



Paul E. Mazmanian, PhD Research Fellowship Award for Early Career Investigators Request for Letters of Intent

The Society for Academic Continuing Medical Education (SACME) is committed to promoting value in patient care and health of the public through scholarship that advances the theory, delivery, and evaluation of continuing medical and interprofessional education. To support this mission, SACME has created the Paul E. Mazmanian, PhD Research Fellowship Award for Early Career Investigators (hereafter the Mazmanian Research Fellowship Award).

[Click here](#) for more information on Dr. Mazmanian.

The Award

The goal of the Award is to develop the CME/CPD research and scholarship capabilities of early career SACME members. The applicant whose proposal is accepted will be known as the Mazmanian Fellow during the two years of their Award.

The Mazmanian Research Fellowship Award recipient will receive up to \$10,000 (USD) over two years to support their research. The award also includes free registration for the SACME Annual Meeting during the two years of the award.

In keeping with Paul Mazmanian's commitment to mentoring, supporting, and contributing to the development of many who work in Continuing Professional Development in the Health Professions, each applicant will be expected to identify and engage a mentor to help them with their CPD scholarship activities in their local /workplace context, in support of the research project.

Successful applicants will be matched with an additional mentor, selected with input by the Mazmanian Research Fellowship Award Advisory Committee (Award Advisory Committee), who will provide guidance on the implications and generalizability of applicant work from the broader CPD perspective.

Letters of Interest (LOI) for the Mazmanian Research Fellowship Award will be solicited every two years. LOIs will be reviewed by members of the Award

Advisory Committee. Selected individuals will be invited to submit full proposals.

Eligibility

1. Awards will only be granted to individuals who are SACME members
2. Only early career investigators are eligible to receive a Mazmanian Research Fellowship Award. For the purposes of the Mazmanian Research Fellowship Award early career investigators are defined as one of the following:
 - a. Students/trainees of any kind in the process of acquiring professional degrees (e.g., Health Professionals, MDs, Masters, PhDs)
 - b. Those who have completed their professional degrees within the last 5 years (e.g., Health Professionals, MDs, Masters, PhDs)
 - c. Individuals who have not previously served as principal investigators on a CME/CPD research project.
 - d. If applicable, an academic rank of Assistant Professor or lower.
3. Early career investigators must have had training in and/or performed in a role in one or more of the following areas:
 - a. Continuing Medical Education/Continuing Professional Development
 - b. Continuing Interprofessional Education
 - c. Faculty Development
 - d. Quality Improvement/Patient Safety
 - e. Knowledge Translation/Implementation Science

Letter of Intent Guidelines

Format: The LOI must (1) be no longer than two pages, (2) be single-spaced, (3) use 12 pt. font, (4) have 1-inch margins, top, bottom, and sides.

Content: The LOI should include:

1. Clear description of the research question and its relevance to advancing the theory, delivery, or evaluation of CME/CPD. Applicants are encouraged to review the attached document summarizing key areas of Dr. Mazmanian's scholarship illustrating the advancement of theory, delivery and evaluation of CME/CPD
 - a. The award is not intended to support or examine operational aspects of the CME/CPD office or system.

2. Description of methodology and methods of analysis.
3. Brief review of scholarly literature that supports the need for research as described by the research question.
4. Statement describing how the Mazmanian Research Fellowship Award would support the development of a scientifically rigorous research plan.
5. Proposed timeline

Applicant eligibility: The LOI must include a description of how the new investigator meets the eligibility requirements.

Career goals: The LOI should describe how the proposed scholarship and the award will support the investigator's career goals.

Research team: A brief description of the role and qualifications of other investigator(s) who will work with the applicant should be provided. Biosketches are not included in the two-page LOI page count. Identifying information will be submitted on the application site instead of within the LOI PDF.

Mentor information:

- a. Identification of a local mentor and their qualifications to guide the development of the research plan and proposal. A local mentor could be someone from within the applicant's institution or an affiliated organization. Mentors and mentees are recommended to review the article on functional mentoring referenced below as a framework of expectations for this award. (see attached)

Information on the support that would be beneficial from a second-level mentor including area of expertise, time commitment, and ideas for consideration for the ideal mentor for the project.

A budget and curriculum vitae are not required for the LOI submission.

Letter of Intent Submission Details

LOIs are due no later than **Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at midnight (CST)**.

