RESEARCH TRAINING TO PROMOTE SCIENTIST DIVERSITY AND HEALTH EQUITY
IN CARDIOVASCULAR AND LUNG DISEASE
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Overview: The Steve Hicks School of Social Work (SHS) at The University of Texas at Austin is recruiting two doctoral student fellows for our pre- and post-doctoral training program funded by a T32 award from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. This training program seeks to enhance the pool of diverse social work scientists committed to conducting research that eliminates disparities in cardiovascular and lung disease-related risk, morbidity, and mortality by: 1) strengthening their publication record; 2) strengthening competitiveness for external funding, and; 3) fostering research and career development skills.

Fellowship Requirements: During the four-year Fellowship, fellows will be required to complete the Doctoral Program requirements as delineated here and meet the following Fellowship expectations: **1)** submit at least four manuscripts for peer-review at a scientific journal, of which at least two should be first-authored; **2)** complete a specialized program of coursework (47 credit-hours) with a GPA of at least 3.0 and no less than a grade of B in any course; **3)** present research at a scientific conference at least once per year; **4)** prepare an NIH individual postdoctoral fellowship (F32) application or assist in the preparation of a major (R-level) grant application; **5)** successfully defend a comprehensive exam and dissertation on a research topic relevant to cardiovascular- or lung-related health disparities under the direction of a mentor from the SHS (see the list of T32 participating faculty here); **6)** complete a minimum of 12 hours of training in the responsible conduct of research; **7)** attend research and career development seminars regularly offered by the SHS, Dell Medical School, Population Research Center, and Texas Career Engagement.

Funding: Pre-doctoral fellows will receive four years of full funding, which includes tuition for full-time enrollment (9-10 credit hours in Fall/Spring, at least 3 credit hours in summer), a monthly stipend, and a supplemental payment to be used for the purchase of health insurance. Additionally, fellows will receive a budget of up to $1,900 per year for conference travel. Fellows are expected to be enrolled full-time and remain in-residence throughout the duration of the Fellowship. Per University policy, students on full fellowship may not hold a student employment position.

Eligibility: Fellows will be part of the 2024-2025 cohort of the Doctoral Program in Social Work. Thus, fellowship applicants must meet the minimum application criteria for the Doctoral Program in Social Work and apply to the program during the Fall 2023 application cycle to be considered for the fellowship. The application deadline for the Fall 2023 cycle is **November 17, 2023.** Guidance for applying to the Doctoral Program in Social Work can be found here. Within the Doctoral Program application, fellowship applicants should request to be considered for the T32 fellowship, demonstrate a commitment to a research topic area relevant to cardiovascular and/or lung disease-related health disparities, and identify a potential mentor from SHS listed among the T32 participating faculty. Fellowship applicants should initiate a conversation with potential mentors before submitting an application. Fellowship applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents at the time of application. Individuals from groups underrepresented in the biomedical, clinical, behavioral, and social sciences as defined by the NIH are strongly encouraged to apply.

Inquiries: Questions regarding the T32 Predoctoral Fellowship should be directed to Yessenia Castro, PhD, Associate Dean for Doctoral Education and T32 Program Co-Director: ycastro@austin.utexas.edu.

General inquiries regarding the Doctoral Program in Social Work, including the general application process, should be directed to Monica Urso, Doctoral Program Coordinator: monicau22@austin.utexas.edu.