

Postdoctoral Fellowship in Research on Rural Youth and Education

The National Research Center on Rural Education Support and the Center for Developmental Science seek a postdoctoral research associate with interests in rural education, youth development, and prevention research. This one year appointment (July 2008-July 2009) with potential for a second year is supported by grant funding from the Institute of Education Sciences. The position will involve analyses of data and preparation of publications pertaining to the educational attainment and social adjustment of rural adolescents. In addition, the successful candidate will have the opportunity to participate as a fellow in the postdoctoral training activities of the Carolina Consortium on Human Development at the Center for Developmental Science.

Specific responsibilities: This position will be under the direction of the Director of the Social Development and Intervention Research Program (SDIRP) at the Center for Developmental Science. Responsibilities will include participation in weekly research meetings, analyses of data, preparation of manuscripts for publication, and presentations at national conferences. Using a national sample of 80 randomly selected high schools, the research and analyses will examine the influence of family, community, and school factors on the adolescents' educational goals, occupational plans, peer relations, and school engagement, as they prepare for the transition to young adulthood. The project provides an excellent opportunity to study adolescent development within varying community and school contexts.

Qualifications: Applicants must have documentation that they will complete a Ph.D. by July of 2008 in a relevant discipline (e.g., educational psychology, developmental psychology, human development, applied developmental science, prevention science, sociology, special education, or school psychology). Candidates must have strong quantitative skills in both variable and person-oriented approaches and have experience with longitudinal and large national databases. Individuals with interests in rural education, school engagement and dropout, peer relations, social development, and school-based intervention and prevention research are particularly encouraged to apply. Salary is commensurate with National Institutes of Health guidelines and experience.

Application materials: Applicants should send a curriculum vita, a letter of interest, and three letters of recommendation to Dr. Judith Meece, Center for Developmental Science, 100 E. Franklin Street, Suite 200, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-8115. Review of Applications will begin April 15, 2008. Questions regarding the position should be directed to Judith Meece at meece@email.unc.edu.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.

Keyword: Postdoctoral Fellowship in Adolescent Development and Rural Education
Categories: Human Development, Educational Psychology, School-based Research