



NAPS2 Mentorship Program for Junior Investigator

In an effort to support new investigators in the field of RBD and prodromal synucleinopathies, NAPS2 has implemented a mentorship program for junior investigators.

NAPS2 Mentorship Program is a research program designed to aid the career development of promising early career researchers in RBD and prodromal synucleinopathies by providing:

- access to NAPS2 data, biological samples, and infrastructure,
- support for futures research projects, and
- opportunities to network with senior investigators in this field of research

NAPS2 is supported by the National Institute on Aging (NIA) and the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), both part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

PURPOSE

The NAPS2 Mentorship Program is aimed at providing access to NAPS2 data and biological samples, guidance, support, and networking to better position junior investigators for a successful career in RBD and prodromal synucleinopathies research. The aims are to:

- Support RBD research among early career investigators who are focusing their research in genetic, epidemiological or clinical science.
- Disseminate information required for pursuing a research career in science.
- Offer opportunities to use the NAPS2 data and/or infrastructure for obtaining grant funding.
- Provide an opportunity to network, and to receive mentorship from senior investigators.

OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of NAPS2 Mentorship Program, mentees will be expected to:

- Present at NAPS2 Projects & Publications meetings
- Further develop specific aims for their grant proposal

One trainee per year will be selected by the Executive Committee for the Trainee Travel Award to the Annual Investigators' Meeting, where s/he will present a scientific abstract.

PROGRAM

The NAPS2 Mentorship Program consists of access to: NAPS2 data and biological samples to conduct a research project in the field of RBD or prodromal synucleinopathies; monthly online presentations on RBD; opportunities for collaboration and networking. As active participants, junior investigators will have the opportunity to present their current research. Each mentee will be paired with one or more senior investigators in NAPS, who will be familiar with the protocols and procedures, and who will have extensive research experience in the field of RBD.



The primary goal of the program will be to produce original research and publications that use NAPS data as the primary source material. The key secondary goal will be to benefit from specific guidance into research methodology as well as general career advice and coaching from a successful senior researcher.

ELIGIBILITY

The following individuals are eligible to apply:

- Physicians (MD) who have started their academic research career within the past 5 years, or who are currently enrolled in their final year of a fellowship program.
- Researchers (PhD or other similar doctoral degree) who have started their academic research career within the past 5 years or have an academic appointment starting in the next year.

REVIEW CRITERIA AND PROCESS

The NAPS2 Executive Committee will evaluate all submitted applications. Factors that will be taken into consideration include:

1. Clear commitment to an academic research career through publication and project efforts, and training to date.
2. Current or planned research is of excellent quality and relevant to the goals of NAPS2.
3. Focused future career goals in RBD or prodromal synucleinopathies research.
4. A description of how participation in the NAPS2 Mentorship Program will enhance the applicant's career trajectory in research.

APPLICATION

The application deadline is Nov 1, 2023. Combine the following documents into a single PDF and upload for submission to:

- A cover sheet, including letter of intent focused on the research criteria above.
- CV (maximum 4 pages) or Fellowship-format NIH Biosketch.
- Project Proposal maximum 1 page.

✉ Please email application to NAPS_Me.bgzmtjwx6adttkaw@u.box.com