

The Active Minds Emerging Scholars Fellowship, generously supported by the Scattergood Foundation for Behavioral Health, provides an opportunity for students to complete funded, independent mental health projects and to be connected with a network of young scholars and national experts in the field of behavioral health. The Fellowship is currently seeking unique and thought-provoking research proposals or creative projects related to mental health for the 2016-2017 program cycle.

The Emerging Scholars Fellowship program aims to expand the body of literature, creative expression, and discourse devoted to mental health with a particular emphasis on issues relevant to young adult communities. It also encourages creativity in the development of a project that reflects interest in behavioral health issues; a wide range of project types (i.e. research papers, art installations, photo exhibits, and printed resources) are likely to receive funding. Human-subjects research is not suggested.

During the six (6) month fellowship program – which includes both online and in-person components – scholars will complete their projects, build a peer network, connect professionally with a national mentor and gain experience distributing their content to college audiences. To support their work, scholars will be awarded a \$1,000 stipend and may also apply for an additional \$250 in reimbursement for project material expenses.

Time spent on projects will differ based on the type of work being completed, but scholars should expect to spend *at least* 1-3 hours per week on their project between the months of January and June. There will be two all-day, expense paid, in-person meetings – 1) in **February 2017** for scholars and 2) in **June 2017** for scholars and their mentors. All applicants must be available on these dates and prepared to attend these meetings if selected as a scholar. **Projects must be completed, finalized and submitted by Friday, June 9, 2017.**

Project proposals will be accepted and reviewed until 9:00pm ET on December 11, 2016. Preference will be given to early submissions. Please submit your proposal online at www.activeminds.org/scholars. All applicants will be notified by **January 10, 2017**, with a formal announcement released on **January 17, 2017**.

Six (6) proposals will be accepted into the 2017 cycle, with the additional selection of a seventh scholar dedicated to researching communities of color. Proposals will be reviewed and scored on:

- a) Topic relevance and innovation
- b) Clarity of the proposal
- c) Feasibility of the project
- d) Ability of the project content and dissemination strategy to garner general interest, stimulate dialogue and raise awareness of mental health issues
- e) Overall qualifications, strength and commitment of the student applicant

All accepted applicants will be named "Emerging Scholars," with the seventh, focusing on communities of color, being named the "Stephen C. Rose Legacy Scholar."

Each Emerging Scholars project must include a “live” public dissemination strategy such as a public lecture or presentation, film screening, self-managed website, written or video blog, or installation/exhibit. The public dissemination component of fellowship projects is meant to provide an opportunity for productive mental health dialogue and learning among peers, faculty and each scholar’s greater campus community.

In addition to the “live” public dissemination component, every scholar is expected to manage a profile page – housed on www.activeminds.org/scholars – and blog regularly during their fellowship cycle to share their work with the Active Minds network and larger field. These components will aid in the accessibility of each project to the general public. Web content may include profile updates, photographs of the project in action, videos, any visual representations that bring the project to life and more.

Participation in the Emerging Scholars Fellowship provides a unique opportunity for leadership development and mentorship in the field of mental health. Scholars are also encouraged to apply with a campus advisor in mind to help support and guide the project. Scholars will also be matched with a National Fellowship Mentor based on 1) their proposed topic; 2) relevant researchers in their field or 3) project needs identified by the Review Committee. Mentors will review and approve monthly progress reports from scholars, as well as provide overall project guidance and support.

Exemplary projects will be selected for presentation at the Active Minds National Mental Health on Campus Conference in the fall. Scholars whose projects are selected will have the opportunity to present their project at the conference and share their findings and research with student mental health advocates from across the country.

Who Can Apply

The Emerging Scholars Fellowship encourages proposals from all interested undergraduate and graduate students across the U.S. and is dedicated to maximizing diversity within the scholar network. This fellowship is not limited to individuals studying or majoring in behavioral health, and welcomes proposals from all disciplines (i.e. biology, sociology, public health and graphic design).

Individuals seeking selection into the Emerging Scholars Fellowship program must:

- Complete your proposal by answering the questions starting on page 4 according to the guidelines.
- Submit a one-page C.V. or resume.
- Submit proof of official IRB approval, if such approval is needed.

You may also include one (1) letter of recommendation from a personal mentor or campus advisor who can help us better appreciate your aptitude as an Emerging Scholar.

Proposal Guidelines

To streamline the application and review process, we ask all candidates to adhere to the universal formatting and submission standards provided. In a thorough, yet brief manner - *not to exceed four (4) pages* - please provide responses to the specific questions appearing on page 4.

Projects should have concrete objectives and timelines and must include a “live” public dissemination component. Although we are looking for ambitious scholars, please focus proposals on achievable objectives, which will realistically fit within the constraints of the 6-month program period.

How to Apply

You can access the proposal submission form by visiting www.activeminds.org/scholars. Once you access the form, you will need to fill in general contact information, attach/upload your completed proposal and C.V. or resume, and then click “submit.”

Proposals will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis until **9:00pm ET on December 11, 2016**. Preference will be given to early submissions. Applicants will be notified by **January 10, 2017**.

Applicant Name	
Project Title	

Please check the box below for the Fellowship(s) for which you're applying:

**Applicants may select more than one box.*

- Active Minds Emerging Scholars Fellowship
- The Steven C. Rose Legacy Scholar Fellowship (focus on communities of color)

1. Project Topic: Please describe your project. What do you plan to investigate? What questions would you like to pursue, and why are they important and timely to address?

We encourage (but do not require) projects that are relevant to college-aged populations.

2. Method and Results: How do you plan to explore your topic of interest and present your Emerging Scholars Fellowship project? Please walk us through your timeline and phases of development over the course of the Fellowship. Additionally, describe in detail exactly what your finished product(s) will look like.

We encourage projects which lend themselves to further research or action after completion. Human-subjects research is not suggested.

3. Dissemination Plan: Please describe your dissemination strategy. How do you plan to communicate and share your work? What avenues and forms of communication will you utilize? How will your project engage an outside audience and garner interest? How will you populate, manage and utilize your scholar page on the Active Minds website?

The dissemination plan is meant to involve your field, peers, faculty and greater campus community in conversations about mental health.

4. Background: How do your career plans and personal experiences relate to your project proposal? How are your academic and extracurricular interests relevant to this Fellowship? What experiences have you had personally or in the field that relate to your project and will prepare you to succeed?

5. New or Existing Project: Is your proposed topic and/or project associated with any other efforts of yours (e.g. part of a class, part of a dissertation, a pilot for a future funding application)?

6. Interest and Commitment: Why do you want to participate in the Emerging Scholars Fellowship? What will you contribute to the program and what do you hope to gain from it?

7. Campus Advisor: Who do you plan to work with on your campus to help guide your research/project?

Applicants are strongly encouraged to work with a local faculty member or other professional expert in addition to the remote mentor arranged through the Emerging Scholars Fellowship.

8. Fellowship Mentor: Are you aware of any leaders in the field doing work related to your project that you would like to have as a Fellowship Mentor?