



Nursing Research Fellowship

The ***Nursing Research Fellowship*** is designed to increase nurses' understanding and skills to conduct small research projects. The fellowship follows a practicum model as seen in academia, used as an approach to learning the skills about research guided by nurse scientist mentors on a research project. The researcher is either collaborating on a Mentor's program of research, or a related study of their research. Each accepted Fellow actively participates in an established program of research and applies their knowledge of research principles with a nurse scientist.

Each prospective candidate must complete the online application that includes an abstract of their intended research interest and reasons for applying to the Nursing Research Fellowship. The Nursing Research Fellowship is a partnership. Although there is substantial protected time provided to the Nursing Research Fellow*, acceptance into this program requires personal responsibility to work on their specific project. This commitment means that a Nursing Research Fellow may be working on components of their project *on their own time*.

Fellows will be selected based on:

- The feasibility and specificity of their interest in research and a proposed research project
- Endorsement of their Nurse Leader and/or Nursing Director (one endorsement only)
- Alignment with the work of a Nursing Research Mentor, Organizational and Departmental goals

Applicants will be contacted for a short interview with a combined group of Nurse Scientists from the member institutions. During this meeting, the candidate will have the opportunity to discuss a potential project with the Nurse Scientists. The applications will not be reviewed on a rolling basis; all meetings will be scheduled after the submission deadline.

Program objectives:

- Prepare nurses to participate in and/or lead nursing research studies.
- Provide didactic presentations, guided learning, and mentorship when conducting an independent nursing research project.

Curriculum includes:

- Online Modules
- Defining the significance of the problem
- Development of an intended research question
- Review and analysis of existing research findings in the literature
- Research types and study designs
- Quantitative and qualitative study designs and analysis
- Budget development and identification of funding opportunities
- Foundational/fundamental grant writing expertise
- Dissemination of research
- Applicable theoretical/conceptual frameworks to undergird selected research topic



Program outcomes

The Nursing Research Fellowship provides knowledge and skills that enables fellows to:

- Define and differentiate nursing research from evidenced-based practice
- Identify types of research and study designs
- Identify theoretical/conceptual frameworks that make nursing research independent from other research methods
- Identify and explain knowledge gaps and determine the significance of the selected problem
- Conduct a comprehensive review of the literature on their intended topic
- Differentiate between quantitative and qualitative study designs
- Understand how to develop a budget
- Understand the importance of working with their office of research, finding a grant, and drafting letters of support for the Principal Investigator (PI)
- Disseminate nursing research internally and externally with the end goal of publishing their research
- Engage in the ongoing formative and summative evaluation of the fellows
- Discussion includes system outcomes that focus on alignment with institutional, organizational, and Nursing Department goals
- Practicum provides a forum to actively participate in IRB-approved research and apply knowledge of research principles with a seasoned researcher

Faculty:

Includes experts from the MSK Office of Nursing Research and research faculty and colleagues from universities and healthcare organizations including Baystate Health, Columbia University, Hospital for Special Surgery (HSS), Miami Cancer Institute, University College Dublin School of Midwifery and Health Services, plus MSK and HSS research support.

Timeline, Protected time, and Continuing Education Credits:

The full program timeline is 18 months from the first class to the final presentation. A total of **18** protected days are required to attend didactic class sessions and for independent assignments. The **9** days of formal classes will be presented virtually on Zoom.

- **Months 1-3** there is one didactic class session each month
- **Months 4-6** there are two sessions, usually one class day and one indirect day to work on aspects of the study
- **Months 7-8 (Summer)** **Monthly indirect days** devoted to working on the study
- **Months 9-10** there is 1 class day and **1 indirect day** to work on the study, plus the *Fellows Presentations*, a mock Grand Rounds, and a roundtable

There may be extra dates for independent work with the nurse scientist mentors or optional symposia with a specific focus on research practices.

