Fellowship Objectives

- Learn to apply systems-engineering techniques to improve health systems.
- Be immersed in clinical processes and procedures.
- Pilot tests of change.
- Perform modeling and simulation.
- Launch a career in health care systems engineering or administration.

Fellows work with staff, VAPHS quality improvement leaders, facility leadership and academic engineers.

Contact Us
Robert Monte
VERC Director

Phone: 412-954-4150
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Fellows from the engineering and health administration fields will integrate systems-engineering principles and methods into the fabric of VA health care operations. VERC develops, tests and implements innovative engineering solutions. The center is building a project portfolio with ongoing work in cancer screening; reprocessing reusable medical equipment; inpatient medicine; and streamlining administrative processes. VERC also participates in strategically important projects for the national VA Office of Systems Redesign. VERC fellows will also work on the Patient Aligned Care Team initiative, which aims to streamline care delivery.

Fellows will use engineering techniques to design and test improvements for frontline health care.

Fellowship Goals

Fellows will be immersed in an instructive program that will include direct participation on project teams tasked with redesigning and reengineering VA health care systems, clinical procedures and processes—and further their education and practical application of project management skills.

Fellows will:

- learn to apply systems engineering techniques to the improvement of health care systems
- pilot tests of change
- use modeling and simulation software
- write manuscripts to submit to a medical quality or systems engineering journal

The fellowship requires travel, curriculum development and teaching project teams. Program graduates will have experience and qualifications to find jobs in health care or to pursue further training in health systems engineering.

Our Partners

- University of Pittsburgh
- School of Medicine
- Graduate School of Public Health
- Swanson School of Engineering
- Katz Graduate School of Business
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- National Quality Scholars Fellowship Program
- National Center for Patient Safety
- VAPHS Office of Systems Redesign

Application Requirements

Fellowship applicants must have a master's degree or Ph.D. in business administration, health administration or an engineering field, as well as U.S. citizenship. We will give preference to candidates with a background in systems engineering.

Stipend

Fellows will receive stipends from the VA Office of Academic Affiliations. Participants with a master’s degree earn about $28,453, and those with a Ph.D., about $41,541.
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