Areas of Training

Fellowship training is available throughout the broad range of the school's activities: laboratory sciences, population sciences, and social and policy sciences. Fellows have a home within one of the school's nine academic departments:

- Biostatistics
- Environmental Health
- Epidemiology
- Genetics and Complex Diseases
- Global Health and Population
- Health Policy and Management
- Immunology and Infectious Diseases
- Nutrition
- Social and Behavioral Sciences

Harvard T.H. Chan
School of Public Health

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Please direct all inquiries to:

Yerby Postdoctoral Fellowship Program
E-mail: yerby@hsph.harvard.edu

http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/faculty-affairs/yerby-postdoctoral-fellowship-program/
Alonzo Smythe Yerby

This fellowship is named for Dr. Alonzo Smythe Yerby, an African-American pioneer in public health. After finishing high school, he went to the University of Chicago and then to Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee, one of only two black U.S. medical colleges in existence at the time. He graduated in 1946, and the following year enrolled at the Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Yerby went to Germany, first as a field medical officer for the U.N.’s International Refugee Organization, followed by service as deputy chief of medical affairs of the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner on Refugees. In 1966, Dr. Yerby left public service to return to the School of Public Health as professor and head of the Department of Health Services Administration. Dr. Yerby was the only black tenured faculty member at the School, a distinction noted by minority students at the School and throughout Harvard University, who sought him out as a role model and adviser on career issues. He believed that public health was not just the purview of public health professionals, but belonged to every physician.

Eligibility and Application Information

The Yerby Postdoctoral Fellowship Program seeks highly qualified candidates with established research interests and a doctoral degree in public health-related fields. Of special interest are applicants who will contribute to academic diversity—e.g., those from groups historically underrepresented in U.S. health-related sciences (defined by the National Institutes of Health as American Indians or Alaska Natives, Blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, and Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders) and others whose background will contribute to academic diversity, including individuals from socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds, people with disabilities, and veterans.

Application Information

- Curriculum vitae
- Two letters of recommendation
- Copy of doctoral transcript(s)
- Sample publication
- Brief description of the specific research project(s) you wish to complete during the fellowship
- Brief description of your professional and academic interests, and explain why participation in the program would advance these interests
- Potential faculty mentors and how their area of interest is relevant to your research
- Explanation of the relevance of your ethnicity or background to the program’s goal of increasing the diversity of public health

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