Introduction

The Global Health Equity Scholars (GHES; http://ghes.berkeley.edu) fellowship is an 11-month research training program for post-doctoral fellows, upper-level PhD students and professional school (MD, DVM, DrPH, DDS, PharmD) students. It is part of the Global Health Program for Fellows and Scholars (http://www.fic.nih.gov/Programs/Pages/scholars-fellows-global-health.aspx) sponsored by the Fogarty International Center (FIC) and several collaborating institutes and centers at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The GHES program brings together a consortium that includes the University of California, Berkeley, Florida International University, Stanford University, and Yale University; and 19 affiliated international sites across 16 countries (Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Colombia, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Malaysia, Nicaragua, Peru, Russia, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine, and Zimbabwe).

The purpose of the program is to support an 11-month mentored research fellowship for investigators who are interested in studying diseases and health conditions in developing countries. The program will provide trainees with outstanding, interdisciplinary education and training in innovative global health research designed to promote health equity for populations around the world. Trainees will be matched with top-tier global health research faculty from one of the four participating U.S. institutions and an international site, thus enabling them to engage in rich and enduring, mentored research experiences that will foster scientific and career development in global health research.

The main objective of the program is to generate a new and young cadre of global health researchers, educators, and professionals who will be prepared to address the new challenges in global health. These may include health challenges that arise from the world's burgeoning human settlements known as slums that have developed in urban and rural communities of many low and middle-income countries. Factors associated with chronic, non-communicable, as well as infectious diseases, environmental health hazards, risks specific to women and children, intentional and unintentional injuries, and mental disorders are potential areas of research that will be supported under this program. Additionally, the program will support research on the challenges of providing accessible and high quality health care services at all levels in resource-limited settings. Interventions that seek to address the management of scarce resources and identify innovative solutions to improving health services, and the evaluation of these interventions, will be supported under this program.

The GHES Fellowship is designed for: US doctoral students (PhD, DrPH, etc.), professional students (MD, DDS, DVM, PharmD, etc.), post-doctoral fellows, and foreign post-doctoral fellows and junior investigators (within 5 years of their terminal degree) from participating international sites in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs): http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-classifications/country-and-lending-groups

U.S. trainees accepted into this program will spend 8-10 months at one of the international training sites available through the GHES consortium (Please see the GHES Fellowship Affiliated International Sites). Accepted foreign fellows will spend their fellowship at their current international training site. All trainees must also attend a mandatory five-day orientation session in Washington, DC at the beginning of their fellowship, which is anticipated to be held on July 5-12, 2015.

8/29/2014
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Global Health Equity Scholars Fellowship Application Guidelines 2015-2016
Additional details can be obtained from the GHES website (http://ghes.berkeley.edu) or from the GHES Program Assistant Director (Melaine Delcroix, mdelcroix@berkeley.edu).

Eligibility

This fellowship is open to:

1. **U.S.-based post-doctoral fellows (PhD, MD, or DVM).**
   - Post-docs with an existing appointment at UC Berkeley, FIU, Stanford or Yale are eligible
   - Postdocs who are offered a new position by at least one program-affiliated faculty mentor (at UC Berkeley, FIU, Stanford or Yale) are eligible
   - This year, we welcome applications from post-docs with an appointment at institutions outside of the consortium. These applicants cannot directly apply. They need to get approval from the program assistant director Melaine Delcroix to apply. Any outside candidate applying without approval will not be considered.

   All PhD candidates must graduate by **July 1, 2015** to be eligible as postdoctoral fellow

2. **U.S.-based advanced doctoral students enrolled in health-related doctoral programs, supported by a mentor (PI) at one of the four consortium institutions, who have passed their qualifying examination, whose dissertation project can be conducted at one of the program’s field sites abroad;**

3. **U.S.-based senior professional students (MD, DDS, DVM, PharmD, etc.) who have completed 3 years of professional school, who have a mentor (PI) at one of the 4 consortium institutions;**

4. **Foreign scholars from participating international sites: investigators within 5 years of their terminal degree (PhD, MD, etc.) and postdocs are eligible to apply.** Please note that when supported by the GHES fellowship, the fellow cannot be receiving salary from his home institution.

