ISTAART Ascent
Career Development Program

Program Details

- Participants immerse themselves in Alzheimer's and dementia research landscape by attending the Alzheimer's Association International Conference (AAIC) 2026, including:
  - Enjoying a welcome dinner for ISTAART Ascent participants
  - Presenting their work at the world's largest forum for Alzheimer's and dementia research participants
  - Attending poster and podium presentations presented by other ISTAART Ascent participants
  - Acting as judges in the ISTAART Student Poster Competition

- Participants participate in a virtual meeting once every month with other cohort members, hosted by the Alzheimer's Association.
  - Participants must lead at least one peer-to-peer engagement virtual meeting in which they (i) Present a summary of their own work and future plans, (ii) Moderate a Q&A with leaders in the field on a career-development topic. Examples* include:
    - Publishing with editors of the *Alzheimer's and Dementia* journal family
    - Funding with awardees and reviewers of the Alzheimer's Association International Grants Research Program (IRGP)
    - Budgeting with members of the Alzheimer's Association grants team
    - Building collaborative networks with members of the ISTAART Advisory Council (IAC) and Professional Interest Area (PIA) chairs
    - Scientific abstracts and programs with members of the AAIC Scientific Program Committee
    - Building a team and creating an environment of inclusion with the winners of the AAIC and AAIC Neuroscience Next Awards
    - Social media for scientific engagement with the Alzheimer's Association Marketing and Communications team and ISTAART Executives

- Participants work together to submit an ISTAART Educational Event at AAIC 2027 that shares key learnings of the program with a broad audience

Examples of and introductions to leaders will be facilitated by Alzheimer's Association staff

Application Requirements

- An application form must be fully completed.
- Participants are required to submit an abstract to the AAIC 2026 before the main submission deadline of January 16, 2026.

Visit www.alz.org/ISTAARTascent for the program overview and additional application information.