Postdoctoral Scholar Fellowship

About the Fellowship

The fellowship is designed to support early career scholars who have an interest in child welfare research and policy. The Fellow will:

- Be supervised by the Program Director of Research at the Institute and mentored by the Director
- Have extensive opportunities to network with child welfare policymakers, Florida Department of Children and Families’ leadership, community-based care agencies, and statewide faculty and research affiliates
- Gain direct experience translating research findings into policy recommendations for state legislators

The primary responsibilities for the 21-22 academic year will be determined based on the research needs at that time. In general, responsibilities will include assisting with or leading ongoing quantitative and qualitative research, submitting proposals for state and federal grants and contracts, and writing and reviewing reports. Fellows will be required to write for publication and engage in research dissemination.

Eligibility

Applicant must have received a PhD from an accredited graduate program in social work or related field within the past 5 years of the appointment start date. If the applicant is a current student, a confirmation of eligibility must be submitted. Exceptions can be made on an individual basis when justifiable and accompanied by supporting documents with prior approval from the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs.

Compensation

The Institute aligns its postdoctoral salaries with Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Stipends. For FY21, the annual salary for a new postdoctoral scholar is $53,760. The position benefits include individual or family health insurance, paid time off, retirement plans, as well as savings and discounts. For more information visit the Florida State University Benefits for OPS Employees webpage.

How to Apply

The Florida Institute for Child Welfare will accept applications between March 24 and May 12 for a 10-month Postdoctoral Scholar Fellowship. The Fellowship will be in place September 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022, with the possibility of annual renewal each July 1st, depending on performance and available funding, with a maximum total tenure of four years.

Applicants are required to submit an application to the Florida State University job board (job post ID 48696):

- Cover letter
- Curriculum Vitae
- Statement of Research
- Two (2) writing samples (e.g., peer-reviewed publications, reports, research briefs)
- Contact details for two (2) academic or professional references (not writing letters of recommendation)

Letters of Recommendation

In addition to the applicant-submitted materials, applicants must arrange for two (2) letters of recommendation on their behalf, one of which must be from an academic supervisor. Letters must be on letterhead with signatures and answer/address the following:

- What is your relationship to the applicant and how long have you known this person?
- In what capacity have you worked with the applicant and what has been your experience working with this person?
- What are the strengths of the applicant?
- How would a postdoctoral scholar position strengthen the applicant’s current skillset?
- Describe the applicant’s commitment to child welfare research, policy, and practice.

Letters of recommendation should be emailed as a signed PDF to Dr. Lisa Magruder, lmagruder@fsu.edu. Dr. Magruder will respond within 48 business hours to confirm receipt. Please use subject line: Postdoctoral Candidate LOR – [Full Name of Candidate].

Confirmation of Eligibility

If the applicant is a current student, the applicant must submit a letter from their doctoral program director or dean confirming eligibility for the Florida Institute for Child Welfare.
Welfare Postdoctoral Scholar Fellowship. The letter must be on university letterhead with signatures and confirm the following about the applicant:

- All coursework and preliminary or qualifying exams have been completed
- Prospectus (or equivalent) has been approved by the dissertation committee.
- Actively working on dissertation (include defense date if known)
- In good academic standing
- Projected graduation date is by August 2021.

Confirmation of Eligibility should be emailed as a signed PDF to Dr. Lisa Magruder, lmagruder@fsu.edu. Dr. Magruder will respond within 48 business hours to confirm receipt. Please use subject line: Postdoctoral Candidate Eligibility – [Full Name of Candidate].

The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs serves as a starting point for identifying resources as well as a resource throughout the fellowship. Activities include serving as an information repository and liaison among postdocs, faculty, administrators, and external organizations; providing professional and career development programming and resources for postdocs; facilitating community building and networking events; and advocating for resources and policies that enhance postdoctoral training. For more information, visit http://opda.fsu.edu/. In addition, Florida State University has an active Post-doctoral Association (PDA) whose vision is to bring together postdocs across disciplines while improving the postdoctoral environment and training experience at FSU. To achieve this, the PDA coordinates events, workshops, and relays information to their home departments all in the interest of making the postdoctoral experience at FSU productive and enjoyable. For more information, visit the Florida State University Office of Postdoctoral Affairs webpage.

About the Institute

The Florida Institute for Child Welfare, housed at the Florida State University College of Social Work in Tallahassee, Florida, seeks to promote safety, permanency, and well-being among the children and families of Florida that are involved with the child welfare system. To accomplish this mission, the Institute sponsors and supports interdisciplinary research projects and program evaluation initiatives that contribute to a dynamic knowledge base relevant for enhancing Florida’s child welfare outcomes. The Institute collaborates with community agencies across all sectors and other important organizations in order to translate relevant knowledge generated through ecologically-valid research, policy analysis, and program evaluation. This is best achieved through the design and implementation of developmentally targeted and trauma-informed strategies for children and families involved in the child welfare system. For more information about the Institute please visit our website: ficw.fsu.edu

Important Dates

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 15, 2021</td>
<td>Application portal opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 12, 2021 at 5:00 pm EST</td>
<td>Application deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 15, 2021</td>
<td>Decision notifications</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 1, 2021</td>
<td>Fellowship start date</td>
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Click here for the FSU job board (search job post ID 48696)

All materials (job application, letters of recommendation, confirmation of eligibility) must be received by May 12, 2021 at 5:00 pm EST.

Contact Dr. Lisa Magruder, Program Director of Science and Research, at lmagruder@fsu.edu for any questions.