- A **US-based applicant must be a citizen of the United States or its territories or possessions, or persons lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence.** Resident aliens must include their green card number in their application.
- Foreign scholars must be citizens of any nation exclusive of high-income countries as defined by the World Bank (http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-classifications/country-and-lending-groups)
- All applicants must have demonstrated interest in, and statement of commitment to, a career in global health research.
- All applicants must have the support of a participating U.S. campus and/or an affiliated international site.
- For US-based post-doctoral applicants, preference is given to those who have received support from their institution’s NIH T32 or other research training grants, or from their institution’s research-oriented global health residency and fellowship training programs.
Types of Support Provided

Fellowships will provide support for 11 consecutive months of stipend, health insurance, modest research supply costs, travel costs to and from the international field site, and a five-day orientation on the campus of the National Institutes of Health. Fellowships are anticipated to begin in July 2015.

For applicants with other sources of funding:
- The program can provide partial fellowship to applicants already supported: for instance, T32 fellows can be awarded research-related and travel funds while their stipends are being supported by the T32 fellowship.
- Keep in mind that FIC concurrent support must be allowable from the other sources’ perspective
- Our program encourages the application of candidates who have additional funding. However, when describing your research proposal, keep in mind that FIC cannot support research activities already funded. You will need to highlight how the GHES proposal differs from your funded activities, and/or how the GHES award would cover expenses not supported by your additional funding.

Application Instructions

1. Complete the on-line application form at https://redcap.stanford.edu/surveys/?s=LLcoZfPWVN
   The application include the following sections:
   - Basic information
   - Foreign language experience
   - Personal Statements: prior research experience; career goals and plans
   - Research plan: description; site; mentors; additional funding
   - Information on referees providing letters of support
   - Demographics

2. Upload the following requested attachments:
   All documents must be uploaded as PDF files.

   a) NIH-style Biosketch: For instructions on how to format your biosketch please refer to NIH guidelines: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html

   b) Transcript: Doctoral and professional student applicants must provide a copy of their most recent transcript. Non-official transcripts are allowed. Already appointed post-doctoral applicants do not need to include a transcript.

   c) NIH-style Biosketch of the applicant’s mentor: For instructions on how to format an NIH-style biosketch please refer to NIH guidelines: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html
3. Letters of Support

All applicants must submit a minimum of two letters of support, and a maximum of three letters of support. Letters should be addressed to: Global Health Equity Scholars Fellowship Selection Committee and should be scanned, or saved as a PDF file and emailed directly by the referee to ghes@rambiss.com.

- The first letter should be from a faculty member at the US or international institution who has agreed to serve as the applicant’s primary research mentor. The mentor should describe the following items: 1) plan for the fellowship; 2) previous track record in mentoring postdoctoral fellows; 3) on-going collaboration with the site; 4) potential twinning between applicant and US/LMIC colleague.

- The second letter should come from someone who knows the applicant well and can address research accomplishments, research potential, and likelihood of a successful research career in global health.

- The third letter/statement is optional but recommended: it should be from the affiliated international site for U.S. applicants or from the U.S. institution for the LMIC applicants. It should confirm the commitment of this site/US mentor to support the candidate during the fellowship, i.e. providing technical advice and career advice.

4. Submit the application

Applications must be completed and submitted online by 3:00 PM PDT on Monday December 1, 2014. You can save your partially completed application online at any time, and return to it later. Please do not submit your application until all required components and attachments have been completed and uploaded. Letters of support will be emailed separately by the referees but must also arrive by December 1, 2014.

Selection Process

A panel of external reviewers will read application materials for all eligible candidates, and will assign a score to each application. The consortium PIs will then conduct brief phone or Skype interviews with the top applicants. Final selection of fellows will be made by the consortium executive committee, based on candidates’ application materials, external reviews and phone/skype interviews. Award decisions will be made mid-February 2015. A formal letter of award will be sent to each fellowship recipient, and candidates who were not selected will be informed by email.

The selection criteria are as follows:

- Candidate background (education, research, publications, foreign work experience, language); career statement (evidence of commitment to global health research)
- Mentoring plan; mentor background (research training experience, publications, current funding availability)
- Letters of support
- Additional sources of funding
- Potential twinning between US and LMIC trainees
Applications are due electronically by **3:00 PM PDT on Monday December 1, 2014**. If a candidate is unable to submit the application electronically, please contact the program coordinator (contact information below) by November 25, 2014 to make alternative submission arrangements. Please anticipate these deadlines to avoid a last-minute submission, as **no applications will be accepted after the deadline even due to circumstances beyond the applicant’s control**.

Please direct inquiries regarding program eligibility to:

Melaine Delcroix  
E-mail: mdelcroix@berkeley.edu

Please direct inquiries regarding the application process to:

Yolanda Thomas  
E-mail: ghes@rambiss.com