

Creighton
UNIVERSITY

Health Sciences - Multicultural
and Community Affairs

COPC Summer Public Health Research Program

Community-Oriented Primary Care Program

Phebe Mercado Jungman, MBA

Assistant Director, Programs and Operations

Sade Kosoko-Lasaki, MD, MSPH, MBA

Program Director and Principal Investigator

Community Oriented Primary Care (COPC) Summer Public Health Research Program

Program Information

About the Program

Since 2012, the Summer COPC Research in Public Health has been funded for professional school students as part of the National Institutes of Health Community Oriented Primary Care Endowment (#5S21MD001102-03). Three student researchers will be sponsored for the Short-Term research. The purpose is to increase student involvement in Community Oriented Primary Care (COPC) public health research, with emphasis on addressing health disparities among medically underserved populations in Nebraska and Iowa. If you are interested in gaining health disparities research experience, we encourage you to seek out an investigator and discuss with them your interest.

Program Timeline

Application Period: February – March of a given academic year

Review: Review is done once the application is received

Acceptance: Concluded by April 30th of a given academic year

Research Plan

Within the application, prospective students will submit a brief description of their projects in the following format. *DO NOT EXCEED the specified number of pages, using single space and write with 12-point font and 1-inch margin on all sides.*

- A. **HYPOTHESIS/SPECIFIC AIMS:** State concisely the hypothesis and Specific Aims for testing the hypothesis. DO NOT EXCEED 1 PAGE

- B. **BACKGROUND AND SIGNIFICANCE:** Briefly sketch the background for the present proposal. Synthesize and critically evaluate existing knowledge identifying knowledge gaps. Please cite pertinent references. Explain the significance of the proposal and its relationship with Community Oriented Primary Care (COPC). Cite any pertinent pilot data of yours or your sponsor's. How does your research address health disparities? DO NOT EXCEED 1.5 PAGES

- C. **EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN AND METHODS:** a) Detail the experimental design including treatments, variables, times, and endpoints, b) briefly describe important procedures, state if they are currently in use in the community, c) discuss potential difficulties and limitations of the proposed COPC research and alternative approaches, d) include statistical analysis, how it will

test your hypotheses and possible conclusions, e) describe your role on the project and the timeline to accomplish the Specific Aims. DO NOT EXCEED 2 PAGES.

Letter of Support

A letter of support from your research mentor/sponsor is required at the time of application.

Award Guidelines

The COPC Summer Research Program will begin on or about June 15th following acceptance into the program (or a mutually agreed upon date between the student and sponsor) and continue for an eight-week period.

A requirement of the program is that the student will submit a complete written paper (including title, author(s), abstract, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, References, Tables, Figure Legends, and Figures), as required by most scientific journals to consider for publication. An abstract is NOT sufficient and will not be considered as the final report. After satisfactorily completing the project and after submission of the final report, the COPC Director will review and accept or reject the report.

A stipend of \$1,500 per recipient will be paid in two installments of \$750: the first installment will be paid one month after beginning your project; the second installment will be paid upon receipt of the required written report and approval by the director of COPC programs.

The written report should be submitted to Phebe Jungman at PhebeJungman@creighton.edu on or before the last day of the eighth-week period of the summer research program.

Student Guidelines

1. Student identifies a research mentor either at Creighton University or any other institution. (You need prior approval of your research idea by Dr. Sade Kosoko-Lasaki.)
2. The area of focus of the project must be one of the following areas of health disparities (per Healthy People 2030):
 - a. Cardiovascular disease and its risk factors
 - b. Cancer
 - c. Asthma
 - d. Infant Mortality
 - e. Mental Health
 - f. HIV/AIDS
 - g. Violence
 - h. Diabetes
 - i. Health Policy and Ethics
 - j. Cultural Competency

Note: Basic science research will not be funded.

3. The written protocol must include appropriate clinical application, based on Literature Review, Specific Aim, Methodology, Data Collection & Analysis.
4. The student will submit a written report of the research upon completion of the project. In addition, the student may give an oral presentation during HS-MACA's Common Ground: Interprofessional Forum on Health Disparities.

5. The student will rate their learning of COPC public health research skills on an evaluation form.

Faculty Mentor Guidelines

The student should obtain the necessary forms and contact the mentor to discuss available research opportunities. The proposal must be written by the student with the mentor's assistance. The proposal should represent a discrete project or a portion of a project that will include training in statistics and data analysis. If the student's proposed work is part of a much larger project, the student's role on the project must be clearly defined with timelines identified within the application. The project should be completed over an eight-week summer session and the result presented at [Common Ground](#). Ideally the student must be involved in the writing of the research a full publication of the research work.

At the time of the application process, the role of the mentor is to:

1. Discuss ideas, experimental plans, and required work with the student
2. Provide key references or papers to focus the student on the project goals and rationale
3. Assist in the design of an 8-week project
4. Oversee the application and assure that IRB approvals and compliance training are completed
5. Write a letter of support for the student to participate in the program

The mentor's letter of recommendation for the student should describe the relationship of the proposed project to current work in the laboratory, describe how much of the work proposed in the application the student will conduct and how much will be conducted by others in the laboratory, discuss the learning goals for the student and plans for publication of the proposed work.

When the application is funded, the role of the mentor is to:

1. Provide training in research methods, oversee work plan, design, and progress;
2. Provide a forum for discussing relevant scientific data, literature, and ideas;
3. Assist with data collection, statistical analysis, and interpretation;
4. Assist with abstract submission and paper writing; and
5. Email approval to PhebeJungman@creighton.edu for the student to receive the stipend.

All research that involves retrospective data collection (chart review) must have IRB Exempt status. Prospective research must have IRB approval.

COPC pays for the services of a statistician as needed.

Please direct additional questions to Ms. Phebe Mercado Jungman at PhebeJungman@creighton.edu or call at 402.280.3925.