

# VA



## Our Program Philosophy and Mission

**Philosophy:** We believe that adult learning is self-directed, internally motivated and that Fellows will enter our program with life experience and clinical knowledge background. We believe in a collaborative and reflective learning environment. Our program offers diverse learning opportunities and choice to pursue individual areas of interest. Scaffolded learning opportunities allow the fellow to build upon their prior knowledge and grow throughout the fellowship experience. We value an inclusive and supportive team approach while also fostering the fellow's independence and growth.

**Mission:** To provide occupational therapists with advanced knowledge and skills to promote their clinical practice competence in the area of neurologic rehabilitation, to provide enhanced care for veterans and to cultivate future leaders in healthcare.

## About Us

VA Boston Healthcare System serves veterans through the delivery of timely, quality care by staff who demonstrate outstanding customer service, the advancement of health care through research, and the education of tomorrow's health care providers.

The VA Boston Healthcare System Occupational Therapy Neurorehabilitation Fellowship Program provides the opportunity for fellows to experience the continuum of care for a patient population with neurologic conditions. The fellow will collaborate with patients, mentors and the interprofessional team to develop advanced skills in evidence-based interventions, ethical practice and quality improvement along with strong communication skills and clinical decision making within the field of occupational therapy

### Contact Information:

Lindsay Brennan, OTR/L  
Clinical Education Coordinator  
(774)826-1738  
Lindsay.Brennan@va.gov

1400 VFW Pkwy  
PM&RS (117)  
West Roxbury, MA 02132

# VA Boston Healthcare System



## Occupational Therapy Neurorehabilitation Fellowship Program

## Fellowship Overview

Fellows will receive mentorship in patient evaluation and treatment sessions under the supervision of advanced practitioners with extensive professional and clinical knowledge. Fellows will be responsible for a caseload comprised of veterans with neurologic conditions with varying levels of complexity and comorbidities. Clinical knowledge and decision making will be supported by relevant didactic and curricular experiences. Fellows will also engage in scholarly activities in partnership with Tufts University's Department of Occupational Therapy.



Fellows will be eligible for all full-time VA employee benefits including sick and annual leave and malpractice coverage.

### Criteria for Application:

- US Citizen and graduate of an ACOTE accredited occupational therapy program
- AOTA member and commitment to pursue Board or Specialty Certification

## Core Experiences

1. Acute Care and Comprehensive Inpatient Integrated Rehab Program (CIIRP)
2. Inpatient Spinal Cord Injury/Disorders
3. Outpatient Neurodegenerative Diseases

## Elective Opportunities

- Vision in Neurorehab
- Assistive Technology
- Driving with a Disability



## Program Goals

To educate and train post-professional occupational therapists to:

1. Provide high quality occupational therapy services that meet the unique needs of the veteran population by developing advanced knowledge and becoming advanced practitioners in the field of neurologic rehabilitation.
2. Demonstrate the ability to administer and interpret assessments to create holistic and evidenced based treatment interventions which address physical, cognitive, psychosocial and environmental factors to facilitate veterans' occupational performance.
3. Demonstrate understanding and implementation of ethical principles in the delivery of occupational therapy services.
4. Demonstrate excellent interpersonal skills by collaborating with referral sources and stakeholders to optimize veteran outcomes and grow as a leader in the field of occupational therapy and within an interprofessional healthcare team.
5. Facilitate quality improvement projects, in-service presentations, and teaching activities that promote the field of occupational therapy and lifelong learning.