



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: 2025 GERIATRIC FACULTY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 6, 2025

The University of Rochester Aging Institute (URAI) is pleased to announce the call for applications for the 2025 Geriatric Faculty Scholars Program. The Geriatric Faculty Scholars Program is open to junior and mid-career academic faculty from the School of Nursing and School of Medicine & Dentistry with an interest in aging who wish to spearhead program development through geriatric education within their School, Program, Division, and/or Department. The Geriatric Faculty Scholars Program will enhance the Scholars' teaching and leadership skills and facilitate their career development as academic leaders with a clinical, educational, and/or research niche in geriatrics & gerontology that advances the paradigm of the **Age-Friendly Health System (AFHS)**. An AFHS incorporates "4Ms" of care that health systems need to address for older adults: what matters, medication, mentation, and mobility. Additional information on the AFHS can be found here:

<http://www.ihl.org/Engage/Initiatives/Age-Friendly-Health-Systems/Pages/default.aspx>

The goal is for the Geriatric Faculty Scholars to mentor trainees and other faculty in their respective discipline ensuring a 'trickle – down' effect for all developed geriatrics educational initiatives. The use of the team mentoring model ensures the maximum educational impact with incremental increase in the number of learners at each level.

The UR Geriatric Faculty Scholars Program is designed to:

- Develop faculty with an interest in gerontology and geriatrics who create innovative programs that promote an AFHS to improve the care of older adults by increasing the geriatric knowledge and skill of health care providers at various levels of training and professional development, from students to senior faculty and disseminating AFHS principles.
- Develop faculty equipped to mentor health professional trainees in newly developed AFHS educational initiatives to promote ongoing workforce preparedness to care for older adults.
- Promote interprofessional training and collaboration to improve the quality and safety of health care for older adults throughout URMC.

In this program, Scholars will work closely with URAI and Division of Geriatrics & Aging Faculty Mentors to:

- Identify knowledge and skills gaps in older adult care and geriatric principles within URMC, UR Medicine, Eastman Institute of Oral Health, and the broader Rochester community.
- Promote the development of URMC as an Age-Friendly Health System (AFHS) by incorporating the "4M" principles into their projects.
- Lead program development to improve quality of care for older adults through the development, implementation and evaluation of competency-based education projects.
- Provide mentorship and guidance to health professional trainees (students, residents, chief residents, fellows, junior faculty) as they develop their own education projects.
- Participate in URAI and UR Division of Geriatrics related educational activities and workshops.
- Disseminate scholarly products in local and national forums.

Eligibility

The UR Geriatric Faculty Scholars Program is open UR School of Nursing and UR School of Medicine & Dentistry faculty at the Instructor through Associate Professor level who are committed to academic careers and have an interest in geriatric/gerontology program development.

Selection Criteria

- The applicant's commitment to program development and education at the undergraduate, graduate, and/or continuing professional education level as part of his/her anticipated academic career trajectory
- The applicant's willingness to serve as a mentor and educator of trainees and faculty
- Identification of a suitable faculty mentor from their School, Program, Division and/or Department for the project and documentation of mentor's support. **A second faculty mentor from the URAI or Division of Geriatrics will be identified for successful applicants.**
- Sufficient protected time from the applicant's School, Program, Division and/or Department Chair, given that the project will enhance the care of older adults and/or the education of providers
Preference will be given to applications addressing health disparities, cultural competence, or include the care of historically marginalized older adults and populations with unique care needs, including but not limited to rural, LGBTQ+, Deaf, and those living with HIV/AIDS.

Stipend: A stipend of \$10,000 will be provided to the recipient's Department/Division/School to provide salary support, project funds, and/or travel funds for the Scholar as defined in a proposed budget from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026. A minimum of two applicants will be accepted for this funding cycle, contingent on available funds.

