

2017 Fellow Criteria

Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM) fellows perpetuate the organization's prestige, dedication, and tradition. Fellows demonstrate the society's commitment to advancing the science and practice of behavioral medicine. They also serve as role models, offering guidance and support to student/trainee members. The selection of new fellows ensures the continual life and direction of SBM.

SBM's Bylaws state:

Fellow status is a distinction conferred by the society on full members in recognition of outstanding contributions to the advancement of the science and practice of behavioral medicine. Among the considerations for this distinction are academic, professional, clinical, legislative, or other meritorious accomplishments. Consideration for the status of fellow is at the initiative of the Awards Committee and subject to approval by the Board of Directors. Fellows retain all privileges and benefits of full membership.

SBM is a multidisciplinary and diverse society; a wide range of skills and achievements must be considered for a full member to become a fellow. Excellence in one or more areas of behavioral medicine practice, research, teaching, or administration/leadership must be convincingly demonstrated. A full member may achieve fellow status through the cumulative influence of his or her work, or through specific notable achievements. Such achievements must demonstrate substantial positive influence on the field of behavioral medicine both outside of a nominee's professional setting and beyond the usual expectations of being a good scholar, teacher, supervisor, or practitioner. A full member must be in good standing with the society for three consecutive years prior to applying for fellow status, and should have received his or her highest academic degree at least 10 years prior.

Please use the following four areas for additional guidance in weighing a nominee's eligibility for fellow status. The criteria below are intended neither to be exhaustive, nor to provide a checklist for determining the likelihood of successful nomination. It is entirely possible that some candidates will meet the criteria in multiple areas—fellow status is not qualified by the areas in which one is nominated.

Research

Research in behavioral medicine refers to the discovery and dissemination of new knowledge, the synthesis of disparate knowledge, and the translation and testing of knowledge in new settings. Research considered in awarding fellow status should represent a multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary, or transdisciplinary approach. Research sufficient to merit fellow status should have been widely disseminated and scientifically rigorous. It should also have had a demonstrable impact on the research of others or on the practice of behavioral medicine. A nominee who is primarily a researcher may have:

- Had numerous superior and diverse publications (i.e., those published in journals outside of the nominee's own discipline).
- Refereed presentations at national professional conferences.
- Been invited to give presentations at national and international conferences.
- Obtained external support for research, particularly through peer review.
- Received academic prizes and awards specifically for research activities.
- Participated on national study sections or research advisory boards.

- Shown dedication to the advancement of research methods in behavioral medicine through publications, manuals, workshops, and presentations.

Training

Well-trained students, comfortable conducting rigorous multidisciplinary research, are an important legacy of the society. SBM members achieving excellence in teaching and training go beyond the requirements to inspire and motivate students—they also provide students with the tools to launch successful careers in many fields. While many SBM members may achieve excellence in teaching within their professions, achievements sufficient for fellow status must include substantial behavioral medicine content or must contribute to the training of professionals in behavioral medicine or related fields. A nominee who is primarily a teacher may have:

- Taught trainees now experiencing success in any field, but preferably in a range of fields beyond that of the nominee.
- Fostered innovative training tools, curricula, or courses.
- Implemented a new behavioral medicine training program or a training program that has substantial behavioral medicine components.
- Received teaching prizes and awards.
- Obtained and administered training grants.
- Authored a textbook.
- Written scholarly non-research articles on training, including book chapters.
- Refereed training-focused presentations at national professional conferences.
- Conducted successful workshops with behavioral medicine content at professional conferences/meetings other than SBM's annual meetings.
- Received documented recognition of excellence in teaching from peers or students.
- Served SBM substantially in advancing the education and training of its members.

Practice

Achievement in the practice of behavioral medicine involves the application of evidence-based, rigorous methods—whether clinical, social, or environmental—to improve health and well-being through behavior change. In addition to consistent effective treatment, there must be evidence that the candidate has had a substantial institutional, regional, national, or international influence on the practice of behavioral medicine through clinical training or clinical program development. A nominee who is primarily a practitioner may have:

- Developed important clinical measures, tests, treatments, or treatment guidelines.
- Implemented behavioral medicine or related treatment programs in a new area.
- Composed scholarly non-research publications on clinical practice or management, including book chapters.
- Obtained grants specifically to develop, initiate, or maintain clinical activities.
- Refereed practice-related presentations at national or international professional conferences.
- Served as the leader or member of an institutional care policy board.
- Received prizes and awards specifically for superior clinical service or for clinical program development/leadership.
- Served SBM in the advancement and improved ability of its members to provide superior clinical care.

Administration/Leadership

Achievement in administration or leadership refers to activities that support the implementation of behavioral medicine research, training, or clinical programs. Such activities include the expansion of opportunities for practice, the growth of teaching programs, or the coordination of multiple parties to improve the quality or reach of behavioral medicine. This goes beyond the successful administration of research programs, single behavioral medicine training programs, or behavioral medicine clinics. A nominee who is primarily in administration or leadership may have:

- Achieved substantial success in expanding opportunities for professionals in behavioral medicine.
- Initiated and directed innovative behavioral medicine research, teaching, and/or clinical programs.
- Obtained substantial support for behavioral medicine activities in a program or organization, including obtaining funding.
- Developed or led organizations that fund or otherwise support behavioral medicine activities at multiple institutions.
- Influenced organizations or political entities (e.g., government agencies) to support or facilitate behavioral medicine practice, research, or teaching.
- Translated behavioral medicine research findings into health care practice guidelines, health care organization policies, or health plan coverage.
- Established partnerships between behavioral medicine programs and community organizations.
- Refereed administration presentations at national professional conferences.
- Served in a leadership role in behavioral medicine organizations or in behavioral medicine-related groups within larger organizations.
- Received professional prizes and awards for achievements related to behavioral medicine.
- Served SBM in the advancement of the society's governance, finances, organization, or administration.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Dean at mdean@sbm.org or 414-918-3156.