

WUSTL Transdisciplinary Pre- and Postdoctoral Training Program in Obesity and Cardiovascular Disease

Washington University School of Medicine in Saint Louis

Call for Applications!

This new NHLBI-funded T32 training program at Washington University's School of Medicine is currently accepting applications for pre- and postdoctoral fellowship positions.

The goals of the training program are to: 1) train talented transdisciplinary pre- and postdoctoral trainees to become independent scientists in obesity and CVD capable of working within and leading transdisciplinary research teams; 2) provide trainees with primary mentoring from highly-qualified, senior obesity/CVD researchers and augment the trainees' experiences with training from senior co-mentors with renowned translational research programs that can extend and inform the traditional scope of obesity/CVD research; and 3) provide training in the ethical and socially responsible conduct of obesity and CVD research across the lifespan including with vulnerable populations (e.g., children, mental health populations).

The Program Director for this training grant is Dr. Denise Wilfley (wilfleyd@psychiatry.wustl.edu) and Co-Director is Dr. Samuel Klein (SKlein@wustl.edu) of the Washington University School of Medicine. The study, prevention, and treatment of obesity require the transdisciplinary integration of medical, behavioral, genetic, metabolic, and public health research approaches and findings. The study of obesity and the relation of its prevention and treatment to CVD risk must therefore be approached from a multi-level, transdisciplinary perspective requiring specialized training in translational research methods. Accordingly, we have 17 primary mentors and 28 co-mentors who have appointments across 15 departments/divisions, which support a thriving community of trainees. Pairing mentees with mentors with backgrounds in the biomedical, cognitive and behavioral, and population health sciences will facilitate trainees' understanding of multiple facets of obesity and enable them to translate this information into impactful, disseminable interventions – the goal of transdisciplinary science.

The Director, Co-Director, and mentors work with trainees to develop a training plan that includes:

1) collaborative mentoring; 2) didactic and professional development training tailored to trainees' individual needs; and 3) development and completion of translational research projects, grant applications, publications, and presentations based on program expectations.

Requirements: Predoctoral candidates must be enrolled in one of the following doctoral or dual-degree programs at Washington University: Clinical Psychology, Social Work, Public Health, Human and Statistical Genetics, Molecular Cell Biology, or Neuroscience. Postdoctoral candidates are required to possess a PhD, MD, or other doctoral degree in a related discipline or be enrolled in an accredited doctoral degree program and fulfill all degree requirements prior to program entry. All applicants must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States at the time of application. Students from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups and students with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply.

Applications: To apply, please send a cover letter, curriculum vitae, two-page (single-space) statement describing research interests and experience, and three letters of recommendation to Program Administrator, Heather Wilkins (wilkinsh@psychiatry.wustl.edu). Applications will be reviewed and accepted on a rolling basis, but priority will be given to those interested in starting by July 1, 2017.

For more details, please visit our website at:

<https://healthyweightandwellness.wustl.edu/education/t32-training-program/>

Washington University is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer of all protected classes including veterans and individuals with disabilities.

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