



# Cancer Research Training Award (CRTA) Fellowship in the Health Behaviors Research Branch of the National Cancer Institute

The National Cancer Institute (NCI), a major research component of the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Health and Human Services, is pleased to invite applications from qualified candidates for a Cancer Research Training Award (CRTA), with an emphasis on health behaviors research. The CRTA appointment, is a one- or two-year position with the Health Behaviors Research Branch (HBRB), Behavioral Research Program (BRP), Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences (DCCPS) of the National Cancer Institute.

<http://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brp/about.html>

<http://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brp/hbrb/index.html>.

This is a full-time position and will be based in Rockville, Maryland. The position will allow the applicant to interact with a large number of scientists representing the disciplines of nutrition, behavioral sciences, obesity prevention, physical activity, skin cancer prevention, gene-environment interactions, behavioral genetics and other disciplines within public health, at the NCI, the NIH and at institutions around the country.

The Cancer Research Training Award provides an outstanding opportunity for an individual with a strong interest in health behaviors and cancer control to gain experience working with an extramural behavioral scientist at the National Cancer Institute.

## **Position Description**

The trainee will be a member of the HBRB and work directly with HBRB scientists on projects related to the HBRB mission. Areas of research include obesity prevention, nutrition and physical activity behavioral intervention and assessment, skin cancer prevention (sun protection and UV-exposure/intentional tanning research), behavioral genetics and gene - behavior interactions. The HBRB is launching a pilot project, the "Family Life, Activity, Sun, Health and Eating (FLASHE) survey that seeks to evaluate factors associated with obesity and cancer prevention by examining correlates of cancer preventive behaviors, mainly diet, activity and sedentary behaviors (but also examining other behaviors such as sleep, sun-safety, and tobacco). The trainee will be involved with daily operations and project management of this research study. Day-to-day activities might include conducting literature reviews; performing data analyses of large population based datasets and preparing scientific manuscripts; aiding in the management and

administration of a large survey (FLASHE) or other initiatives; developing scientific presentations; aiding in development of branch communication and dissemination materials and activities; analyzing the HBRB research portfolio; developing conferences or workshops relevant to HBRB mission; participating in HBRB meetings; and attending lectures or other training opportunities sponsored by the National Institutes of Health. Additionally, the trainee may have opportunities to initiate and develop his or her own projects, as well as work with other scientific staff at the National Cancer Institute and other Institutes/Centers at the National Institutes of Health.

### **Qualifications**

The appointment will consider a pre-doctoral or post-doctoral status candidates. Qualifications will be evaluated independently for pre-doctoral and post-doctoral candidates.

- Pre-doctoral candidates should have a M.S, M.P.H., or equivalent degree in public health, health promotion, behavioral sciences, nutrition, health psychology, genetics/gene-behavior interactions, or related disciplines.
- Post-doctoral candidates should have a Ph.D., or equivalent degree in public health, health promotion, behavioral sciences, nutrition, health psychology, genetics/gene-behavior interactions, or related disciplines.
- A strong interest in health behaviors specifically focused in primary cancer prevention and nutrition, physical activity, other obesity related behaviors, gene-behavior interactions or behavioral genetics.
- Experience conducting research or serving as a research assistant on a scientific project.
- Excellent organizational, planning, writing, and project management skills;
- Excellent interpersonal skills;
- The ability to work independently and on research teams;
- Data management and word processing skills (proficiency with EXCEL and statistical software packages is beneficial)

### **Application Requirements**

- A cover letter and contact information with an explanation of your interest and experience in health behaviors research, specifically within the areas of nutrition, obesity, physical activity, genetic influences on behaviors and cancer prevention. Include a statement explaining how you see the CRTA position furthering your career goals. Please provide your earliest possible start date.
- Two letters of reference from supervisors or professors signed and on letterhead with email addresses and phone numbers included. If signed letters are unavailable electronically, an initial unsigned version is acceptable with the remainder of the application packer; however, a signed copy must follow by mail to the address below.
- CV or resume.
- Graduate transcripts. If an official transcript is unavailable electronically, an unofficial transcript is acceptable with the remainder of the application packer; however, an official transcript must follow by mail to the address

- below.
- Must be a US citizen or resident alien.

**Stipend and Benefits**

The trainee stipend is commensurate with education and relevant post-degree experience. The stipend ranges for a trainee with a doctoral degree is \$45,500 – 50,400 or with a masters degree is \$33,900 – 39,400. Health benefits are available at no cost. Some flexibility on work hours will be allowed. Participation in conferences and continued training is encouraged.

**Start Date**

The CRTA start date is negotiable.

**Application Deadline**

As of February 10, 2013, applications will be accepted until the vacancy has been filled.

**Inquiries and Mailing Address**

For further information about the CRTA position, contact:

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