

## Breakthrough T1D Diabetes Psychology Fellowship Program

### **KEY DATES**

**Release Date: August 2024**

**Application Submission Deadline: October 23, 2024**

**Applicants Notified of Funding Decisions: February 14, 2025**

**Earliest Start Date: April 01, 2025**

### **Description:**

- To increase capacity in type 1 diabetes related clinical psychology and type 1 diabetes related psychology research, Breakthrough T1D has created a Diabetes Psychology Fellowship program. The applicant is required to work with a mentor who can provide a training environment conducive to a career in type 1 diabetes-relevant psychosocial research. At the time of award activation, the applicant must have a doctoral degree (PhD, PsyD, MD), or an equivalent from an accredited institution and must not be simultaneously serving an internship or residency.

### **Applicant Eligibility:**

Each applicant must have documented research experience, a career interest in type 1 diabetes specialized psychology and must have a PsyD, PhD, MD or an equivalent degree.

The fellowship is intended for those at a relatively early stage of their career. Ordinarily, the most recent doctoral degree will have been received no more than 5 years prior to the application submission. Breakthrough T1D is sensitive to personal and COVID-related matters that impact career trajectories. Applicants who have taken leave from their career (e.g. parenting of a child, childbirth, long-term care of a parent/spouse/child/dependent, personal health issues), or experienced a delay in their training due to COVID shutdowns that put them outside of the eligibility time frame for the award mechanism should feel free to reach out to Breakthrough T1D staff ahead of their application submission. Breakthrough T1D aims to be flexible and adjust these time frames if necessary and appropriate.

There are no citizenship requirements for this program. To assure continued excellence and diversity among applicants and awardees, this funding opportunity welcomes applications from all qualified individuals and encourages applications from persons with disabilities, women, and members of minority groups underrepresented in the sciences.

Fellowships cannot be awarded to the same fellow more than 1 time.

### **Program Description:**

The Breakthrough T1D psychology fellowship program encourages diabetes psychology research work or a combination of clinical psychological diabetes work and diabetes psychology research. The duration of the postdoctoral fellowship can be up to 2 years, with a start date in the spring/summer of 2025.

### *Mentor*

The applicant must be supervised by an investigator who is affiliated full-time with an accredited institution and who agrees to supervise the applicant's training. Fellow and mentor need to be at the same institution at the start of the fellowship.

### *Institution*

Fellowship research may be conducted at public and private organizations such as universities, colleges, hospitals, laboratories. All fellowship locations shall be attached to an academic institution and a psychological and/or diabetes program.

### *Expectations*

At the conclusion of the fellowship, each fellow should have at least 2 manuscripts related to work carried out during the award either submitted or ready for submission. Fellows should also have submitted to the ADA, EASD, AADE, ADS, and/or ADEA and/or, equivalent meetings, for presentation via poster or oral session. All abstract submissions and manuscripts should be shared with Breakthrough T1D and should acknowledge Breakthrough T1D.

### *Operations:*

Fellows and mentors will be expected to communicate with Breakthrough T1D on a quarterly basis. Fellows are also expected to participate in the Breakthrough T1D managed quarterly online learning program. The online learning program will include deep dive learning opportunities for fellows related to diabetes and psychology.

### *Human Subjects Research:*

For a project proposing Human Subject Research, please review the [Scientific Guidelines](#).

## **Application Requirements**

### A research plan containing the following:

The template can be found in RMS360.

#### *1. Cover Letter*

Applicants should write a detailed cover letter that explains why this fellowship is a good fit for them. Applicants should detail relevant experience, particularly in type 1 diabetes, in this letter. The cover letter should not exceed 1 page.

#### *2. Research Project Proposal*

The proposal should be suitable for a 1-year or 2-year fellowship training period (up to 24 months). The project should be specific, substantive, and relevant to type 1 diabetes. Extensive discussion between the applicant and the mentor is expected in the development of this research proposal to identify appropriate research project goals and feasibility.

The document may not exceed 3 pages, including all figures and tables. The document will be considered along with the entire application and will provide an example of the applicant's writing style and critical thought. Preference will be given to proposals combining research and clinical work.

#### *3. Clinical Experience*

Outline of applicant's clinical experience. This should not exceed 1 page.

#### *4. Future Career Plan Statement*

The applicant must include a statement of career goals and indicate the relevance of these goals to type 1 diabetes-related research. The Future Career Plan Statement is limited to 1 page.

### A letter of Support from Mentor/Supervisor



The template can be found in RMS360. The letter should include: the mentor's biographical sketch, list of previous trainees, and a statement of the plan for training, supervision, guidance, counseling or other formal or informal training of the applicant; a description of the resources and/or mentoring activities available through the institution to support career development of young investigators. A template for this letter can be found in the additional attachments section of the application and should be uploaded in there once complete.

References. The template can be found in [RMS360](#)

Letters of Reference: 2 Total References

These references should be able to discuss the applicant's scientific abilities and overall career potential. References may not be the same as the mentor.

The reference letters must be submitted by the referees via email. These letters need to be sent to [preawardsupport@breakthrough1d.org](mailto:preawardsupport@breakthrough1d.org) prior to the submission deadline. Applicants will need to provide their referees with the template, which can be found in the additional attachments section of the application. Please note that applicants cannot submit reference letters on their referee's behalf.

#### Institutional Commitment

The submission of the proposal to Breakthrough T1D by the institution's research office commits the institution to hire the fellow if they receive the Breakthrough T1D grant. If the applicant is not currently associated with a research institution, please reach out to the Breakthrough T1D Scientific Program Contact below to discuss.

#### **Term of Award, Stipend & Application Deadline**

Awards are for 1 or 2 years. While not a requirement, fellows are encouraged to devote part of their effort towards clinical diabetes care during the fellowship term. Recipients of the Breakthrough T1D award cannot hold another postdoctoral fellowship at the same time. Fellows should be cognizant of any licensure requirements, if applicable, at the beginning of the fellowship and establish a plan for achievement with the mentor within the first month of the fellowship. Funds may only be used towards the fellow's salary.

Funds may only be used towards the fellow's salary/stipend. No other costs are allowed. Please enter 100% for the % effort and 0 for fringe in the salaries and wages section of the application budget along with the justification. Leave the rest of the budget blank. Fellowship stipends are paid only in USD can be requested for up to a maximum of **\$65,000 USD** per year.

#### *Instructions to Submit an application:*

Applicants should register and submit their applications in [RMS360](#).

All applications are due no later than **October 23, 2024 by 5pm Eastern.**

#### *Review Process:*

Fellowships in this highly competitive program will be awarded on the basis of the applicant's previous experience, academic record, the caliber of the proposed research, and the quality of the mentor, training program, and environment. The relevance of the proposal to the diabetes community, particularly to treatment of young adult or adult or special populations will also be considered.

The applicant's professional ability and promise for a research or clinical career in type 1 diabetes will hold the highest priority in selection and will be assessed based on the letters of recommendation, career plans, prior clinical and research training, academic transcripts, and the mentor's endorsement. Location in a department that will provide a stimulating research environment is an additional factor that will be considered in evaluating applicants.



**Breakthrough T1D™**

Formerly JDRF

**Program Contacts:**

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