

Social and Behavioral Sciences Postdoctoral Fellowships

The **Social and Behavioral Sciences Branch (SBSB)**, part of NICHD's Division of Population Health Research, provides mentorship and training opportunities for the next generation of diverse population scientists. SBSB is seeking applicants for postdoctoral fellowships to join collaborative, multi-disciplinary teams and develop their own projects within the scope of ongoing research in the branch. SBSB research addresses multiple aspects of health, health-related behaviors, and health equity throughout the life course by investigating novel social, behavioral, and environmental determinants in observational and experimental studies.

Postdoctoral fellowships are available within the research groups led by [Dr. Bobby Cheon](#), [Dr. Stephen Gilman](#), and [Dr. Tonja Nansel](#). Fellows will have access to rich, population-based datasets addressing health-related behaviors in children and families and the social determinants of child development and mental health, and will have the opportunity to participate in our branch's ongoing field studies that focus on the following topics:

- Mechanisms underlying socioeconomic and racial/ethnic disparities in child development
- Trajectories and correlates of health and health-related behaviors during the transition from adolescence to young adulthood
- Reward-related eating behaviors, diet quality, and diet-related outcomes during pregnancy and postpartum and across early childhood

Fellows' time is devoted to developing an independent line of research, analyzing data and preparing manuscripts, mentoring postbaccalaureate fellows, and participating in career development activities within NICHD and NIH's broader [Intramural Research Program](#). Fellows are encouraged to present their research at national scientific meetings and to seek out networking and funding opportunities in preparation for the transition to an independent scientific career.

Candidates with superior analytic, written, and oral communication skills; research interests aligned with areas currently under investigation in the branch; and a strong commitment to promoting a diverse, respectful, and inclusive workplace are encouraged to apply. Before starting their fellowship, postdoctoral fellows in SBSB must have completed the requirements for their doctoral degree in the social and behavioral sciences or closely related field (e.g., psychology, epidemiology, public health, nutrition, behavioral economics, behavioral neuroscience, sociology) and must have no more than 5 years of research experience since receipt of their doctoral degree.

Applications from women, persons from underrepresented groups, and persons with disabilities are strongly encouraged. Appointees may be U.S. citizens or resident aliens. This position is subject to a background check. Prospective applicants are encouraged to reach out to SBSB's principal investigators to discuss fellowship opportunities.

TO APPLY

Applications are accepted until the position is filled. Applicants should submit the following materials to Dr. Denise Haynie at denise_haynie@nih.gov:

- Curriculum vitae
- Statement of research interests
- Three letters of reference
- Official transcripts for undergraduate and graduate coursework