Application Materials

1. A **one-page personal statement** explaining career path and goals for participation in the Geriatric Faculty Scholars Program including increasing personal knowledge/skills and short-term and long-term plans for academic/professional development in geriatrics/gerontology education
2. A **two-page project proposal** including defined objectives, description of the anticipated educational program and proposed scholarly outcomes or evaluation measures, project timeline and a brief line-item budget defining how the \$10,000 stipend will be allocated to cover associated costs. Acceptable cost allocation in the budget include such line items as: salary support (for faculty scholar, project coordinator or data assistant), travel for professional conference(s) such as the American Geriatrics Society Conference or a professional conference related to aging in the scholar's discipline (including registration fees, airfare or mileage, and hotel), professional organization membership fees, costs for survey distribution or data collection, direct costs for program implementation, office supplies, or educational materials (purchased workbooks, textbooks, curricula, slides, or brochures). Capital equipment costs such as computers, tablets, or other hardware and food/refreshments for trainings are not allowable budget cost items supported under this funding.
3. **Curriculum vitae** of the faculty scholar highlighting educational contributions, scholarship, and leadership
4. **Two letters of support**
 - 1) School (Dean) / Program / Department (Chair or Division Chief)
 - 2) Proposed Departmental mentor (If the Department Chair, then a letter of recommendation from a senior faculty member within own program, School, or a Division of Geriatrics mentor)

The letters should describe the mentor's role in the proposed project and in the applicant's career development. This may include the frequency of planned mentoring meetings, commitment to protected time, how the mentor and Department/Division/School will support the applicant in accomplishing goals within the proposed timeline. The mentor and Chief/Chair/Dean letter should comment on how participation as a Geriatric Faculty Scholar will help advance the applicant's career and expand the impact of the project in the applicant's own department / school and for our institution.

Application Submission

- Application materials are to be submitted as a single combined pdf file
- Applications should be single spaced and utilize 1-inch margins and size 12 font
- **Submit applications electronically via email by 5:00pm ET on Monday January 6, 2025, to:**

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Geriatric Scholars: Application Review Scoring Rubric

Criterion	Elements
Need (Maximum Points 30)	<p>The extent to which the application describes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the need for the proposed Geriatric Scholars Award; b) the applicant’s commitment to program development and medical education at the undergraduate, graduate and/or continuing medical education level as part of his/her anticipated career trajectory c) the applicant’s professional responsibilities in the grantee institution and elsewhere; d) the applicant’s teaching efforts to this point in his/her academic career (esp. those in geriatrics), including any publications; and e) evidence of the applicant’s potential to develop a career in academia.
Response (Maximum Points 20)	<p>The extent to which the work proposed in the application will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) increase the geriatric knowledge and skill of physicians and nurses at various levels of training and professional development, from students to senior faculty. b) promote inter-specialty and inter-professional training and collaboration; c) improve the quality and safety of older adult care in the UR Health System; and d) Promote the development of URM as an Age-Friendly Health System (AFHS) by incorporating the “4 M” principles into their projects. e) have the potential for both local and national dissemination and/or the degree to which the project activities are replicable and sustainable
Willingness (Maximum Points 10)	<p>The extent to which the application describes a willingness to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) serve as a mentor and educator of trainees and faculty b) interact with and learn from other Geriatrics Scholars and experts locally and nationally. c) <u>Promote the AFHS paradigm locally, regionally & nationally</u>
Potential Impact (Maximum Points 15)	<p>The extent to which the application describes a scholar who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) is a junior–early midcareer faculty member (the longer the time in faculty position, the smaller number of points should be awarded). b) is an applicant who has never received funding as a recipient of a past Reynold’s Grant Challenge grant or Geriatric Scholars Award; and c) is likely, after completion of the Geriatric Scholars program, to continue as a full-time academic teaching faculty member teaching interdisciplinary education with a focus in geriatrics. d) addresses both short and long-term goals (i.e., publication, dissemination, sustainability, systems change, application to other populations) related to this project
Resources and Supports (Maximum Points 15)	<p>The extent to which the application describes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Strong support from a suitable mentor from their Program, Division and/or Department; b) Strong support from the applicant’s Program, Division and/or Department Chair; and c) A supportive environment for the achievement of the applicant’s goals including adequate time provided to achieve the project goals.
Preferential Focus (Maximum Points 10)	<p>The extent to which the application describes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A focus of addressing health disparities, cultural competence; and/or b) A focus on improving the care of marginalized populations of older adults, including but not limited to rural, LGBTQ+, BIPOC, Deaf, those living with HIV/AIDS, and indigenous populations.