CEU credit hours are available for the fellowship didactic sessions, offered by MSK Nursing Professional Development.

Classes and Syllabus:

Upon acceptance into the fellowship, Fellows will be added to a Nursing Research Fellowship Teams channel where the syllabus, class dates, class materials, and announcements will be available.

Formal classes are designed to provide 4 hours of didactic instruction and 4 hours of self-study and/or work with their Nurse Scientist mentor. Class sessions begin at 8:30 am. Class dates and times are found in the syllabus and describe the content, expectations, and reading assignments for each session. Afternoon sessions are designed for independent study and meetings with mentors.

Protected time denoted as Independent Study is intended to support fellows' ability to work on the research projects. Fellows will work with their mentors on various assignments that facilitate the research project.

Online modules:

All classes will be presented live on Zoom and the recordings of classes will be made available to fellows for future review.

Modules from the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) are required for all investigators who participate in research. They are free and available to employees of all member institutions; nurses may register with their email addresses and affiliation. These classes MUST be completed before the first fellowship class.

- Good Clinical Practice (GCP)
- Humans Subjects Protection (HSP) Group 2: Social/Behavioral Research

Course Text:

Textbooks with reading assignments are provided to Nursing Research Fellows. Handouts will be provided for specific classes. Slides presented will also be available following each class.

Main readings:

Reading assignments from the textbook help explain the content discussed during each class or lecture and additional readings may be assigned. All information will be disseminated by email or the Fellowship Teams channel (likely both).

Additional readings:

Additional readings are from journals illustrating application/s of the theoretical issues and concepts addressed in the lecture. Additional readings are shared throughout the course.

Ongoing Metrics:

The Office of Nursing Research will conduct a periodic follow-up survey (*Nursing Research Fellowship Follow-up Assessment*) to monitor fellows' progress after the program. The survey focuses on further research, dissemination (posters, podium presentations, or manuscripts), and citations for published works. Data will be presented in aggregate format. Aggregate data is used for internal ongoing assessment of the program, and submission to the Magnet document(s).

Application Process:

Friday, September 30 - Monday, October 31, 2022	APPLICATION OPEN
Wednesday, November 9 & Thursday, November 10, 2022	Candidate Interviews <i>Individual 45-minute conferences will be scheduled at the close of the application period.</i>
Friday, November 11, 2022	Decision letters sent to candidates and NL

Overview of Syllabus:

December 2022	<i>Pre-class work (online modules)</i>
January 10, 2023	<i>The Basics of Nursing Research: Welcome and Introduction</i>
February 14, 2023	<i>Review of the Literature</i>
March 14, 2023	<i>Study Designs</i>
April 11, 2023	<i>Quantitative Research</i>
April 25, 2023	PROTECTED DAY FOR RESEARCH (preliminary biostats meetings if necessary)
May 2, 2023	<i>Qualitative Research</i>
May 23, 2023	PROTECTED DAY FOR RESEARCH
June 13, 2023	<i>Planning for a Grant Submission and Getting your Study Started</i> <i>Working with the Funding Development Team and the Grants & Contracts Office</i> <i>Planning the Budget for Research</i>
July 2023	PROTECTED DAY FOR RESEARCH (TBD with a mentor)
August 2023	PROTECTED DAY FOR RESEARCH (TBD with a mentor)
September 5, 2023	PROTECTED DAY FOR RESEARCH
September 12, 2023	<i>Spreading the Word: Disseminating Nursing Research (Flipped classroom)</i>
September 26, 2023	PROTECTED DAY FOR RESEARCH
October 10, 2023	<i>Fellow Presentations to class</i>
October 17, 2023	<i>Making it Stick: Leadership and Organizational Change</i>
<i>MSK Fellows will present at a Nursing Grand Rounds in 2023 as a culmination of their work in the Fellowship</i>	

Note: Dates of classes, as well as a final order of content, will be published in the full syllabus with acceptance letters.