Post Residency and Pre and Post Doctoral Fellowship Positions

Mission
The mission of this special fellowship program is to offer scholars opportunities to be leaders who can accomplish the following:

- Apply knowledge and methods of health care improvement to the care of veterans
- Innovate and continually improve health care
- Teach health professionals about health care improvement
- Perform research and develop new knowledge for the ongoing improvement of the quality and value of health care services

Upon completing this special program, fellows will be able to demonstrate capabilities in the following:

- Design and create change for the improvement of health care
- Design, conduct, write and publish a research project on health care improvement efforts
- Lead health care professionals in improvement efforts

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The VAQS Fellowship Program was established in 1999 by the Veterans Health Administration in collaboration with The Dartmouth Institute. Six VA Medical Centers (VAMC) participate in the program. Mentoring is a critical component of this two-year program which links individualized training at each site to a state-of-the-art curriculum developed by The Dartmouth Institute. Each year, three positions are available at each site. Stipends and fringe benefits are provided by the VA.

**Curriculum Components**

- Interactive video conferences (25/year)
- Participation in national meetings (3/year)
- Fellow improvement projects
- Clinical and education activities
- Course work (MPH or equivalent degree; tuition covered at some sites)

**Requirements**

**Physicians:** Applicants must have completed an ACGME-accredited residency or fellowship training, be board-eligible or board-certified, and have an active, unrestricted license to practice and U. S. citizenship.

**Nurses:** Applicants must be accepted into a DNP or PhD program at one of the six affiliated schools of nursing or completed DNP or PhD with an active, unrestricted license to practice and U. S. citizenship.

**Alumni**

Graduates of the program have continued their outstanding work in advancing the scholarship of health care improvement in the following professional positions:

- VA HSR&D Career Development Awards
- Quality Management Officer in VA Networks
- White House Fellow
- Director of Quality Improvement for the Army
- Senior leaders in public health organizations
- Medical Directors
- Faculty and fellowship positions at academic medical centers across the nation

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