

Postdoctoral Cancer Research Training Award Fellowship with the Behavioral Research Program

December 2018

Introduction

The National Cancer Institute's Behavioral Research Program (BRP) initiates, supports, and evaluates a comprehensive program of research to increase the breadth, depth, and quality of behavioral research in cancer prevention and control.

BRP is pleased to invite applications from qualified candidates for a postdoctoral Cancer Research Training Award (CRTA) fellowship in psychological and behavioral research related to cancer control. Candidates with expertise studying dyadic relationships and social processes are encouraged to apply.

This full-time position is based in Rockville, Maryland, and provides outstanding opportunities for training and professional development in basic biobehavioral, psychological, and behavioral sciences.



Position Description

The CRTA fellow will function as a member of BRP and will work directly with scientists in research teams to plan, develop, and implement scientific projects. These projects may include secondary data analysis, primary data collection, and theory development, and may focus on cancer-related behaviors in areas of his or her expertise and interest. The fellow will also function as a member of a team leading the development of a longitudinal survey that seeks to evaluate multilevel correlates of cancer risk and preventive behaviors (e.g., diet, physical activity, sun safety, smoking, and alcohol use) among romantic, co-habiting dyads.

Candidates are encouraged to contact current and past fellows, mentors, and other staff members. Visit staffprofiles.cancer.gov/brp to learn more about our network of mentorship and collaboration.

Examples of dyadic processes that may be examined within the context of cancer include:

- Intimacy, satisfaction, and relationship functioning;
- Distress, conflict, and aggression;
- Time spent with partner, enjoyment of time spent with partner, and activities within the relationship;
- Social support, social norms, social control, and power; and
- Communication, emotional expression, and emotion co-regulation.

Day-to-day activities include but are not limited to:

- Conducting literature reviews and synthesizing scientific content;
- Collaborating on web-based and other experiments;
- Performing data analyses for scientific manuscripts, reports, and presentations;
- Authoring manuscripts based on completed data analyses;
- Helping to develop and coordinate survey instruments and facilitating the cognitive testing and validation process;
- Analyzing the research grants portfolio; and
- Leading or assisting with workshops, meetings, and webinars.

Qualifications

- Ph.D. or equivalent degree in psychology, behavioral science, methodology, or a related field
- Interest in examining dyadic processes in the context of cancer risk and preventive behaviors
- Skills in research design and statistics and interest in learning dyadic and survey methods
- Excellent academic standing (and post-degree professional record, if applicable)
- Excellent organizational and project-management skills
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Ability to work independently and on teams

Application Requirements

1. Cover letter describing your research interests, your career goals, and why you would be a successful fellow
2. Resume or curriculum vitae
3. Two signed letters of reference on official letterhead
4. Proof of U.S. citizenship (photocopy of birth certificate or passport)
5. Doctoral degree, official transcripts, and/or proof of good academic standing on official letterhead and signed by graduate program director, advisor, or equivalent

Application materials should be submitted via email to Donna Hopkins at donna.hopkins@nih.gov and to BRP at ncidccpsbrpadvances@mail.nih.gov. Paper copies and official transcripts and/or proof of good academic standing must be mailed to:

Donna Hopkins, ATTN: BRP CRTA
Basic Biobehavioral and Psychological Sciences Branch, Behavioral Research Program
Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, National Cancer Institute
9609 Medical Center Drive, Room 3E202
Rockville, MD 20850-9761

Application Deadline and Position Start Date

This announcement will remain active until the position is successfully filled.
Earliest possible start date is February 1, 2019.

Stipend and Benefits

This position is a one-year, full-time CRTA fellowship with a possibility for renewal. The stipends for CRTA fellows are adjusted yearly and are commensurate with academic achievement and relevant experience. More information is available online at cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brp/research/stipend.html. Benefits include health insurance at no cost and a wide range of career development activities.

Program Contacts

[Rebecca Ferrer, Ph.D.](#)

Program Director
Basic Biobehavioral and Psychological Sciences
Branch, Behavioral Research Program
National Cancer Institute
rebecca.ferrer@nih.gov

[Tanya Agurs-Collins, Ph.D., R.D.](#)

Program Director
Health Behaviors Research Branch
Behavioral Research Program
National Cancer Institute
collinsta@mail.nih.gov