



Biobehavioral Oncology Training Program

Request for Applications

PURPOSE

The Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) Cancer Center in Milwaukee is now accepting applications for its two-year Biobehavioral Oncology Training (BBOT) Program, a unique postdoctoral fellowship designed to drive transformative research in cancer disparities.

This program offers an exceptional opportunity to work alongside leading experts at MCW's Cancer Center, addressing the full spectrum of cancer care—from prevention to survivorship.

With a focus on the intersection of biological and behavioral factors in cancer prevention, control, and treatment, the program integrates two critical themes:

1. Biological Basis of Stress & Disparities
2. Behavior & Social Determinants of Health



DISTINGUISHED MENTORS

BBOT mentors are all funded principal investigators with cancer-relevant extramural support. They include PhDs, MDs, and MD/PhDs appointed in 12+ departments and interdepartmental programs, spanning basic, clinical, and population sciences.

Together, mentors bring a wealth of expertise in epidemiology, cancer biology, genetics, biostatistics, neuroscience, immunology, and behavioral medicine and interventions.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Current CV
- Three letters of recommendation (including one from an academic mentor)
- Two writing samples (preferably published)
- A brief personal statement of research interests, including recent accomplishments and future plans related to biobehavioral oncology (2 pg./1,000 word max.)
- Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents (hold a green card)
- Applications received by April 15, 2026 given priority; additional applications will be considered based on a case by case basis.
- **Start date: Fall 2026**

MENTORS BY THEME

Biological Basis of Stress & Disparities

[Paul Auer, PhD](#)
[Andreas Beyer, PhD](#)
[Terri deRoon Cassini, PhD](#)
[Joseph Goveas, MD](#)
[Heather Himborg, PhD](#)
[Karin Hoffmeister, MD](#)
[Sarah Kerns, PhD, MPH](#)
[Jennifer Knight, MD, MS*](#)
[John Mantsch, PhD](#)
[Sridhar Rao, MD, PhD](#)

Behavior & Social Determinants of Health

[Kirsten Beyer, PhD, MPH](#)
[Matthew Dellinger, PhD](#)
[Julia Dickson-Gomez, PhD](#)
[Kathryn Flynn, PhD](#)
[Ann Nattinger, MD, MPH](#)
[Alan Nyitray, PhD](#)
[Lisa Sanchez-Johnsen, PhD, MS](#)
[Melinda Stolley, PhD*](#)
[Staci Young, PhD](#)

*BBOT Co-Director



ELIGIBILITY

- Qualified program candidates will possess an advanced degree and demonstrate a clear focus in research.
- PhD applicants will have obtained their doctoral degree in a program with a strong foundation in basic, clinical, behavioral, or social sciences, with documented research training.
- MD/DO trainees are eligible after completing their clinical training and must have demonstrated a strong interest in research through prior lab experience, specialized research tracks, summer research programs, publications, or scientific presentations.



WHY TRAIN AT THE MCW CANCER CENTER



Gain access to **Wisconsin's largest cancer clinical trials program**, nationally recognized* for its excellence, with over 220 active trials.



Connect with investigators ranked among the **Top 5% worldwide for publishing** impactful research.



Find your home at **the MCW Center for Cancer Discovery**, Wisconsin's first and only facility dedicated exclusively to cancer research.

*1 of 32 top U.S. academic medical centers recognized as a National Clinical Trials Network Lead Academic Participating Site by the National Cancer Institute.



POSITION YOURSELF FOR SUCCESS

- Explore novel ideas and develop expertise, allowing for the development of a focused research agenda and trajectory.
- Gain a deep understanding of cancer disparities from a biology to policy perspective.
- Build collaborative networks across disciplines and academic levels to support future success.
- Obtain the knowledge, skills, and experience to secure a competitive tenure-track faculty position.



To apply, scan the bar code or visit:
cancer.mcw.edu/trainees/postdoctoral-trainees