

OVERVIEW

The Health and Social Justice Scholars Program provides a unique opportunity of educating professional and doctoral students in an interprofessional manner to produce high quality scholarly activities related to health equity, health and healthcare disparities, social justice, and healthcare innovation with the goal of benefitting underserved and disadvantaged populations. The program is comprehensive, providing scholars conceptual learning modules, research experience, mentoring, service learning, and professional development. The program is managed by the Health Sciences Center (HSC) Office of Diversity and Inclusion with high collaboration with Schools of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, and Public Health and Information Sciences, as well as community partners.

Students who have a demonstrated interest in health disparities from a community engagement perspective, attend a school at the HSC campus and will be entering their second year of a doctoral program (Au.D., D.M.D., D.N.P., M.D., Ph.D.) in fall 2020 are eligible to apply. Students must be in academic good standing to apply. Scholarship recipients will be chosen by a committee made up of representatives from the University and the Louisville community. Four scholars will be selected (1 scholar from each HSC school). Each scholar will receive a scholarship/stipend for each academic year of participation in addition to mentoring support, research opportunities, and professional development travel support. Scholars may participate in the program for a maximum of three years.

Scholars will participate in clinical work (when appropriate), didactics, community-based experiences and scholarly activities. Scholars will be trained in the techniques of community-based participatory research and evaluation, and will be actively involved in the interactive process of translating research findings into policy development and implementation. Each scholar will have two mentors; one to help them negotiate the rigors of the program and the other from their chosen field to provide guidance in their careers.

Objectives

The purpose of the Health and Social Justice Scholars (HSJS) Program is to provide training using an interprofessional model to perform community-based participatory research addressing disparities in health risk and health outcomes among minority and disadvantaged populations. Specifically, selected scholars will:

- Examine the intersections of race, ethnicity, gender, socio-economic status, geography, sexual orientation and other social factors that contribute to health and healthcare disparities
- Work with diverse community partners in service learning projects
- Develop and complete a community-based participatory research project designed to promote social justice and health equity

- Engage in mentoring and professional development activities to support future career goals

Scholar Responsibilities and Commitment

All applicants must be in academic good standing and obtain a recommendation from a designated academic official attesting to the applicant's ability to undertake additional work and responsibilities. Selected scholars will receive a detailed orientation concerning the expectations and requirements of their scholarship. On average, scholars should anticipate a 2-3 hour commitment per week to this program. In summary, scholarship recipients will be required to meet the following criteria:

1. Remain in good academic standing.
2. Work collaboratively with other scholarship recipients and/or with HSC partner organizations to complete a major research project focusing on health equity and social determinants of health issues.
3. Scholars will be required to attend monthly lectures (either in person or online) as part of the curriculum.
4. Scholars must meet with their project mentor at least monthly.
5. Scholars must meet with ODI appointed staff at least monthly for guidance and report progress.
6. Scholars must meet with their career mentor at least every three months.
7. Scholars are expected to present their findings to their community partners and their peers in their respective HSC School.
8. Scholars are expected to present their findings at a national conference and/or publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

Although this program is designed to be a three-year commitment and renewable scholarship, scholars may be dismissed at any time if the scholar fails to meet the required responsibilities of the program.

About the Health Sciences Center Office of Diversity and Inclusion

The HSC Office of Diversity and Inclusion is led by Assistant Vice President for Health Affairs/ Diversity Initiatives, V. Faye Jones, M.D., Ph.D., M.S.P.H. Dr. Jones is supported by a team of professionals who have a long history of supporting aspiring health professionals from rural areas, persons who are underrepresented in the health sciences, and individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. Our mission is to conceptualize, cultivate and coordinate partnerships across the schools of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing and Public Health & Information Sciences by building organizational capacity and expanding leadership competency for HSC diversity and inclusion efforts. We have a vision of being a model for innovation for health equity driven by excellence in education, community outreach and research. The Health and Social Justice program builds upon ongoing efforts currently in place through our health equity programming in Louisville and the surrounding region to identify and provide potential interventions to mitigate health disparities in our changing demographics.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Required Application Components