Link to application: <https://forms.gle/NsZ9hzUTPIJfkn88A>

Full Proposal Stage

Full proposals will be reviewed by the Mazmanian Research Fellowship Award Advisory Committee. The Chair, Mazmanian Research Fellowship Award Advisory Committee, will notify the individual whose proposal was accepted by the committee in mid-October. Individuals whose proposals were not accepted will be provided feedback by the committee. The Chair will announce the award decision publicly by end of October and funding will begin in January 2024.

Full Proposal Guidelines

The final proposal, in PDF format, should (a) be no longer than 10 pages, (b) be single-spaced, (c) use 12 pt. font, (d) have 1-inch margins, top, bottom, and sides.

The proposal should include:

1. Research plan
 - a. Brief problem statement (350 words maximum);
 - b. Background statement and literature review;
 - c. Clear statement of the research question/objective;
 - d. Conceptual and/or theoretical framework;
 - e. Overview of methodology and detailed methods;
 - f. Implications for advancement of the field. Why this study is important for CME/CPD and related fields as specified in section 3 under Eligibility. This section should contextualize the study in the current literature;
 - g. Detailed budget with justification. Applicants are encouraged to align budget requests with project needs, leveraging existing resources where, and if, available.
 - h. Detailed timeline;
 - i. Feasibility statement;
 - j. Summary of the qualifications and role of each investigator on the project (see eligibility requirements above);
 - k. Letter of support from local mentor indicating goals/ objectives of their mentorship in relation to the project as well as expected duration of relationship and frequency of meetings.
 - l. References;
 - m. Curriculum vitae (CV), covering last 5 years only, for each member of the research team (not included in the 10-page limit);

n. Up to 3 letters of support; not included in the 10-page limit.

Full Proposal Review Criteria

Full proposals will be reviewed by members of the Mazmanian Research Fellowship Award Advisory Committee, who will consider the:

1. Depth, breadth, and interpretation of relevant literature
2. Relevance and clarity of research question/problem or objective
3. Use and alignment of theoretical foundations
4. Methodological alignment and rigor
5. Implications for the advancement of the field
6. Appropriateness of budget
7. Team composition and roles
8. Feasibility

Timelines

1. The request for submission of LOIs will be posted on Monday, March 20, 2023.
2. LOIs are due by Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at midnight (CST).
2. LOIs that are selected to move to full proposal stage will be notified mid-June.
3. Full proposals are due on September 15, 2023 at midnight.
4. Decisions of the Mazmanian Research Fellowship Award Advisory Committee will be made in mid-October 2023 with funding to commence in January 2024.

Full Proposal Submission Process

Full proposals are due on September 15, 2023. Instructions on the submission process will be emailed to invited applicants.

Questions

Please direct any questions about the application or the grant to either Asha Maharaj, Chair, SACME Research and Awards Subcommittee at asha.maharaj@camh.ca or Joyce Fried at joycemfried@gmail.com.

Paul Mazmanian, PhD

The award is named for Dr. Paul Mazmanian (1948-2021) who, at the time of his death, was Professor Emeritus at Virginia Commonwealth University. Paul was an accomplished scholar and educator as well as a beloved friend, colleague, and mentor. It is this last role which the Mazmanian Research Fellowship Award for early career investigators honors.

Paul graduated from Wayne State University with a degree in Speech Education and earned a Masters' Degree from Michigan State University in Educational Administration before pursuing a PhD in Adult and Continuing Education, from the University of Michigan.

He had a long and distinguished career at the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine, including oversight of the MPH Curriculum Committee, directing research in continuing education, serving as Director of the Office of Continuing Education in Medicine and the Allied Health Professions, Associate Dean for Continuing Professional Development and Evaluation Studies, and Associate Dean for Assessment and Evaluation Studies. He rose to the rank of Professor in the Departments of Family Medicine and Epidemiology and Community Health and held faculty appointments in the VCU School of Allied Health Professions.

Paul was lead or co-author on many of the seminal papers in continuing medical education/continuing professional development, including studies on learning and change in physician performance, the effectiveness of CME, evaluation, commitment to change and changing practice, and physician self-assessment.

From 2000 to 2010, he served as editor of the Journal of Continuing Education in the Health Professions (JCEHP). He also served on several Agency for Health Care Research and Policy and Institute of Medicine (National Academy of Medicine) panels, consulted for the National Cancer Institute on translating knowledge into clinical practice, and participated in the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation conference on Continuing Education in the Health Professions (November, 2007).