CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
Clarence Pearson Fellowship in Public Health and Aging | Spring-Summer 2022
Focus on Program and Curriculum Development

The American Federation for Aging Research welcomes applications from master’s degree candidates for the Clarence Pearson Fellowship in Public Health and Aging for Spring-Summer 2022.

The Pearson program was launched by AFAR in 2015 to provide future leaders in public health, communications and related academic fields with exposure to the range of policy, administration, research, and engagement opportunities to better serve the growing older population.

To date, AFAR has hosted twelve Pearson Fellows on- and off-site to work on projects such as: analyzing the World Health Organization’s Report on Aging and Health, auditing global messaging on healthy aging, analyzing long-term care insurance in China, assisting the International Association of Geriatric and Gerontology conference, supporting the Columbia University Aging Center, and assisting the Global Coalition on Aging Silver Economy Forum.

Like many organizations, AFAR has engaged in the critical work of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. In the four decades since its founding, AFAR has been a leader in supporting biomedical research on the processes of aging and age-related diseases; like our forward-thinking mission, we aim to build a more accessible and equitable future where we all can live healthier, longer.

Building off our work with the NIA’s Resource Centers for Minority Aging Research (RCMAR), best practices and research furthered by peer organizations, and research driven by AFAR-supported investigators.

Diversifying the researcher pipeline of talented investigators, challenging the current understanding of biomedical research is central to the mission of AFAR. As part of this mission, for the Spring-Summer 2022, AFAR seeks Pearson Fellow who will contribute to developing an Aging Science Curriculum in collaboration with WOMANIUM. Located in Washington, DC, WOMANIUM is an organization created to encourage and empower young girls and women to pursue careers in science. They develop focused education programs to help expose WOMANIUM scholars of all genders and gender identities to specific scientific studies. In 2022, AFAR will help develop an online curriculum focused on aging research and geroscience. As part of this initiative the fellow will help to not only guide decisions but also contribute to program development and planning. This fellowship is a rare opportunity to build an education program that will ultimately impact the lives of young emerging scientists across the globe; we encourage Pearson applicants to consider this project for their graduate capstone project. This project can help refine skills in curriculum development, content curation, and strategic partnerships.

Hosted virtually and at AFAR’s office in Midtown Manhattan, the semester-long experience will last three to four months, working two to three days per week, with potential of extending.

AFAR encourages applications from the Greater New York, East Coast, and Mid-Atlantic regions at this time but will also review candidates outside of that area who are willing to work within the eastern time zone.

Eligibility
- Student must be either currently enrolled in a graduate program with at least one semester completed or be a recent master’s-level graduate still pursuing further education in a related field
- Must be able to work in a self-directed environment and have a demonstrated interest in age-related issues.

Application
- CV noting current GPA
- Cover letter that addresses your previous or current academic or community work in aging-related topics, and how this fellowship would support your on-going research interests or course work and future academic or career goals
- Letter of recommendation from a faculty advisor or professional

Timeline
- Application due February 11, 2022
- Zoom interviews: late February 2022
- Start date: March 14, 2022
- End date: July 2022

Honorable and Budget
Up to $2500 based on experience, for one semester.

Deadline
Please send completed application by February 11, 2022 to Kara Wilson, Manager of Strategic Partnerships and Initiatives via email kara@afar.org