

# **MSTAR Program Expectations & NIA Requirements**

## **Expectations of Students:**

- \* Commit to 8 - 10 weeks to conduct aging research under the supervision of a faculty mentor.
- \* Attend weekly meetings with your mentor.
- \* Attend required didactic sessions.
- \* Attend any optional scheduled clinical rotations.
- \* Meet with the MSTAR program Facilitator, Dr. Ellen Roberts, to discuss your:
  - Research Project
  - Work dynamic with your Mentor
  - A Range of Other Issues
- \* Complete all evaluations of the program including:
  - Blog (<http://www.afar.org/mstarblog/posts>)
  - UNC MSTAR Site Evaluation (final week)
  - NIA Program Evaluation (will be sent after MSTAR by email)
  - Annual updates related to the results of your research (e.g. presentations, paper, awards)
- \* Contact and update home site faculty sponsor after returning to the home institution at completion of program.
- \* Prepare a manuscript due 90 days from program completion date to be submitted to [MSTAR@med.unc.edu](mailto:MSTAR@med.unc.edu)  
The paper should contain all of the following sections:
  - Title, Authors, Abstract, Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgments, Bibliography
- \* Submit an abstract in early December to the annual meeting of the American Geriatrics Society, held in May.
- \* STUDENTS MAY NOT BE FUNDED BY ANOTHER FEDERAL SOURCE (E.G. NIH, ARHQ) WHILE THEY ARE BEING FUNDED BY MSTAR.

## **Expectations of Mentors:**

- \* Prior to students' arrival have necessary IRB approval for the project.
- \* Provide any project information, material support and readings, prior to student arrival.
- \* Provide any data analyzing resources (i.e. SPSS, STATA) and related support, if necessary prior to student arrival.
- \* Be available to the student for face-to-face, phone meetings approximately once a week
- \* Be available to the student by email to contact you at other times.
- \* Guide the student to complete a research project in an 8-10 week period.
- \* Assist the student to write a manuscript, approx. 10 pages, of their research due 90 days of program completion.
- \* Complete evaluation of the program in August.
- \* Complete an evaluation letter for your student and the program after their manuscript is completed.
- \* Assist the student in preparing an abstract for the annual American Geriatrics Society meeting, due early December.