

The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UT Health San Antonio) and the STRONG STAR (South Texas Research Organizational Network Guiding Studies on Trauma And Resilience) Consortium are hiring several positions to support DoD-funded studies investigating new and innovative psychological health treatments for active duty military personnel, veterans, and their families. Projects focus specifically on enhancing resiliency and addressing problems related to suicide risk, posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), sleep disorders, chronic pain, substance use disorders, and tinnitus.

Performance Location: Positions are in-office at Fort Cavazos in Killeen, TX. STRONG STAR has a research and clinical training location at the Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center at Fort Cavazos (formerly designated Fort Hood) in Killeen, Texas. The location is supported by on-site licensed clinical psychologists who are faculty members in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at UT Health San Antonio to provide clinical supervision to meet licensure requirements for applicants working toward licensure. All positions are administrated through the Long School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Division and Behavioral Medicine. UT Health San Antonio offers exceptional health care and retirement benefits.

To begin the application process for any of these positions, please send the following to Bryce Williams at williamsB7@uthscsa.edu and Rhonda Stafford at Staffordr@uthscsa.edu

(1) CV or resume and (2) Statement of Interest

****We are currently accepting applications for the following positions****

Professional Counselors and Social Workers

Professional Counselors and Social Workers will serve as therapists and independent evaluators for randomized clinical trials being conducted with active duty military personnel. They will have the unique opportunity to work with and receive expert training and on-going supervision from leaders in the field located across the country. Applicants must demonstrate the ability to perform the function of therapist to include evaluating, giving diagnostic impressions, and treating individuals and families experiencing behavioral health disorders, emotional stress, of family maladjustments. They will also perform crisis intervention as needed. Masters degree and licensed or under supervision for licensure required (e.g., LCSW, LPC, LMSW).

Clinical Research Faculty

We are seeking to fill two psychology faculty member appointments (Assistant to Associate Professor level) for full-time faculty positions at our Fort Cavazos location in Killeen, Texas. Applicants must have a doctoral degree in clinical or counseling psychology and be licensed or license eligible as a psychologist in the State of Texas. The doctoral degree and predoctoral internship must be from American Psychological Association-accredited programs. The positions will involve supporting all aspects of clinical research within the Division of Behavioral Medicine and STRONG STAR. These positions will involve serving as a research therapists, clinical supervisor, co-investigators, and educators. As investigators, the faculty members will provide support for ongoing research studies

and collaborate on the development and submission of research grant applications as a co-investigator or principal investigator. As educators, the faculty members will assist in the training, supervision, and mentorship of postgraduates, graduate students, interns, residents, postdoctoral fellows, and junior faculty members. Preferred qualifications include experience in evidence-based treatments such as cognitive behavioral therapy and acceptance and commitment therapy.

Research Assistants

This position will serve as a vital member of our STRONG STAR team and will receive training in conducting psychological health research including the assessment and treatment of research participants involved in randomized clinical trials. They will interact closely with military personnel, veterans, and their families and support other research staff, clinicians, and investigators. Responsibilities include community outreach, recruitment of research participants, obtaining research consent from participants, and assisting in clinical assessments of participants from the initial baseline assessment through follow-up. Under general supervision, research assistants provide routine technical assistance in performing assigned and delegated tasks in support of research projects. This is an excellent career position and may also be an opportunity for individuals with a bachelor's or master's degree to obtain research experience to help them gain admission into doctoral programs in psychology and related fields. STRONG STAR has previously supported over 30 research assistants and project coordinators in obtaining admission into graduate programs nationwide.

Project Coordinators

This position will serve as a vital member of our STRONG STAR team and will receive training in conducting psychological health research including the assessment and treatment of research participants involved in randomized clinical trials. Project Coordinators will interact closely with military personnel, veterans, and their families and support other research staff, clinicians, and investigators. Responsibilities include community outreach, recruitment of research participants, obtaining research consent from participants, and assisting in clinical assessments of participants from the initial baseline assessment through follow-up. Under general supervision, project coordinators provide routine technical assistance in performing assigned and delegated tasks in support of research projects. Responsibilities include assisting or conducting a variety of scientific experiments and research projects of limited complexity, collecting, evaluating, and interpreting data for clinical and diagnostic research. This is an excellent career position and may also be an opportunity for individuals with a bachelor's or master's degree to obtain research experience to help them gain admission into doctoral programs in psychology and related fields. STRONG STAR has previously supported over 30 research assistants and project coordinators in obtaining admission into graduate programs nationwide.

