with the possibility of an in-person option.

SALARY STATEMENT

The salary is consistent with [NIH T32 guidelines](#) and based on years of experience.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about our training site and fellowship opportunities, please visit our [website](#) and learn about the support from our [department](#).

The University of Pittsburgh is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer with a strong institutional commitment to diversity in all areas.