

The Emotion, Cognition, and Health Outcome (ECHO) Lab and
South Carolina SmartState Technology Center to Promote Healthful Lifestyles
(TecHealth)

Invite Applications for the
2022 TecHealth Emerging Scholars Program

Goals - The TecHealth Emerging Scholars Program is designed to:

- Promote early exposure of graduate students to research training in real-time data capturing techniques (e.g., ecological momentary assessment, experience sampling method)
- Develop students' research skills in using mobile devices to study health behaviors and health outcomes in everyday contexts (e.g., physical activity, addictive behavior, diet, affect and emotion, patient-reported outcomes, mental health, cognition, obesity)
- Build the technical and writing skills of students to pursue scholarly publications and reports using real-time data capturing techniques
- Cultivate emerging scholars by developing their research portfolio in the area of mobile health to improve health and well-being

Benefits of TecHealth Emerging Scholars Program

- A one-on-one mentoring relationship with a TecHealth faculty member
- Hands-on research experience in conducting a study using mobile technology
- Close interaction with other pre-doctoral and post-doctoral trainees at TecHealth
- A stipend of \$1,200 per year is available to eligible students as benchmarks have been reached (stipend is renewable, subject to acceptable progress, and paid per semester)
- Funds (up to \$1,000 per scholar per year) to help defray travel and registration expenses to present at a scientific conference or to publish research findings

Responsibilities and Expectations of TecHealth Emerging Scholars during the Award Period

Education:

- Maintain good academic progress in home department/school (e.g., GPA>3.5)
- Establish a multi-disciplinary mentoring team (with both home department advisor and TecHealth faculty mentor) to help create individualized goals
- Attend monthly Tech Tuesday Talks, if class schedule permits
- Actively participate in other TecHealth training activities, as available (such as seminars, workshops, retreats, etc.)

Research

- Actively engage in an area of mHealth research mutually determined by TecHealth mentor and emerging scholar
- In collaboration with the TecHealth mentor, produce at least one publishable manuscript per year as lead or significant author
- Present research findings at TecHealth Tuesday seminar
- Make one national or regional scientific presentation per year

Professional Development

- Monthly meetings with the TecHealth mentor to discuss professional goals and set milestones
- Attend relevant professional development presentations offered by UofSC offices
- Meet at the end of each semester with TecHealth mentor and home department advisor to review progress

Admission Criteria

The TecHealth Emerging Scholars Program is open to eligible masters-level and doctoral students across all departments, centers, schools, and colleges at UofSC. Qualified applicants will demonstrate research interests related to mobile health, which align with sponsoring faculty. Eligible students need to show evidence of:

- Full-time student status at the masters or doctoral level at the University of South Carolina
- Strong academic record in appropriate coursework
- Research experience and productivity
- Compatibility of research interest with the TecHealth faculty member
- Good scientific writing skills

Application Procedure

The students need to apply for the program annually (Emerging Scholars can be reappointed, but it is a competitive renewal process). Application must be received by TecHealth Coordinator Janna Borden via email jsborden@mailbox.sc.edu by close of business on January 3, 2022. Emerging Scholars will be evaluated by the TecHealth faculty and associates based on the admission criteria. Promising applicants will be interviewed to make the final determination of acceptance into the TecHealth Emerging Scholars program.

Application packages should be combined in a single PDF file and include the following:

- Cover letter stating research interest and long-term career goals
- Curriculum vita
- Academic graduate transcripts (student copies accepted)
- One sample of scientific writing (e.g., a class paper, draft manuscript, or published work)
- Letter of support/recommendation from the current or proposed home department advisor

For inquiries, please contact Dr. Jason Yang at 803-777-1025 or cy11@mailbox.sc.edu.