

VISN 19 MIRECC Denver Post-Doctoral Fellowship Fellowship Administration and Financial Assistance Policy

Fellowship Administration:

The VA VISN 19 MIRECC Advanced Fellowship Program in Mental Illness Director, Lisa A. Brenner, Ph.D., ABPP, is a licensed psychologist who oversees all aspects of the training program including supervision and licensing requirements, the training process, recruitment and selection of Fellows, and administration. Dr. Brenner reports to the Denver VAMC Chief of Staff, Ellen Mangione, M.D. The MIRECC consultation service is coordinated by a licensed psychologist, Bridget Matarazzo, Ph.D. Dr. Matarazzo is a member of the MIRECC Advanced Fellowship Training Committee. Other members of the Training Committee include: Nazanin Bahraini, Ph.D., Peter M. Gutierrez, Ph.D., Hal Wortzel, M.D., Jennifer Olson-Madden, Ph.D., Beeta Homaifar, Ph.D., Samantha Farro, Ph.D., Gina Signoracci, Ph.D., and James Pease, LSW.. Dr. Brenner readily seeks input from the Training Committee regarding issues ranging from competencies to individual Fellow performance. Formal meetings of the MIRECC Training Committee facilitate such discussion. Administrative support is provided by Melissa McHarg.

Financial Assistance:

VISN 19 Postdoctoral Fellows receive the following stipends: first year, \$45,332; and second year, \$47,783. Fellows accrue 13 days of annual leave and 13 days of sick leave each year (4 hours of annual and 4 hours of sick per pay period), and such leave can be requested throughout the Fellowship. Fellows also have 10 paid Federal holidays during the calendar year. Policies regarding leave accrual and use were established at the national level. The Fellowship Training Director, with input from the MIRECC Training Faculty, will approve Authorized Absence (leave that does not detract from annual leave hours) to encourage Fellows to attend educational and professional advancement seminars, conferences, and other meetings outside the DVAMC. Fellows receive FICA and comprehensive health benefits including dental, vision, and life insurance coverage. Professional liability coverage is provided as a part of the Federal Tort Claims Act.