




Marcus
AUTISM CENTER

FELLOWSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES

ADVANCE UNDERSTANDING OF
AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD)

PREDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Marcus Autism Center, in conjunction with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Emory University School of Medicine, is offering two-year predoctoral research fellowships in five scientific subspecialties. Fellows will participate in innovative research to provide novel solutions to complex problems in a robust clinical environment.

Our fellowships

The Donald J. Cohen Fellowship in Developmental Social Neuroscience will select fellows for a two-year training in the study of child development and social neuroscience in children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

The Simons Fellowship in Computational Neuroscience will select fellows for a two-year training at the nexus of computer science and psychology to integrate computational strategies with clinical research goals.

The Samsky Fellowship in Education Science will select fellows for a two-year training in research methodologies to study intervention implementation in educational settings for children with ASD.

The Sally Provence Fellowship in Clinical Research will select fellows for a two-year training in clinical assessment measures and research methodologies to better understand ASD and related disabilities.

The ACCESS Fellowship in Implementation Science will select fellows for a two-year training in research focused on translating evidence-based treatments for autism into community settings, as well as the processes and partnerships that support these efforts.

Research training program

Our research fellowships are intended for college graduates to dedicate two intensive years to research on ASD prior to entering graduate studies. Fellows will participate in and guide innovative research while working with families and children affected by ASD, ranging in age, from week-old infants to adolescents and young adults.

Fellows receive direct research mentorship from the program directors and Marcus Autism Center faculty members and are involved in a highly active and productive community of clinical research scientists. In addition to research training and mentorship, fellows also complete an intensive summer training seminar covering clinical research in ASD (one week), ASD grand rounds meetings (twice a month), social neuroscience lab meetings (weekly) and ongoing didactic practica. Fellows are strongly encouraged and expected to submit their research for posters and publications and will be funded to attend at least one conference a year.

All six fellowship tracks are paid two-year positions with full healthcare coverage.

Visit <https://med.emory.edu/departments/pediatrics/divisions/autism/fellow/index.html> for more information and to download an application.



PREDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Research at Marcus Autism Center

Marcus Autism Center is the largest center for clinical care of children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and their families in the U.S., seeing more than 5,000 patients every year. The center also works in partnership with Emory National Primate Research Center, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and Georgia Institute of Technology. These varied institutions enable a multidisciplinary and translational approach to ASD research, spanning projects in behavioral neuroscience, neuroimaging, molecular and population genetics, and treatment. The directors of the Fellowship Program lead the social neuroscience, spoken communication, neuroimaging and education sciences research cores within Marcus Autism Center. These research cores use eye-tracking technology, neuroimaging, computational modeling and behavioral neuroscience methods to better understand the causes and developmental mechanisms underlying ASD, and to develop new tools to improve early detection, diagnosis and treatment of ASD.

Application information

Sponsor institutions: Marcus Autism Center, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Emory University School of Medicine

Program directors: Ami Klin, PhD; Warren Jones, PhD; Sarah Shultz, PhD; Laura Edwards, PhD; Cheryl Klaiman, PhD; Stormi Pulver, PhD; Katherine Pickard, PhD; Jocelyn Kuhn, PhD; Sally Fuhrmeister, MS, CCC-SLP; Gordon Ramsay, PhD

Term of award: Two years

Submission deadline: Monday, Jan. 6, 2025

Award amount: \$38,000 during first year; \$39,000 during second year

All applications must be submitted electronically. The online application portal will open in October 2024.

To complete your online application, you will need a resume or curriculum vitae, a statement of purpose, two letters of recommendation and a scanned transcript(s).

Visit <https://med.emory.edu/departments/pediatrics/divisions/autism/fellow/index.html> or call 404-785-9554 for application materials and additional information.

DONALD J. COHEN FELLOWSHIP

IN DEVELOPMENTAL
SOCIAL NEUROSCIENCE

Award description

The Donald J. Cohen Fellowship in Developmental Social Neuroscience provides recent college graduates with the opportunity to spend two years engaged in state-of-the-art clinical and basic research with children and families affected by autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Cohen Fellows are directly mentored by program directors and are involved in a highly active and productive community of clinical research scientists who study ASD. Previous Cohen Fellows have led a wide range of research projects and have gone on to PhD, MD and MD/PhD programs in clinical, developmental and basic science specialties.

Donald J. Cohen (1940–2001) was a nationally and internationally renowned child psychiatrist whose work improved the lives of children and families all around the world. More information about his life and work can be found [here](#).

Fellowship expectations

Cohen Fellows guide a research project from the point of data collection through analysis and publication of results. Over the course of two years, fellows gain in-depth research and clinical experience through work with infants, toddlers and school-aged children spanning the full autism spectrum. Fellows also complete an intensive summer training seminar covering clinical research in ASD (one week), ASD grand rounds meetings (twice a month), social neuroscience lab meetings (weekly) and ongoing didactic practica.

Contact the Marcus Predoctoral Fellowship Committee at marcus.predoc-fellowships@emory.edu or 404-785-9554 with additional questions.



