



**Interprofessional Spiritual  
Care Education Curriculum  
(ISPEC)**

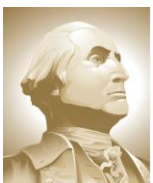
**Request for Applications**

**Application Deadline:**

**April 2, 2018**

**The First Global Train-the-Trainer  
Interprofessional Spiritual Care Education  
Curriculum (ISPEC)**

**July 10-12, 2018  
Washington, DC**



**THE GEORGE  
WASHINGTON  
UNIVERSITY**  
WASHINGTON, DC



## **Purpose:**

Empirical evidence, patient and family experience, and theoretical frameworks support the critical role spirituality and spiritual care plays in the care of patients, particularly those with chronic and serious illness. Health care providers also recognized the growing need of spiritual care but identify lack of training as a barrier. To bridge this gap, The George Washington Institute for spirituality and health (GWish), in partnership with City of Hope and Fetzer Institute developed a global Spiritual care training program entitled “**Interprofessional Spiritual Care Education Curriculum (ISPEC)**”.

ISPEC is the first curriculum developed at the global level and offers a theoretically and research-grounded curriculum for teaching inter-professional spiritual care. The goal of the ISPEC project is to develop participants as experts who will take a leadership role in their individual institutions, share information with others, engage colleagues to take our on-line ISPEC course, and impact the quality of care by integrating spiritual care as an important element of care.

This training program consists of an innovative hybrid of online resources and Train-the-Trainer program and will prepare both clinicians and chaplains to identify and address patients’ spiritual needs and provide resources as an integral part of their practice.

The selected teams will participate in a 2.5-day training program that will include lectures, case study reviews, and panel discussions. Participants will receive post-course mentoring from leading faculty and all participants will be followed at 6 and 12 months post-course to monitor and support their progress. The first training program will be held on **July 10-12, 2018 at George Washington University in Washington, DC.**

## **Details:**

There will only be 60 participants selected for the first training program through a highly competitive application review process.

### **Admission into the ISPEC program will waive the costs for;**

- Free Registration
- All course supplies including; syllabus, workbook, and resources
- Breakfast, lunch, and snacks
- 16.75 Continuing Education Credits (CME, Nursing credit hours, CEU)

**Each organization selected to attend will receive free, unlimited access to the ISPEC online course for healthcare providers of their organization for one full year !!!**

\*Travel cost (airfare, mileage) and accommodation will not be covered. \*

**Location:** George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health  
950 New Hampshire Ave NW, Washington, DC 20052

### **Eligibility Criteria:**

- Clinicians from different professions (Medicine, Nursing, Social work, Psychology, Physical therapy, Occupational Therapy, Physician Assistant, etc.) who work with patients with chronic and serious diseases are eligible to apply.
- Each organization's team should include one clinician and one chaplain. Pairs of clinicians/ chaplains from Pediatrics and Geriatrics departments are also welcome to apply.

### **Online Application Components:**

1. Demographic data questionnaire for each individual team member
2. Background information on the institution and the applicants
3. Narrative from the proposed attendees summarizing their plan for implementing the course material and integrating spiritual care at their institutes.
4. Three realistic and practical goals that participants will achieve to improve spiritual care in your institution after attending the course.
5. Letter of support from the institution's administrator/ supervisor. Letter of support should demonstrate the organization's commitment to; foster change in clinical care and facilitate the implementation of ISPEC training programs following completion of the course.

*All team applications are due by April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018*

### **Application Evaluation Criteria**

Each ISPEC application will be evaluated based on the following criteria;

1. Qualifications of the participants
2. Commitment of the school based on the letter of support.
3. Institutional goals related to integrating spiritual care
4. Projected impact of the proposed project on patient care and culture change.

\*Application packets will be reviewed by the Selection Committee comprised of; Co-PIs, Project Director, and Project Managers. ISPEC application review will focus on team member interest, institutional commitment, proposed training program at their institutes, and attributes related to meeting the spiritual care needs of ethnically and culturally diverse patient populations.

## Post ISPEC Training:

Each team of representatives will commit to train at least 30 people at their institution within 12 months after the train-the-trainer program and integrate the online curriculum in their clinical sites. Participating institutes have unlimited free access to the online course for one year. This will allow them to train other healthcare providers.

## Application:

All applications must be sent electronically by the designated deadline, **04/02/2018**. To access the online application, please click here:



All additional information about this project is available via our website:

<https://smhs.gwu.edu/gwish/interprofessional-spiritual-care-education-curriculum-ispec>

For all questions regarding the application, please contact the program coordinator, Melanie Atwell, 202-994-3549 or via email at: [matwell08@gwu.edu](mailto:matwell08@gwu.edu).

Thank you,

Christina Puchalski, MD, FACP, FAAHPM  
Director of GWish  
Professor of Medicine and Health Sciences  
George Washington University

Betty Ferrell, PhD, FAAN  
Director and Professor  
City of Hope

