Call for Washington D.C. Congressional Policy Postdoctoral Scholar Applications

**Program Description**

The Edna Bennett Pierce Prevention Research Center at The Pennsylvania State University (PSU) invites applications for a Postdoctoral Scholar interested in supporting the translation of scientific evidence to policymakers. This exciting opportunity to engage in evidence-based policymaking efforts includes implementation of a novel model for training researchers to more effectively work with Congressional Offices—known as the Research-to-Policy Collaboration model (research2policy.org). Successful candidates will show enthusiasm and commitment to accelerating the translation of science to policy. The Scholar will receive training in implementing the model, working directly with Congressional Offices to understand their need for scientific evidence and leading rapid response research teams to translate research to policy.

Applicants who would like to pursue this position should have some policy experience, substantial collaboration experience, and strong communication and interpersonal skills. The selected scholar will be mentored by Drs. Max Crowley and Taylor Scott. The postdoc’s professional growth will be supported via applied experiences such as synthesizing research for policymakers, meeting with legislative staff about their research needs, and coordinating contributions to rapid responses among leading scholars. The scholar will also have the opportunity to be involved in an evaluation of the model’s effectiveness funded by the William T. Grant Foundation. Successful candidates for the program will be selected on the basis of their applied research experience, breadth of child and family research knowledge, and interpersonal skill.

PSU will appoint a recent recipient of a Ph.D. degree as a Postdoctoral Scholar for a one-year term appointment beginning in February, 2019. There is a strong possibility that the selected candidate will be appointed for an annual, non-tenure track, academic appointment, based on postdoc performance. The postdoc will receive a competitive stipend with full health benefits, support for travel, preparation of scholarly work, and technology needs. The postdoc will also be provided access to university resources. Candidates should note that while this is an appointment with The Pennsylvania State University, the selected scholar will need to be within commuting distance to Washington D.C.

**Eligibility**

Eligible applicants will have completed all requirements for the Ph.D. at the time of appointment; applicants may have their degrees from any department, but degrees in human development, social work, prevention science, psychology, or public health will be particularly good fits for the program.

**Application Instructions**

Full consideration will be given to those applicants that completely submit all materials online. A complete submission will consist of:

* Cover Letter
* Curriculum Vitae
* Three Letters of Reference
* A Personal Statement describing research interests, qualifications, relevant experience, and commitment to advancing the use of research in public policy (1-3 Pages)
* Writing Sample (preferably samples of work directed toward non-academic audience; may include samples of creative/artistic work; 1-2 samples, 35-page cumulative max)

**Review and Selection**

Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled. Penn State is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.This position will begin in February, 2019.

**General questions** **regarding the program may be addressed to:**

Taylor Scott, Research Assistant Professor

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