

2017 Post-Doctoral Fellowships

Instructions to Referees

1. Please submit the reference letter using your department letter head.
2. Letters can be submitted:
 - a. To the applicant: Please seal the signed document(s) in an envelope, place your signature across the seal, and return to the applicant for submission.
 - b. Directly to HSPRN: Please seal the signed document(s) in an envelope, place your signature across the seal, and send to:

Admissions

Health System Performance Research Network
 c/o Jessica Goncalves
 IHPME, University of Toronto
 Health Science Building, 4th floor, Suite 425
 155 College Street, Toronto ON M5T 3M6

Contact information:

HSPRN Research Project Manager
 Email: hsprn@utoronto.ca
 Phone: 416-946-5023
 Fax: 416-978-7350

- c. Electronically: Electronic signatures or scanned signed documents are accepted. Please send the letter to hsprn@utoronto.ca.

Applicants are required to submit three letters of support. Letters are comprised of two letters from individuals familiar with their research and academic background and aptitude and one letter from their proposed Post-Doctoral Supervisor.

Referee Letters of Support	Please write a letter of reference providing a sincere assessment of the applicant's scholarly merit and their strengths and weaknesses. Evaluate the applicant's level of achievement relative to peers in the same discipline. Comment on the objectives and methods of the proposed program of research and the relative merit of this research within the applicant's home discipline. Your commentary will be written for reviewers outside the discipline.
Supervisor Letter of Support	<p>Commitment from the applicant's supervisor is required at the time of the application. The Fellow and Supervisor are expected to meet regularly to address interdisciplinary research issues in the Fellow's project, to build interdisciplinary research and knowledge translation relationships, and to support the Fellow's professional development.</p> <p>A detailed letter of support from the proposed Supervisor is an essential component of the Fellowship application package.</p> <p>For example, the Supervisor should explain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the applicant's publication record highly competitive or average? • Is the applicant's research project innovative?

The Supervisor should also evaluate the applicant’s aptitude for interdisciplinary, collaborative research and the applicant’s ‘fit’ with HSPRN. For example,

- Is the proposed research project an appropriate vehicle for interdisciplinary approaches?
- Is the proposed research project an appropriate fit for the HSPRN?

The Supervisor should also make mention that he/she will act as supervisor supporting and advising the post-doctoral fellow throughout the 2017 academic year.

About the HSPRN Post-Doctoral Fellowships

HSPRN About Us

The HSPRN is an inter-organizational university network of researchers, providers, and policy-makers focused on the development of measures of Ontario health system performance and innovative practice that improve care, cost burden, and population health, particularly for individuals who require care and management from multiple sectors of the health system.

The HSPRN fosters cross-sectoral collaborative research and knowledge translation and integration of these activities among decision-makers and researchers in the production of new knowledge throughout the research cycle. Knowledge and evidence are translated to decision-makers representing policy and provider groups as well as other researchers through interventions in collaboration with care providers as well as seminars, newsletters, peer-reviewed publications, and special symposia.

The network is a collaboration of over 40 scientists, graduate students, policy-makers and allied organizations. To see a current list of our members and their research please visit <http://hsprn.ca/?p=35>.

Fellowships

Post-Doctoral Fellows are an integral part of HSPRN’s research goals and play key roles on many research teams.

An HSPRN Fellowship offers the opportunity to develop research in the context of a network of researchers with substantive focus on performance measurement in the health system. HSPRN-funded research projects include topics related to Health Care Performance Measurement, Performance Reporting, Health System Performance, Quality Measurement, Health Care Quality, Health Care Costs, and Efficiency and Care Transitions.

HSPRN Post-Doctoral fellowship include a stipend, innovative research, mentorship, and exposure to network.

2 Fellows may be accepted for the 2017 session.

Post-Doctoral Fellows will acknowledge the HSPRN program in their presentations, publications, and other knowledge translation activities related to research conducted during their Fellowship.

<p>Eligibility</p>	<p>Applicants must hold a PhD before commencing the fellowship. Trainees must have a research project that aligns with the research themes identified below. Research must focus on the care and supports for individuals with need for services in the health system. The post-doctoral supervisor need not be an HSPRN affiliate, however applications must be supported by an Investigator in the HSPRN. The Investigator must be identified in a research statement. A list of investigators is available on our website (http://hsprn.ca/?p=35).</p>
<p>Research Themes</p>	<p>In order to be eligible for an HSPRN fellowship the research project must focus on performance measurement within one of the research themes:</p> <p>Theme 1: Target Populations for Health System Performance Improvement: Dissect high cost users from a range of perspectives. The key research questions under this theme include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What are the care trajectories and utilization patterns for each specific population? ○ Which care patterns are associated with better patient health outcomes? ○ What are the patient, caregiver and provider experiences of care including the barriers and facilitators to receiving care in the right time and place to optimize patient-centred care and outcomes? <p>Theme 2: Learning from Success: Develop new knowledge about the approaches to successful implementation and scale-up of interventions that address the needs highlighted in our target populations work. The critical research question addressed in this theme is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How do successful models develop and what are the necessary factors and features associated with successful scale-up and spread? <p>Theme 3: Evaluating Ontario Initiatives: Employ realist evaluation methods to evaluate provincial initiatives in Ontario that address needs of our target populations. The key question for projects under this theme is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What works for whom and what are the contextual conditions for success in implementation and scale-up in Ontario?
<p>Admission Criteria</p>	<p>All applicants will be reviewed by the Admissions Review Committee using the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Scholarly Merit and Quality of Proposed Research (50%) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Quality of applicant (academic records and referee comments) b. Description and significance of the research project c. Contribution to the field 2. Fit with HSPRN (50%) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Pertinence of research to HSPRN’s framework and priorities b. Aptitude for interdisciplinary research c. Clarity in the roles of Mentors
<p>Important Dates</p>	<p>Applications Due: February 2, 2017 Results Available: February 27, 2017</p>