

GRADUATE STUDENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

GRADUATE SCHOLAR IN MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH

The UofSC Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Catalyst Program at the Arnold School of Public Health (ASPH) is a new program funded with support from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau at the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The program is committed to training a diverse, skilled, and innovative MCH workforce in our state and nation. Part of this funding is committed to a merit based MCH scholarship program which provides support for up to four outstanding graduate students to pursue research in areas related to the health and well-being of mothers, infants, children and adolescents. Interested graduate students are invited to submit a 3-page grant proposal describing a research project that can be conducted within one year. Each student will identify a faculty mentor within ASPH.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Monday, March 22, 2021, at 5pm EST

AWARD AMOUNT:

Each MCH graduate scholar will be awarded \$3,000. This funding can be used for salary, supplies for data collection and analysis, travel, and other research-related costs essential to complete the MCH Scholar research project. The award funds must be used by May 30, 2022 and all expenses must be pre-approved by the MCH program director and faculty mentor.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- Currently enrolled in a master's or doctoral program in the Arnold School of Public Health and completed or completing at least two full-time academic year semesters (≥ 6 credits/semester) in their degree program at the time of the application. Students must be enrolled at UofSC in the fall and spring semesters in the 2021-2022 Academic Year.
- Minimum graduate GPA of 3.00

APPLICATION MATERIALS (SUBMITTED IN ONE PDF IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER):

- 1) Three-page research proposal.
 - a) Proposal narrative should include title, specific aims, background and significance; project description, design, and approach. Please clearly state the significance of this funding to your future career goals.
 - b) Proposals which exceed the 3-page limit will not be reviewed. All figures and tables must be included in the page limit. No appendices are allowed.
 - c) Two additional pages are allowed for references/bibliography; they are not included in the three-page limit.
 - d) Use Arial font and a 11-point font with at least 0.5 inch margin (top, bottom, left, and right) for all pages.
 - e) Applications that do not adhere to the guidelines will not be reviewed.
- 2) Applicant's Curriculum Vitae.
- 3) Budget and justification: Provide a budget with justification for how the award money will be allocated to support your research plan.
- 4) Letter of Support – written and signed by applicant's MCH faculty mentor.
- 5) UofSC transcripts (can be unofficial)
- 6) If you have prior MCH research experience, provide a sample of previous MCH work you participated in on the topic of MCH. Examples are a published manuscript, book chapter, conference abstract/paper, or a class presentation. The applicant's role should be clear. This element of the application can strengthen an application, but it is not a requirement. If you do not have such an example, do not let this prevent you from applying.

EXPECTATIONS OF SCHOLAR AWARD RECIPIENTS:

- The scholars are expected to be enrolled in the Fall and Spring semesters for the 2021-2022 Academic Year.
- The scholars will be expected to complete the research project within one year of receiving the funding.
- If the project requires IRB review, funding will not be provided until the project receives IRB approval.
- MCH Graduate Scholars are expected to present their work at local, state or national conferences.
- MCH Graduate Scholars are expected to submit a manuscript(s) based on their research project for publication, preferably within one year.
- To develop a multidisciplinary cadre of students with interests in MCH, MCH Graduate Scholars are expected to join the MCH Student Association (MCHSA) and participate in selected activities organized by the UofSC MCHSA during the award period.

Please submit your application electronically to:

Linda J. Hazlett, PhD, MPH, Graduate Director of Epidemiology,
Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics, ljhazlet@mailbox.sc.edu,
use "**MCH Scholars Application**" in the Subject Line.

*We invite your participation in the MCH Graduate Scholars Program and invite your questions. All questions about the MCH Graduate Scholars Program should be directed to the MCH Graduate Scholars Program Director, Dr. Jihong Liu (jliu@mailbox.sc.edu).
Scholar award recipients will be notified around May 17, 2021.*



**Arnold School of
Public Health**