Post-Doctoral Fellowships at the Drexel University WELL Center

The Center for Weight, Eating and Lifestyle Science (**WELL Center; drexel.edu/wellcenter**) is currently recruiting three NIH-funded research post-doctoral fellows under the joint supervision of Evan Forman, Ph.D. and Adrienne Juarascio, Ph.D. As per the descriptions below, one fellowship is a full-time clinical position, and two are primarily research positions in the areas of eating disorders and obesity treatment.

The clinical position will provide mandated hours and supervision for state licensure purposes. The research positions offer ample opportunities for, and training/mentoring in, manuscript writing, grant writing, the use of innovative technology and methodology, and leadership roles. In addition, the research positions are flexible depending on the interests of the postdoctoral fellow, and considerable attention will be devoted to developing the fellow's line of research including the planning and execution of an independent project. Pilot study funding will be provided. In addition, the postdoc fellow will be mentored in the writing of one or more independent grant proposals. Responsibilities include assistance overseeing research coordinators, undergraduate and graduate students; monitoring study protocols, conducting statistical analyses; writing scientific manuscripts, and potentially clinical service and/or supervision of clinical service. As a result of fellowship activities, training, and mentorship, fellows will be highly competitive for the NIH Loan Repayment Program and for NIH training grants (e.g., F32s, K23s). Start date is negotiable.

Candidates should apply using the links specified below each position. Applications will be reviewed as they are received.

Clinical Postdoctoral Fellow at the WELL Center

The position entails working as a study therapist on NIH-funded clinical trials examining innovative treatments for eating and weight disorders, under the joint supervision of Adrienne Juarascio, Ph.D., Stephanie Manasse, PhD, and Evan Forman, PhD. These projects include, but are not limited to: (1) A trial testing the added efficacy of a smartphone app to CBT for bulimia nervosa; (2) A trial testing the added efficacy of a daily inhibitory control training to CBT for bulimia nervosa and binge eating disorder; (3) a Multiphasic Optimization Strategy (MOST) trial to evaluate the independent efficacy of components of mindfulness and acceptance treatments for weight loss; (4) a trial to improve weight loss outcomes for individuals with binge eating disorder; and (5) a trial examining psychophysiological predictors of outcome from treatment for adolescent binge eating and bulimia nervosa.

The position is fully clinical, with 100% of time dedicated to direct clinical contact, case management, individual and group supervision (2-4 hours per week), and administrative duties related to clinical work. The majority of the fellow's time will be spent in delivering individual, outpatient manualized treatments (e.g., CBT) for eating disorders to support ongoing clinical trials, but opportunities for group treatment and provision of treatment through the WELL Clinic may be available. The fellow will carry a caseload of approximately 25 individual patients and will gain sufficient hours for licensure after 1 year. This training experience is designed to build expertise in clinical research in the area of eating disorder and obesity treatment.

The ideal candidate will have a doctorate in clinical psychology and have experience with eating and weight disorders. Training and experience with evidence-based, manualized, and/or cognitive behavioral treatments for psychopathology (e.g., anxiety, depression, eating disorders) are required. Training and experience in eating disorder and obesity treatment in adolescents and adults are highly desirable.

Click here to apply online for the Clinical Postdoctoral Fellow position.

Postdoctoral Research Fellow at The WELL Center: Treatment Development and Evaluation for Eating Disorders

This position entails working on clinical trials examining innovative treatments for eating disorders. These projects include three NIH-funded trials designed to improve outcomes for individuals with binge eating disorder and bulimia. The position will have both clinical and research components, with approximately 30/70 percent allocation of time for clinical and research tasks, respectively. The fellow will assist in the development of treatment protocols, lead treatment groups, conduct outpatient treatment for adults with eating disorders, supervise research staff, provide training to graduate students, and conduct assessments of potential participants. The ideal candidate will have a doctorate in clinical psychology and have experience with eating and weight disorders. Experience with assessment methods (e.g., semi-structured diagnostic interviews), a strong training background in behavioral treatments for eating disorders, good statistical skills, and good writing skills (e.g. publications) are required.

The position may involve taking a prominent role in a number of projects that are utilizing technology to facilitate eating disorder treatment. These projects include development and evaluation of: a just-in-time adaptive intervention (JITAI) augmentation to CBT for bulimia, two systems using passive sensing technology (heart rate variability and continuous glucose monitoring) to detect risk for binge eating and restrictive eating behaviors, and a virtual reality (VR) neurocognitive training program for binge eating. The fellow could assist with development and iteration of the technologies, methodologies and algorithmic functions of these projects; data processing and analysis; and manuscript write-up. In addition, the fellow will help develop follow-up designs and grant proposals.

Click here to apply online for the PostDoctoral Research Fellow for Eating Disorders position.

Postdoctoral Research Fellow at The WELL Center: Treatment Development and Evaluation for Obesity and Health Promotion

This position entails working on clinical trials examining innovative treatments for obesity and eating disorders. These projects include an NIH-funded Multiphasic Optimization Strategy (MOST) trial to evaluate the independent efficacy of components of mindfulness and acceptance treatments for weight loss. The position will have both clinical and research components, with approximately 30/70 percent allocation of time for clinical and research tasks, respectively. The fellow may assist in the development of a treatment protocols, lead treatment groups, conduct outpatient treatment for adults with eating and weight disorders, supervise research staff, provide training to graduate students, and conduct assessments of potential participants. This training experience is designed to build expertise in clinical research in the area of obesity treatment and health promotion. The ideal candidate will have a doctorate in clinical psychology and have behavioral weight loss treatment experience. Experience with assessment methods (e.g., semi-structured diagnostic interviews), a strong training background in behavioral treatments, good statistical skills, and good writing skills (e.g. publications) are required.

The position will also involve taking a prominent role in a number of projects that are utilizing technology to facilitate weight loss and/or promote health. These projects include development and evaluation of: a smartphone and cloud computing-based system that uses machine learning to predict and prevent lapses from a weight control program based on automatically- and manually-collected predictor data, an artificial intelligence (AI)-powered treatment optimization system involving continuous assessment of digital data, and neurocognitive training program to improve dietary intake and promote health. The fellow may assist with development and iteration of the technologies, methodologies and algorithmic functions of these projects; data processing and analysis; and manuscript write-up. In addition, the fellow will help develop follow-up designs and grant proposals.   We especially welcome applications from individuals with experience and skills in applying technology to behavior change, and/or experience in one or more of the following: smartphone app development, website development, R, Unity, coding, passive sensing, machine learning.

Click here to apply online for the PostDoctoral Research Fellow for Obesity and Health Promotion position.