

Inter-CFAR Fellowship Program in Implementation Science (2024-2025)

Joint Fellowship in Sociostructural Determinants of Health (SDoH) & IS

On behalf of the Mid-Atlantic CFAR Consortium (MACC+) Implementation Science Hub at Johns Hopkins University and the inter-CFAR Implementation Science Working Group, we are welcoming applications for our sixth cohort of the NIH/NIAID-funded training opportunity in implementation science (IS) for early-stage investigators (ESIs) engaging in HIV-related research. Since its inaugural class of 2019-2020, the fellowship has engaged 128 fellows in the program. Implementation Science Fellows will be selected across the CFAR network, HBCUs and U.S. Universities to participate in a mentorship program, including both didactic, online, and mentored small group training in IS methodology. The applied mentorship focuses on the development of a grant application which incorporates IS methodology and/or training and culminates in a two-day in person grant refinement and networking workshop. This workshop will take place in Baltimore on May 13-14, 2025, and **attendance is a requirement of the Fellowship.**

Fellows are expected to:

- Complete a series of up to 22 pre-recorded modules
- Engage in live weekly discussion sessions throughout the Fellowship to discuss lectures, critical papers in the field, IS methods, and advance their grants. Note, the sessions are held on **Thursdays from 3-4 pm EST from program inception October 17, 2024- May 2025**, with breaks over the holiday seasons.
- Develop a grant incorporating IS research
- Attend a two-day in-person workshop with the mentorship team to present grant progress and receive feedback, which will take place in **May 13-14, 2025**

The overarching goal of the fellowship is to support ESIs focused on HIV-related research with training and mentoring opportunities in IS to encourage and capacitate ESIs in the submission of successful IS-focused grants. Specifically, the objectives are:

- 1) Fill an implementation science training gap among emergent HIV-focused investigators
- 2) Support ESIs in the development of an implementation science focused grant
- 3) Foster cross-institutional networking and mentorship opportunities for ESIs within the field of HIV-implementation science

Mentoring Team and Associated Faculty: Stefan Baral (JHU), Christopher Hoffmann (JHU), Elvin Geng (Washington University in St. Louis), Vivian Go (UNC), Arianna Means (UW), Denis Nash (CUNY), Sheree Schwartz (JHU), Kenneth Sherr (UW), J.D. Smith (Utah SOM), Patrick Sullivan (Emory), Carolyn Audet (Vanderbilt), Jessica Sales (Emory), Larry Hearld (UAB), Borsika Rabin (UCSD), Nicole Stadnick (UCSD), and Robin Gaines Lanzi (UAB)

Eligibility and logistics: Spots will be reserved exclusively for early-stage faculty (Assistant Professor, Research Assistant Professor and equivalent positions), post-doctoral fellows, and exceptional senior-level PhD candidates. All applicants must be NIH-defined early-stage

investigators (ESIs) who have not held an R01 or equivalent award. The Fellowship is targeted at faculty, though exceptional pre- and post-doctoral candidates ready to submit grants will be considered. ESIs who hold or previously held EHE IS grant supplement awards are encouraged to apply.

Applicants will be asked to submit their NIH formatted biosketch, a one-page specific aims document pertaining to the grant that they will be developing, provide basic details of their proposed IS-related grant (e.g. working title, proposed funding mechanism, submission cycle), and a brief summary of their prior experience and planned future directions conducting implementation science research. The specific aims page does not need to be polished and is expected to evolve during the fellowship as IS skills advance. Because grant development is critical to the fellowship, however, we are seeking out applicants who will be submitting a grant that incorporates IS methodology and are committed to moving this forward. Funding will be available for the IS Fellows to attend the 2-day in-person meeting planned for May 13-14, 2025.

HIV, Social and Structural Determinants of Health, and Implementation Science

In partnership with the Implementation Science Coordination Initiative (ISCI) at Northwestern University, the University of Alabama (UA), and the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), 6 slots will be available in the 2024-2025 cohort for joint training in social and structural determinants of health (SDoH) and implementation science. The SDoH & IS Fellows will similarly apply to the HIV & IS Fellowship and will be expected to complete all of the requirements of the HIV & IS Fellowship. Additionally, SDoH and IS joint Fellows will attend a kick-off event with their community implementing partner at the UAB Institute for Human Rights (IHR) in Birmingham, Alabama **November 14-15, 2024**, and attend the May 2024 culminating meeting one-day early on May 12, 2025. **Attendance at these events is a requirement of the joint fellowship.**

Joint Fellows will receive a mentor from IHR and from the HIV & IS Fellowship. Applicants will be asked if they wish to be considered for the joint fellowship and if interested, will be required to complete additional questions about their underlying interest in SDoH, their experience with community partners, and whether they have a current community partner. Specific aims for their proposed grant should be relevant to both SDoH and IS. The proposed grant must also focus on domestic HIV research, and, if a community partner is included, the partner must be located in the U.S. Faculty at IHR associated with the SDoH & IS Fellowship include Dr. Tina Kempin Reuter (UAB) and Dr. Dione King (UA) as well as IHR faculty associates who research SDoH, equity, community-engaged research, and policy.

Interested applicants should apply online by Friday, August 30th, 11:59 pm EDT at:

https://jh.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_42yTRVuD99kCeDc

Outcomes will be announced by Tuesday, September 17, 2024. The virtual fellowship will begin October 17, 2024.

Please direct questions to Anna Katomski at akatoms1@jhmi.edu.