

Deadlines and Milestones of 2-Year Mentored Program

Feb 28, 2026	Letter of Intent to Attend Due
Mar 31, 2026	Application Deadline
May 2026 - June 2026	Pre-Live Primer Preparation (Home Institution): Self-Assessment of Research Project and Updates
Jun 1-5, 2026	Live Primer
Jul 2026 - Oct 2026	Refine Protocol/Proposal (Home Institution)
Oct 2026	Finalize Research Proposal: Poster Presentation of Proposal/ Research Idea at ACCP Annual Meeting
Oct 2026 - Apr 2027	Study Design and Statistical Analysis: Data Collection Plans; Regulatory Issues (Home Institution); Develop Data Collection Instrument; Submit IRB
Jan 2027 - Sep 2027	Recruitment, Data Collection, and Data Analyses (Home Institution)
May 2027	Overcoming Challenges: Poster Presentation of Interim Results at ACCP Virtual Poster Symposium
Oct 2027 - Jun 2028	Disseminating Results: Poster Presentation of Study Results at ACCP Annual Meeting; Manuscript Publication

About the MeRIT Program

MeRIT is a training program designed to help pharmacists develop the abilities necessary to conduct investigator-initiated research, either independently as a principal investigator or as an active co-investigator within a research team. The 2-year longitudinal program uses a combination of teaching and mentoring methods (live events, webinars, and teleconferences) to provide mentees with the education and support needed throughout the research experience (ie, from idea to publication).

Mentors

Participants are given the opportunity to work hand-in-hand with mentors who are experienced, funded researchers and educators within academia, practice, and industry. Highly skilled clinical, basic science, and biostatistician researchers will be on-site to teach and guide investigator participants.

Who Should Apply

Ideal candidates are pharmacy faculty or practitioners with limited research experience who are:

- Committed to incorporating research into their professional careers
- Interested in generating research themes or obtaining preliminary data for larger funding opportunities
- Aspiring to be an active principal or co-investigator within a research team
- Able to commit at least 10% effort to research

When to Apply

Letters of Intent are due February 28, 2026. Applications are due March 31, 2026.

More Information

For more information and to download the MeRIT application, visit www.accpfoundation.org/MeRIT.

ACCP Foundation, Ltd.

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Mentored Research Investigator Training MeRIT Program

June 1-5, 2026

UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy



Day 1 - Monday

- 8:00 Welcome & Program Overview
 - 8:15 Introductions & Proposal "Elevator Pitches"
 - 9:30 Lecture I: Perspectives on Research Success as a Clinical Pharmacist
 - 10:30 Lecture II: Crafting Great Research Questions and Specific Aims
 - Noon Lunch provided by Foundation
 - 12:45 Proposal Development Session I: Evaluating Research Ideas
 - 2:30 Proposal Development Session II: Transforming Ideas into Hypotheses & Aims
 - 4:00 Individual Work Time
 - 6:15 Group Dinner
- Homework: Hypotheses & Aims

Day 2 - Tuesday

- 8:00 Lecture III: Research Approaches: Nuts and Bolts
 - 10:00 Proposal Development Session III: So What? How to Articulate the Impact/Significance
 - 12:15 Lunch provided by Foundation
 - 1:00 Proposal Development Session IV: Identifying Your Career Development Plan
- Dinner on Your Own
- Homework: Refine Aims & Draft 1/2- to 1-Page Background

Day 3 - Wednesday

- 8:00 Lecture IV: Using Secondary Data for Population-Based Health Research
 - 9:00 Individual Work Time
 - 10:00 Mentors Office Hours
One-on-one sessions with mentor
 - 12:15 Lunch provided by Foundation
 - 1:00 Proposal Development Session V: Selecting Outcome Measures & Design Methods
- Dinner on Your Own
- Homework: Clarify Methods & Outcomes; Outline Analysis Plan

Day 4 - Thursday

- 8:00 Lecture V (Part 1): Where & How to Get Funded for the First Time, and Again & Again
 - 8:30 Lecture V (Part 2): Is Pharma Funding an Option?
 - 9:30 Proposal Development Session VI: Articulating Analysis Plan/Alternative Approaches
 - 11:00 Lecture VI: Navigating the Process of Biomedical Publishing
 - Noon Lunch provided by Foundation
 - 1:00 Individual Work Time
 - 3:00 Mentors Office Hours
One-on-one sessions with mentor
- Dinner on Your Own
- Homework: Redraft Proposal; Prepare for Mentors

Day 5 - Friday

- 8:00 Lecture VII: Creating a Successful Original Research Abstract for ACCP & Early Manuscript Planning
- 9:30 Proposal Development Session VII: Wrap-up & Mentoring Plan for Home
- 11:30 Closing Recognition & Lunch provided by Foundation
- 2:00 Program Conclusion



There is no better way to get expert mentoring covering everything from research idea to publication.