1. Completed Application Form*
2. Essay* (1000 words or less): *Considering a social justice perspective, what is a major concern you see within the Louisville community that impacts health? How can your profession work with community leaders to create change and improved health outcomes concerning this issue?*
3. Biographical Sketch* (250 words or less): *Applicants must provide a brief biographical sketch about themselves, in third person.*
4. Research Statement* (250 words or less) and profile: *This brief statement should summarize the applicant's research experience (if any) and interests. Applicants should also include a list of any prior research experience and academic products.*
5. Community Engagement Statement* (250 words or less) and profile: *This brief statement should summarize the applicant's experience and interest in working with communities to address social justice issues. Applicants should also include a list of prior relevant community engagement activities.*
6. Up to date curriculum Vitae*
7. Academic Recommendation Form & Letter of Support** *This should come from an appropriate academic official with oversight of the applicant's academic program such as the Dean of Student Affairs or Academic Department Chair*
8. Additional Recommendation Form & Letter of Support**: *Applicants should select an individual to evaluate and comment on the applicant's displayed commitment and interest in community engagement, service, and social justice activities.*
9. Official Transcripts from all post-secondary institutions*** (Due to limited staffing and time limitations, Unofficial Transcripts will be accepted during the 2020 Application period until Official Transcripts arrive. Please email your Unofficial Transcript to hscodi@louisville.edu. Please keep in mind that Official Transcripts are still required in order to be fully accepted into the program.)
10. Completed University photo/video release and & consent form

*Applicants should submit components in one email to hscodi@louisville.edu with the subject: "HSJS Application: Applicant Name"

**Recommendations and Letters of Support should be submitted directly from the writer to hscodi@louisville.edu with the subject: "HSJS Letter of Support: Applicant Name"

***Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions should be addressed to:

HSC Office of Diversity and Inclusion

Abell Administration Center, Suite 502

University of Louisville

Attention: Health and Social Justice Scholars

Louisville, KY 40202

Application Timeline

The Health Sciences Center Office of Diversity and Inclusion will accept applications for the Health and Social Justice Scholars from **January 7, 2020 – April 30, 2020**. All application components are due by 11:59pm on Thursday, April 30, 2020. Finalist interviews will be held during the month of May. Finalists will be notified of their selection status by July 1, 2020. The Health and Social Justice Scholars program will launch in August 2020.

Please contact the Health Sciences Center Office of Diversity and Inclusion at 502-852-7159 or hscodi@louisville.edu for any questions regarding the Health and Social Justice Scholars program or application requirements.

Scholar Application Form- *Deadline March 27, 2020*

Applicant Information

Full Name: _____

Name that you wish to go by: _____
Last First M.I.
Last First

Current Address: _____
Street Address Apartment/Unit #
City State ZIP Code

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Pronouns used: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Student ID #: _____

Race: _____ Ethnicity: _____

HSC School: Dentistry Medicine Nursing Public Health and Information Sciences

Degree Program Currently Enrolled in: _____

Program Start Date: _____ Anticipated Graduation Date: _____

Are you a full-time student? YES NO Are you in academic good standing? YES NO

Were you a first generation college student? YES NO Did you grow up in an underserved or rural area until the age of 18? YES NO

Do you consider yourself disadvantaged in any way (if yes, briefly explain below)? YES NO

Education

High School: _____ City, State: _____

Graduation Date: _____

College 1: _____ City, State: _____

From: _____ To: _____ Did you graduate? YES NO Degree/Major: _____

College 2: _____ City, State: _____

From: _____ To: _____ Did you graduate? YES NO Degree/Major: _____

College 3: _____ City, State: _____

From: _____ To: _____ Did you graduate? YES NO Degree/Major: _____

College 4: _____ City, State: _____

From: _____ To: _____ Did you graduate? YES NO Degree/Major: _____

Scholarship & Tuition Funding Information

Please list all scholarship, grant, fellowship, and financial aid (including loans) funds that you currently receive:

Source: _____ Award Period: _____
Amount: \$ _____ Is this renewable each year?: YES NO

Source: _____ Award Period: _____
Amount: \$ _____ Is this renewable each year?: YES NO

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Amount: \$ _____ Is this renewable each year?: YES NO

Source: _____ Award Period: _____
Amount: \$ _____ Is this renewable each year?: YES NO

Source: _____ Award Period: _____
Amount: \$ _____ Is this renewable each year?: YES NO

Source: _____ Award Period: _____
Amount: \$ _____ Is this renewable each year?: YES NO

Disclaimer and Signature

I understand that the information submitted on this form and the submitted supporting documents are for preliminary evaluation of my eligibility for the Health and Social Justice Scholars Program. I understand that acceptance into this program requires verification of the information

submitted. By my signature below, I understand that any revealed falsification will result in the withdrawal of my application or could revoke my acceptance into this program.

Signature: _____ Date: _____