



The University of South Carolina Arnold School of Public Health (ASPH) Office of Research and South Carolina SmartState Center for Healthcare Quality (CHQ)

Invite applications for the  
**2018 CHQ Junior Scholar Program**

The *South Carolina SmartState Center for Healthcare Quality (CHQ)* is committed to engaging in innovative research that will enhance the quality of life for individuals in South Carolina and around the world. Our mission is to contribute to advances in healthcare and population health through rigorous research, education, community engagement, and policy advocacy.

<http://chq.sc.edu/>

**Goals:** The *CHQ Junior Scholar Program* is designed to:

- Promote early exposure of graduate students from across various colleges and schools at the University of South Carolina to advanced research training
- Enhance students' essential experiences in education, research, and professional development
- Cultivate students' research interests in health care and population health
- Increase interdisciplinary collaboration at the University of South Carolina

**Benefits of the *CHQ Junior Scholar Program*:**

- One-on-one mentoring relationship with a CHQ faculty member
- Hands-on research experience
- Close interaction with other pre-doctoral and post-doctoral trainees at the CHQ
- A supplementary stipend of \$1,500 per semester (i.e., a total of \$3,000 per year). Stipends will be released to each scholar upon completion of responsibilities and deliverables on or before established deadlines
- Additional Funds upon request (up to \$1,500 per person per year) to help defray travel expenses to participate in a scientific conference or to publish research findings

**Responsibilities and Expectations of Junior Scholars:**

Education:

- Maintain good academic standing in home department/program (i.e., GPA  $\geq$  3.5)
- Establish a mentoring team consisting of scholar's CHQ faculty mentor and other scholars to create individualized research goals
- Actively participate in other ASPH and CHQ training activities (e.g., seminars, colloquia, workshops)

### Research:

- Actively engage in an area of research mutually determined by CHQ faculty mentor and junior scholar
- Contribute as a leading-author on at least one publishable manuscript during the year of commitment that is developed in collaboration with the mentoring team
- Present research findings at annual CHQ Junior Scholar symposium
- Make one local, state, national, or international scientific presentation during the year
- Improve grant writing skills through trainings and opportunities offered by the CHQ

### Professional Development:

- Meet each semester with CHQ faculty mentor to review progress
- Attend all Junior Scholar professional development presentations offered by the CHQ
- Attend professional development presentations offered by ASPH and other university departments
- Work closely with other pre-doctoral and post-doctoral level trainees at the CHQ
- Network with other experts in the field via the CHQ's network of researchers and community partners

### **Admission criteria:**

The CHQ junior program will be open to eligible full-time doctoral students enrolled in any departments/programs located on the main USC-Columbia campus, that have a focus area and/or research interests related to health care and population health. The qualified applicants need to show evidence of:

- Enrollment as a full-time doctoral student
- Strong academic record in appropriate coursework (GPA>3.5)
- Multidisciplinary research interests relevant to ASPH and CHQ research missions
- Research experience and productivity
- Compatibility of research interest with a CHQ faculty member
- Strong scientific writing skills

### **Application Procedure:**

Interested students should submit a complete application package to Dr. Christine Beyer, CHQ Junior Scholar Program Coordinator, via email ([CEBEYER@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:CEBEYER@mailbox.sc.edu)) by **March 16, 2018**. Application package should include the following:

- Cover letter stating research interests and long-term career goals
- Curriculum vita
- Academic graduate transcripts (student copies accepted)
- One sample of scientific writing (e.g., publication, class paper, etc.)
- Letter of support/recommendation from current or past department advisor

All completed applications will be evaluated by the CHQ faculty based on admission criteria. Following Junior Scholar notification and acceptance into the program, their enrollment will begin on June 1, 2018. Women, minorities, individuals with disabilities and veterans are strongly encouraged to apply. Students who have previously been named CHQ Junior Scholars may reapply for funding each subsequent year (Junior Scholars may be reappointed but there is no automatic renewal appointment).

For additional inquiries, please contact Dr. Christine Beyer, Junior Scholar Program Coordinator, South Carolina SmartState Center for Healthcare Quality (CHQ) at 803-777-5027 or [CEBEYER@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:CEBEYER@mailbox.sc.edu).