



Global Health Equity Scholars Fellowship Program

Application Guidelines for the Global Health Equity Scholars Fellowship for the 2017-2018 Application Cycle

Introduction

The Global Health Equity Scholars (GHES; <http://ghes.berkeley.edu>) fellowship is a 12-month research training program for post-doctoral fellows, advanced PhD students and professional school (MD, DVM, DrPH, DDS, PharmD) students. We are 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 31 affiliated international sites across 24 countries (Bangladesh, Barbados, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Kenya, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Peru, Samoa, South Africa, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine, Zambia and Zimbabwe).

The main objective of the program is to generate a new cadre of global health researchers, educators, and professionals who will be prepared to address the emerging 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, especially STI/HIV, 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 improve health services, and the evaluation of these interventions, will be supported under this program.

The GHES provides trainees with an outstanding opportunity to work with affiliated principal investigators at their LMIC research sites. designed to promote health equity for populations around the world. Trainees will be matched with top-tier global health research faculty from affiliated U.S. institutions and LMIC institutions. The fellows will engage in rich and enduring, mentored research experiences that will foster scientific and career development in global health research.

The GHES Fellowship is designed for: U.S. doctoral students (PhD, DrPH, etc.), professional students (MD, DDS, DVM, PharmD, etc.), post-doctoral fellows, and also non-U.S. post-doctoral fellows and junior investigators (within 5 years of their terminal degree) from participating LMIC sites (<http://ghes.berkeley.edu>)

U.S. trainees accepted into this program will spend 10-11 months at one of the LMIC training sites available through the GHES consortium (Please see the *GHES Fellowship Affiliated International Sites*). Awarded LMIC fellows will spend their fellowship at their home LMIC training site. All trainees must also attend a

mandatory five-day orientation session in Washington, DC at the beginning of their fellowship, anticipated to be held July 17 to 22, 2017.

Additional details can be obtained from the GHES website (<http://ghes.berkeley.edu>) or from the GHES Program Manager (Maria Teresa Hernandez, maria.hernandez@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;
- Post-docs who are offered a new position by at least one program-affiliated faculty mentor (at UC Berkeley, FIU, Stanford or Yale) are eligible;
- Post-docs with an appointment at U.S. institutions not affiliated with the GHES. These applicants cannot directly apply without approval from the program manager Maria Teresa Hernandez. Any non-affiliated candidates applying without approval will not be considered;

All PhD candidates must complete the degree by **July 1, 2017** 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 GHES institutions, who have passed their qualifying examination, whose dissertation project can be conducted at one of the GHES sites;**
- 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 four GHES institutions;**
- 4. LMIC researchers/investigators from GHES affiliated LMIC institutions: 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 her/his home institution.
- **A U.S.-based applicant must be a citizen of the United States or its territories or possessions, or be a U.S. permanent resident.** A green card number must be included in the application of a U.S. permanent resident.
 - LMIC 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>) or a G20 country.
 - 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 an affiliated GHES U.S. institution and/or an affiliated LMIC institution.
 - For U.S.-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 12 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 August 2017.

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 <http://ghes.berkeley.edu/application/step-by-step-instructions/>

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 of a FELLOWSHIP biosketch:
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>
- b) **Transcript:** The following applicants should provide a copy of their most recent transcript (non-official transcripts are allowed):
 - doctoral and professional students

- postdoctoral applicants who will have completed the DVM, PhD, MD, or equivalent by July 1, 2017.

Postdoctoral applicants already appointed in a research position or in a residency do not need to include a transcript.

- c) **NIH-style Biosketch of the applicant's mentor:** For instructions on how to format please refer to NIH guidelines for biosketch Forms D:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>

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 the Global Health Equity Scholars Fellowship Selection Committee, 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 U.S. or LMIC 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 matching between a U.S. and an LMIC colleague (matched research collaborators).
- 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 should be from the LMIC mentor for U.S. applicants or from the U.S. mentor for the LMIC applicants. It should confirm the commitment to support the candidate during the fellowship, i.e. providing technical and career advice, and support the research project.

4. Submit the application

Applications must be completed and submitted online by 5:00 PM PDT on Thursday December 1, 2016. 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, 2016.

Selection Process

A panel of external reviewers will read application materials for all eligible candidates, and will assign a score to each application. The GHES PIs may conduct phone or Skype interviews with applicants as needed. Final selection of fellows will be made by the GHES executive committee based on candidate's application materials, the external reviews and, where applicable, a phone/Skype interview.

The first round of fellowship awards will be offered in early March 2016. The second round of fellowship awards may be offered in May 2016. A formal letter of award will be sent to each fellowship recipient. Candidates who were not selected will be informed by email.

The selection criteria are as follows:

- Candidate background (education, research, publications, international 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 matching between US and LMIC collaborating trainees

If a candidate is unable to submit the application electronically, please contact the program coordinator (contact information below) by November 1, 2016 to make alternative submission arrangements. Please anticipate these deadlines to avoid a last-minute submission.

Please direct inquiries regarding program eligibility to:

Maria Teresa Hernandez

E-mail: maria.hernandez@berkeley.edu

Please direct inquiries regarding the application process to:

Yolanda Thomas

E-mail: ghes@rambiss.com