ROSE TRAVELING FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM IN CHRONIC DISEASE EPIDEMIOLOGY AND BIOSTATISTICS

Public health exists in a multi-national, multi-cultural world. With the speed of travel, and information networks, opportunities for cross-cultural exchange are widespread. Until now, opportunities in international health have been strongest in the areas of family planning and infectious disease, mainly in developing countries.

The goal of the Rose Traveling Fellowship is to give graduate students and postdocs in the Departments of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, from the Harvard School of Public Health, a cross-cultural experience, which could be in a developed country or a developing country. Eligible students must be enrolled in a Master's or PhD Program for a minimum of one (1) year after funds are disbursed. Similarly, Postdoc Fellows must be appointed in the department for a minimum of one (1) year after the funds are disbursed.

The Rose Traveling Fellowship Program at the Harvard School of Public Health will provide critical financial support for students or post-doctoral scholars traveling abroad for internships, research work, or any other academically related projects related to chronic disease epidemiology and/or biostatistics.

Applicants should submit a brief summary (1 page) in the form of a personal essay describing:

- their travel plans
- o research strategy or internship objective
- o the background experience and skills the applicant will bring to the project
- the skills or experiences the applicant hopes to acquire
- o how the experience fits into the applicant's overall academic and career goals

If the applicant is planning a research project, the essay should mention the research topic, hypothesis, methodology, data collection strategy in the country, and subsequent analysis planned by the applicant.

Each applicant should also submit (1) a budget and (2) a short faculty recommendation from their academic advisor or other faculty member familiar with their academic plans.

Fellowship recipients will be chosen by the chairs of the Departments of Epidemiology and Biostatistics. Candidates will be selected on the basis of academic merit, faculty recommendations, and the nature of their proposed trip. Excellence and an ability to make a difference in the world are the top criteria.

There are four \$5,000 awards and three \$10,000 awards available that will be given out over the course of this academic year. There will be two deadlines for the 2023 – 2024 academic year: November 10, 2023, and April 12, 2024. The grant is expected to cover the cost of airfare and other travel costs, provide a stipend for food and housing, and assist with any research expenses.

The award will be considered taxable income, so it is important to include taxes in the budget if you do not want to pay this out-of-pocket. Stipend payments will be made approximately two months after award decision. If selected, the funds must be used within one (1) year of being awarded and before graduating or departing HSPH. If funds are not used within that timeframe or prior to graduating/departing HSPH, they must be returned to the department. Additionally, if funds are not used within the above timeline due to COVID-19, they must be returned as well.

Upon returning to the Harvard School of Public Health, grant recipients will be expected to provide a written summary of their experience and to be available to meet the donor when possible. In addition, the Departments of Epidemiology and Biostatistics will host an annual seminar to provide each year's grant recipients with an opportunity to share their travel and research experiences with the larger School community.