

HEALTHY WEIGHT PROMOTION TRAINING PROGRAM

The Healthy Weight Promotion (HWP) Applied Epidemiology Training Program provides training for the next generation of researchers dedicated to ensuring positive weight-related health among young people and families from diverse communities. The program addresses a broad spectrum of eating, activity, and weight-related problems, including obesity, poor dietary intake, inadequate physical activity, body dissatisfaction, and disordered eating/eating disorders. Dr. Dianne Neumark-Sztainer is the Program Director of this NIH-funded program, which is supported by a Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award, Institutional Research Training Grant.



Current Openings: There are currently openings for one-year and multi-year fellowships at the pre-doctoral and post-doctoral levels. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until all of the openings are filled. See below for details about the fellowship and application process.

THE FELLOWSHIP EXPERIENCE

The HWP Applied Epidemiology Training Program is designed to prepare trainees to develop an independent program of research aimed at the promotion of positive weight-related health in populations at greatest need.

Specifically, trainees will gain the skills needed to:

- Address the broad spectrum of eating, activity, and weight-related problems.
- Work with young people and families during periods of the life course that are critical for positive weight-related health.
- Reduce disparities in weight-related outcomes among ethnically/racially and socioeconomically diverse populations.
- Conduct both observational and intervention research focused on healthy weight promotion.
- Translate research findings into action through work with key stakeholders, including policy makers and the media.



Trainees will receive interdisciplinary professional training through individualized mentorship, active involvement in research projects, course work, peer group work, health equity and diversity trainings, and other learning activities (e.g., workshops, faculty development program). Mentoring will be focused on disseminating study findings via peer-reviewed publications and oral presentations, grantsmanship, research ethics, career development, and communicating research findings to professional audiences and the public.

Training goals are accomplished by matching trainees with faculty mentors who guide trainees in the development of the technical expertise and skills they will need to be successful, independent researchers.

Tuition benefits, an NIH stipend, and support for scientific meeting travel and other training experiences are provided to pre-doctoral and post-doctoral fellows.

ELIGIBILITY

Predoctoral candidates must be accepted to the University of Minnesota Social and Behavioral Epidemiology PhD program prior to starting the fellowship. Postdoctoral candidates must have

earned a doctoral degree (e.g., PhD, DrPH, ScD, MD). All candidates must be U.S. citizens or have permanent residency status. Candidates who identify as Black, Indigenous, or persons of color and individuals who are first generation college/university students are particularly encouraged to apply.



Preferred qualifications include an outstanding academic record (e.g., GPA, previous training, research productivity), strong alignment of career interests with the goals of the HWP Epidemiology Training Program, experience in working with diverse communities, positive recommendations from previous mentors and/or

professional colleagues, evidence of commitment to and likely success in conducting research of relevance to the training program, ability to recognize important research problems and a demonstrated capacity to seek solutions, strong interpersonal skills, intellectual integrity and curiosity, and a passion for addressing health inequities.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Interested individuals will need to submit a completed application, curriculum vitae, transcripts, and a sample publication or other evidence of writing skills. Applicants should also request letters of recommendation from two references.

For more information on the training program and how to apply, see the following website:

<https://z.umn.edu/hwpT32>

Questions about the application process may be sent by email to hwpT32@umn.edu.