New and ongoing studies that these positions may support include:

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia vs Brief Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia in Military Personnel with Postconcussive Symptoms following Mild TBI; PIs: Kristi Pruiksma and Vincent Mysliwiec, UT Health San Antonio

The overall objective is to determine if cognitive behavioral therapy for insomnia (CBT-I) and brief behavioral therapy for insomnia (BBT-I) can improve outcomes in service members with prolonged postconcussive symptoms following mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI) and to explore the impact of insomnia treatment (CBT-I or BBT-I) on prolonged postconcussive symptoms and on blood-based brain biomarkers levels of neuronal integrity and neuronal inflammation.

Assessment and Treatment of Chronic Anger and Aggression Following Military-Related Interpersonal and Institutional Betrayal: A Pilot Investigation; PIs: Drs. Vanessa Jacoby and Alan Peterson, UT Health San Antonio

This is a pilot test of Countering Chronic Anger and Aggression Related to Trauma and Transgressions (CCAARTT), a transdiagnostic, transgression-focused intervention for military personnel who have experienced betrayals. CCAARTT directly targets reducing chronic anger/aggression and improving interpersonal relationships ($N = 40$). One postdoctoral fellow will support the project at Fort Cavazos.

Strong Families | Strong Soldiers Support and Prevention Program; Project Directors: Dr. Vanessa Jacoby, UT Health San Antonio

The Strong Families Support and Prevention Program is funded by the Texas Department of Health and Human Services Commission to provide prevention services and evidence-based PTSD treatment to military service members, veterans, and their families. One postdoctoral psychology fellow, professional counselor or social worker supports the project at Fort Cavazos.

Implementing and Evaluating a Patient-Centered PTSD Treatment Program for Military Personnel; PIs: Dr. Alan Peterson, UT Health San Antonio, Dr. Vanessa Jacoby, UT Health San Antonio.

This study is a partially randomized preference trial to examine the relationships between patient characteristics, treatment preferences, and treatment outcomes for active duty service members engaging in a shared decision-making preintervention followed by evidence-based treatment for PTSD. The study also aims to evaluate the impact of shared decision-making on PTSD treatment completion and PTSD symptom reduction for active duty military personnel. One postdoctoral psychology fellow, professional counselor or social worker will support the project at Fort Cavazos.

Project MARCH: Multisite Advancement of Research on Chronic Posttraumatic Headache; PI: Donald McGeary, UT Health San Antonio

Project MARCH (Multisite Advancement of Research on Chronic Posttraumatic Headache) is a multi-site randomized clinical trial including 4 DoD and 3 VA sites to evaluate the efficacy of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Posttraumatic Headache delivered in-person or via telehealth. Fort Cavazos is one of the recruitment sites for Project MARCH and it is supported by one postdoctoral fellow.

Randomized Controlled Trial of Precision Vestibular Rehabilitation Military Personnel with mTBI; PI: Dr. Anthony Kontos, University of Pittsburgh

The objective of this multi-site randomized clinical trial is to determine the efficacy of different Targeted Rehabilitation Exercises for Vestibular Symptoms and Impairment (T-REV) intensities and frequencies in military personnel and civilians with mTBI and vestibular symptoms. The Intrepid Spirit Center at Fort Cavazos is one of the recruitment sites for the project.

Enhancing Resiliency and Optimizing Readiness in Military Personnel; PI: Alan Peterson, UT Health San Antonio

The purpose of the Resilience and Readiness Optimization/Enhancement (R2OE) translational research award investigation is to develop and evaluate the efficacy of a brief psychological health intervention based on the principles of Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) to enhance resiliency and optimize readiness in the United States military personnel.

Acceptance and Commitment Therapy Integrated Vestibular Rehabilitation (ACTIVE) for mTBI: A Randomized Controlled Trial; PI: Anthony Kontos, University of Pittsburgh

Our overarching hypothesis is that a combined, brief (< 4 weeks) intervention involving both ACT and integrated vestibular rehabilitation (ACTIVE) will reduce symptoms, impairment, and functional limitations, and accelerate RTA among military SMs and civilians following mTBI with vestibular symptoms/impairment compared to usual care vestibular rehabilitation (VESTIB CONTROL).

The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio is an Equal Employment Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer including protected veterans and persons with disabilities. All Postdoctoral appointments are designated as security sensitive positions. UT Health San Antonio is committed to excellence through diversity.