SIMONS FELLOWSHIP

IN COMPUTATIONAL NEUROSCIENCE

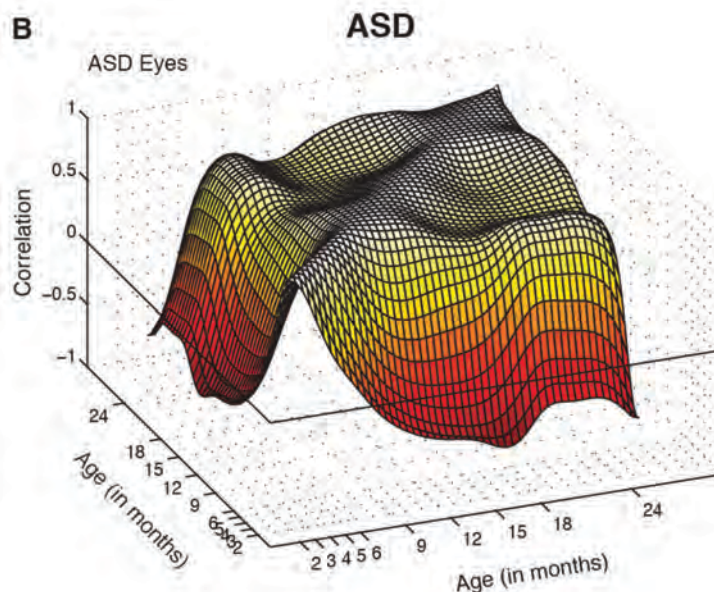
Award description

The Simons Fellowship in Computational Neuroscience provides recent college graduates with the opportunity to spend two years using computer programming and basic science to advance our understanding of autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Simons Fellows are directly mentored by program directors and are involved in a highly active and productive community of clinicians, scientists and engineers who study ASD. Previous Simons Fellows have led a wide range of research projects and have gone on to PhD, MD and MD/PhD programs, as well as research positions in computer and software engineering.

Fellowship expectations

Over the course of two years, Simons Fellows work to integrate computational strategies with clinical research goals, guiding a research project from data collection through analysis and publication of results. Fellows work on developing methods for analyzing visual scanning and eye-tracking data, computational models of visual salience and data visualization techniques, all with the aim of advancing understanding of ASD and efforts at early diagnosis. Fellows also complete a training curriculum through their participation in an intensive summer training seminar covering clinical research in ASD (one week), ASD grand rounds meetings (twice a month), social neuroscience lab meetings (weekly) and ongoing didactic practica.

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SAMSKY FELLOWSHIP

IN EDUCATION SCIENCE

Award description

The Samsky Fellowship in Education Science provides recent college graduates with the opportunity to spend two years engaged in research investigating educational innovations in autism spectrum disorder (ASD), from early childhood through high school. Educational services are the only universal, federally mandated services available to individuals with ASD who are age 3 or older. Yet, little is currently known about the nature of effective components of classroom-based interventions, measurement of teacher implementation and student learning, and implementation of educational innovations in community settings.

Fellows are directly mentored by program directors and involved in a highly active and productive community of clinical/educational research scientists who study ASD. This fellowship aims to serve as a stepping stone for doctoral programs in education, speech-language pathology or developmental/clinical psychology.

Fellowship expectations

Samsky Fellows will be engaged in preschool teaching activities and will lead a research project, from data collection through analysis and publication of results. Over the course of two years, fellows will gain experiences with observational research methods, cutting-edge intervention research and implementation science approaches. Furthermore, they will gain in-depth research and clinical experience through work with toddlers, children and adolescents spanning the full autism spectrum. Fellows also complete an intensive summer training seminar covering clinical research in ASD (one week), ASD grand rounds meetings (twice a month), lab meetings (weekly) and ongoing didactic practica.

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SALLY PROVENCE FELLOWSHIP

IN CLINICAL RESEARCH

Award description

The Sally Provence Fellowship in Clinical Research provides recent college graduates with the opportunity to spend two years engaged in cutting-edge clinical research and to learn various assessment measures commonly used for clinical and diagnostic characterization of autism and related disabilities. Clinical fellows will learn assessments across a variety of domains including cognitive/development, social-behavioral, language, and adaptive functioning. Additionally, they will learn to interpret the commonly used instruments as well as writing up the results for families into a clinical report.

Fellows are directly mentored by clinicians and program directors and involved in a highly active and productive community of interdisciplinary research scientists who study ASD. This fellowship aims to serve as a stepping stone for doctoral programs in clinical psychology PhD and PsyD or MD programs.

Fellowship expectations

Clinical Research Fellows will guide a research project, from data collection through analysis and publication of results. Over two years, fellows will gain in-depth clinical and research experience through work with infants, toddlers, and school-aged children spanning the full autism spectrum. Fellows also complete an intensive summer training seminar covering clinical research in ASD (one week), ASD grand rounds meetings (twice a month), clinical assessment and diagnosis team meetings (once a month), and social neuroscience lab meetings (weekly) and ongoing didactic practica.

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ACCESS FELLOWSHIP

IN IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE

Award description

The ACCESS Fellowship in Implementation Science (ACCESS: Advancing Community Care, Equity, and Sustainability of Services) provides recent college graduates with the opportunity to spend two years engaged in innovative translational research and to learn about the methods used within implementation science to examine the adoption, implementation and sustainment of evidence-based practices within a variety of community systems, including early intervention and public school systems.

ACCESS Fellows will also learn about common evidence-based practices for autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and how these interventions are implemented and adapted across settings in order to meet the needs of caregivers, providers and healthcare systems. This will include learning how community-partnered, mixed-methods and qualitative research can be used to leverage the voice of autistic individuals, families and community stakeholders in implementation processes.

Fellows, who are directly mentored by faculty, will gain experience working alongside key community stakeholders and will be involved in a highly active and productive community of interdisciplinary research scientists who study ASD. This fellowship aims to serve as a stepping stone for doctoral programs in clinical psychology, for students interested in public health, and for Doctor of Psychology and Doctor of Medicine programs.

Fellowship expectations

ACCESS Fellows will guide a research project, from data collection through analysis and publication of results. Over two years, fellows will gain in-depth research experience through active engagement in community training and implementation efforts. Fellows also complete an intensive summer training seminar covering clinical research in ASD (one week), ASD grand rounds meetings (twice a month), implementation science lab meetings (weekly) and ongoing didactic practicum.

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