

**UNC Center for Health Equity Research Postdoctoral Fellow
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, NC**

The UNC Center for Health Equity Research brings together scholars, trainees, and community members from diverse disciplines by forming collaborative multidisciplinary teams with a shared commitment to health equity, innovation and translational research; this shared commitment serves as a bridge among their disciplines and levels of experience. Center members generate new knowledge and contribute to the science of health equity research thus driving innovation in collaboration with underserved communities to improve health.

The UNC Center for Health Equity Research's Postdoctoral Program provides early stage investigators with unique opportunities to perform innovative research and strengthen capacities in eliminating health disparities, understanding and addressing social determinants of health and contributing to policy change. This postdoctoral program is designed to develop a network of colleagues conducting health equity research, particularly for those underrepresented in the fields of clinical and public health sciences. The fellowship especially highlights community-based participatory research (CBPR) as an important approach to study and address health disparities and social inequities. The position provides exceptional mentored training with an opportunity to develop research skills and collaborate with a dynamic, federally funded, multi-disciplinary team of investigators. The position is renewable for a second year depending on performance with a flexible start date. The training can be tailored to suit the individual's requirements with opportunities for teaching experience, authorship on relevant manuscripts, collaborative grant writing experience, and independent grant submission. There is also ample support for conference travel and other training experiences.

Expectations

During the program the postdoctoral fellows will be expected to:

1. Work on existing funded research projects in North Carolina and devote significant time and effort on building a portfolio of scholarly products (e.g. publications and grants);
2. Develop a fellow initiated project that builds on the existing community based infrastructure and/or ongoing research projects;
3. Attain expertise in the competencies related to participatory research;
4. Understand social determinants of health (economic, social, behavioral, political, environmental)
5. Demonstrate knowledge of and skills in applying the principles of Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) (e.g. community governance, equitable participation at all levels, local relevance of public health problems, trust building, benefits to community involved, dissemination of findings, translation of results into policy) including the principles, theoretical frameworks and models and methods of planning, implementing and evaluating CBPR;
6. Work effectively in and with diverse communities;
7. Balance tasks in academia (research, teaching, service) posing special challenges to those engaged in CBPR in order to thrive in an academic environment; and,
8. Write papers and grants using and incorporating CBPR principles.

Requirements and Applicant Evaluations

This Program is expected to increase the number of faculty who possess the capacity to carry out high quality and high impact health equity research. It is expected that scholars entering this Program will have:

- Experience in community based or participatory research;
- Excellent qualitative and/or quantitative skills;
- Outstanding skills in written and verbal communication; and,
- Demonstrated record of conducting research with underserved populations and scholarly products from that research.

Candidates will be competitively evaluated based on: match with the overall goals and objectives of the Center and related projects; scholarly potential for research that has a high impact; commitment to a research career in a research intensive environment. We value a diverse population of Post-Doctoral Fellows with a strong commitment to health equity research, focused motivation, and an academic record that demonstrates a high level of intellectual achievement and curiosity.

Eligibility

To be eligible, potential fellows must:

1. Have completed doctoral training (MD, PhD or other equivalent training) by the time of entry into the program in one of a variety of fields, including, but not limited to, the behavioral and social sciences; the biological and natural sciences; health professions; public policy; public health;
2. Have at least 2-3 years of research experience;
3. Be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident at the time of application; and,
4. Must not be receiving support from other research fellowships when beginning this program

Application Requirements

- Cover letter addressed to Center Director – Dr. Giselle Corbie-Smith
- Curriculum Vitae
- Writing samples (e.g., publications and/or dissertation chapters)
- Three references for letters of recommendation
- A statement of research plans (2-3 pages)
- A personal statement on why you should be selected for this program (1–3 pages)

Deadline

The application deadline is July 15 2013.

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted via this website: <https://unc.peopleadmin.com/postings/27178>