

MetLife Foundation Journalists in Aging Fellows Program

Grantor: Gerontological Society of America/New America Media/MetLife Foundation

Closes: 8/2/2010

Maximum: \$1,500.00

MetLife Foundation Journalists in Aging Fellows Program

The Gerontological Society of America (GSA) and New America Media (NAM) are welcoming applications — from journalists who cover aging issues and/or who work for ethnic media outlets — for a new fellowship program underwritten by the MetLife Foundation.

By 2030, the number Americans age 65 and over will double to 70 million, with a growing percentage of them coming from ethnic minority populations. The health and social consequences permeate every aspect of life in this country. For instance, the first members of the huge baby boomer generation will get their Medicare cards starting January 1, 2011. While America's mainstream media have largely ignored this burgeoning story, most communities remain under-informed about the wide-ranging challenges of the longevity revolution.

Dates and Location

Selected Fellows will attend GSA's 2010 Annual Scientific Meeting, which is taking place in New Orleans, LA, from November 19 to 23. This event regularly welcomes over 3,000 professionals in the field of aging and the schedule includes hundreds of symposia, papers, and posters — all featuring new research presented for the first time.

Requirements

Each Fellow will be expected to participate in a special day-long pre-conference session and at least two days of general meeting sessions. Fellows will also commit to completing one short-term article about any aspect of the meeting and one longer-term in-depth project of their own design.

All articles must be published, broadcast, or posted through distributed or circulated news media entities rather than personal blogs.

Short-term stories: By December 15, 2010, fellows must have published (or electronically disseminated) or have scheduled for publication (not later than December 31, 2010) an article of not less than 500 words stemming directly from the GSA meeting. Articles can be a news report, feature or commentary (blog), such as reporting on a study or discussion presented at the conference about any aspect of aging.

Long-term projects: Each Fellow will submit a proposal outlining a major article or series that she or he intends to research and write, as well as an agreement by his or her publisher/producer to run the story or stories in their media outlet. By March 1, 2011, Fellows will research and write a story or series of their design, documenting and explaining the pressing issues elders in their respective community are facing. All stories must be edited and approved before publication. Projects must be completed by June 1, 2011.

Fellowship applicants are invited to make proposals on a wide range of subjects, such as caregiving challenges; dementia and its impact; intergenerational activities; healthy aging (including wellness and physical activity); safety education (e.g., falls and fall prevention); health disparities; elder abuse prevention; depression and social isolation; hunger; medication challenges; lifelong learning; art and creativity for older adults; aging in place; age-friendly communities; older-worker issues (e.g., career retraining and encore careers); and civic engagement (mentoring, volunteering, or otherwise “giving back” to society).

Stipend and Travel

Each Fellow will receive a stipend of \$1,500, with half to be paid on arrival at the meeting and the rest upon completion of the project. GSA will arrange and pay for all flights and hotel bookings (up to three nights) in New Orleans, and qualifying local travel expenses (e.g., cab, train, or bus fares) will be reimbursed. Fellows are free to attend the meeting for additional days, although further lodging/travel costs will be the responsibility of the individual or his or her news organization.

Selection Process

The fellowship selection panel will include experts in gerontology and editorial professionals from NAM and GSA. Stories (print or electronic) or multimedia packages will first be published by each Fellow’s news organization and soon thereafter by NAM, as well as posted on the GSA website. All stories must be submitted prior to publication in any medium for approval by project editor Paul Kleyman, director of NAM’s Ethnic Elders Newsbeat.

Additional Information

For further details about fellowship requirements and potential stories, contact NAM Ethnic Elders Editor Paul Kleyman at pkleyman@newamericamedia.org or (415) 503-4170, ext. 133. For further details about how to submit an application, contact GSA Communications Manager Todd Kluss at tkluss@geron.org or (202) 587-2839.

Application Process

Applications will consist of five components:

1. A cover letter or e-mail containing:

Applicant Name

Mailing Address

Office Phone

Mobile Phone

E-mail

Employer (Freelancers must specify their length of affiliation with the outlet that will publish or broadcast the story.)

Employer Address

Employer Phone

2. A resume.

3. A two-page proposal describing the long-term story topic, how the subject will be researched and covered, the number of expected articles and their approximate length, relevance to the audience, and tentative publication date.
4. Three samples of published or broadcast journalistic work, preferably related to politics and policy.
5. A letter or e-mail from the publisher or producer agreeing to publish the story or stories to be considered for the fellowship.

Send all materials to tkluss@geron.org or Todd Kluss, The Gerontological Society of America, 1220 L Street NW, Suite 901, Washington, DC 20005. (E-mail applications should use the subject line "MetLife Fellowship Application" and include items 2 through 5 as attachments or hyperlinks.)

Deadline

Applications must be received by Monday, August 2, 2010.

Link: <https://www.geron.org/Annual%20Meeting/media-center/metlife-foundation-journalists-in-aging-fellows-program>

Categories: Aging, Arts in Health Care, At-Risk Populations, Community Health, Community Service Programs, Dementia , Depression, Disability Issues, Disease-Specific Research, Diversity/Underrepresented Minorities, Domestic Violence , Fellowships, Geriatric Pharmacy, Geriatric Psychiatry, Geriatrics , Gerontology , Health Disparities, Health Economics, Health Policy, Health Promotion, Health Services, Home Health, Medical Journalism, Medication Administration, Medication/Treatment Adherence, Occupational Health, Preventive Medicine, Public Health, Public Outreach and Science Education, Public Policy, Underserved Populations

Audience: Journalist