



Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Openings

in the integration of

Substance Use Prevention Science and Innovative Methodology

Overview

The interdisciplinary Prevention and Methodology Training (PAMT) program anticipates funding for another five years. In anticipation of renewed funding, we now seek pre-doctoral graduate students to consider for the 2026-2027 cohort. PAMT is an in-residence fellowship program funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse through a T32 grant administered by the Edna Bennett Pierce Prevention Research Center. PAMT's purpose is to produce **substance use prevention scientists focused on integrating prevention science and innovative methodology**. PAMT offers a unique opportunity for highly motivated graduate students to continue their training in a synergistic environment that includes some of the top prevention scientists and methodologists in the country. To achieve trainees' individualized training goals, the program offers (1) interdisciplinary instruction on substance use, prevention science, and innovative methods; (2) mentored experiential training in all aspects of research; (3) training in professional skills and the responsible conduct of research; (4) proseminars including workshops on methods, health equity, cultural competence, and goal tracking; (5) mentorship in grant writing. At the end of the training period, each trainee will have his or her own area of emphasis, and all will be conversant in both the science of substance use prevention and methodology. To foster this integration, all trainees have two mentors: At least one mentor is a substance use prevention scientist and one a methodologist.

Highlights

- Two mentors facilitate rigorous training in integration of substance use prevention science and innovative methodology
- Active involvement in interdisciplinary research collaborations with opportunities to present and publish
- Protected time to develop research expertise and build program of research
- Proseminars and workshops dedicated to innovative methods, health equity, cultural competence, and professional skills
- Residence in State College area is expected

Who is eligible

Graduate students at Penn State (UP campus) from all relevant departments are encouraged to apply. Successful candidates typically will have completed most core coursework for their PhD and be in 3rd year of graduate education or higher. Awards include 12-month stipends for 1-2 years. Year 2 funding is contingent upon 1st year performance. Health insurance, tuition, and travel funds are provided. Thanks to generous match funds from the Colleges of Health and Human Development and of Liberal Arts, US and non-US students can apply.

How to apply

Submit materials electronically to Carol Masullo (cam83@psu.edu) by **5 p.m. on Friday, March 6, 2026**

- Statement of research interests and goals for the traineeship, including names of potential substance use prevention and methodology mentors. See our [website at pamt.psu.edu](http://website.at.pamt.psu.edu) for affiliated faculty; other faculty may be proposed. Applicants should confirm mentors' interest prior to submitting applications.
- Curriculum vitae
- List of graduate courses taken with grades
- List of graduate courses in which candidate plans to enroll during the training period
- One letter of reference submitted directly by a faculty member to Carol Masullo by the deadline.

Questions?

Please see our [website at pamt.psu.edu](http://website.at.pamt.psu.edu) for more information before applying.

For specific inquiries please contact Dr. Jeremy Staff, PAMT Executive Co-Lead, at jus25@psu.edu.