VA CAREER DEVELOPMENT (CDA) PSYCHIATRY PATHWAY

The VA Career Development Program is an intramural funding mechanism designed to attract, develop, and retain clinician scientists in VA. Many VA psychiatrists have come through the Career Development program and now serve as leading mental health researchers in VA. With the urgent need to hire more psychiatrists and develop a competitive career pathway, the CDA-1 and Career Development Transition Award (CDTA) have been introduced as part of a pilot program to support psychiatrists in a VA research career.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD – 1 (CDA-1)

The CDA-1 provides an initial/early mentored research experience consisting of up to two years of salary support to highly qualified psychiatrists.

- Must have an accepted Letter of Intent (LOI) to submit an application
- Must be within two years of obtaining terminal degree (MD)
- Must not have been a PI/Co-PI on a peer-reviewed independent research grant/award

CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD – 2 (CDA-2)

The CDA-2 provides salary and research support for a three to five year mentored program of research.

- Must have an accepted LOI to submit an application (not required for former CDA-1 awardees)
- Must be no more than 5 years past last clinical training and no more than 10 years past receipt of MD
- Must not have been a PI/Co-PI on peer-reviewed independent research grant/award

CAREER DEVELOPMENT TRANSITION AWARD (CDTA)

The CDTA provides salary support for psychiatrists who currently hold their first VA Merit Review award.

For more information about the VA Career Development Psychiatry Pathway please send inquiries to: vhacadereview@va.gov.

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