

Health Economics and Policy Postdoctoral Fellow

Overview

The post-doctoral fellowship in Health Economics and Policy is for candidates interested in a mentored research position with a focus on investigating and improving U.S. healthcare. Our aim is to understand the factors that drive healthcare finance, delivery, management, and quality and to evaluate the impact of state and federal health policies on the U.S. healthcare system. We are interested in understanding the dynamic changes that occur at multiple levels from patients to health systems with the hope of identifying solutions to deliver high quality, efficient, affordable, and equitable healthcare for everyone. Our research, supported by a culture of collaboration and team science, brings together stakeholders from multiple different disciplines including medicine, public health, business, finance, economics, and biostatistics.

The **Enumah Laboratory** has previously (1) quantified a higher risk of financial distress for for-profit hospitals as compared to non-profit hospitals, (2) identified a relationship between a hospital's share of revenue from Medicaid and financial distress; and (3) revealed associations between hospital quality metrics and the risk of financial distress. In our current work, we aim to explore additional factors that underlie the financial viability of healthcare organizations and to evaluate the impact of health policies on healthcare organizational performance.

Responsibilities

Under the guidance from the principal investigator, the postdoctoral fellow will design, conduct, and analyze research focused on **health economics and health policy**. Our work focuses on exploring the factors that underpin the complex system of U.S. healthcare, with a particular focus on the financial health of U.S. hospitals, health systems, and healthcare facilities. In this role, the postdoctoral fellow will generate hypothesis-driven research proposals, design scientific studies, prepare and present abstracts, and co-author and submit original research manuscripts. The post-doctoral fellow will also have opportunities to develop mentoring skills by supporting other research staff including undergraduate and graduate students.

We are interested in candidates with research experience and a strong interest in health economics and policy. We define **health economics** to include the broad category of research related to healthcare finance, management, and delivery and to the effectiveness, efficiency, and equity of health systems. We define **health policy** to include research that explains or evaluates the impact of existing or proposed health policies at the local, state, and federal levels. Experience with quantitative data analysis and common statistical data analytic programs (e.g. STATA, SAS, R) is required. Familiarity with database management and different quantitative methodologies including linear and logistic regression, multi-level modeling, and difference-in-differences is highly desired.

The initial appointment for the postdoctoral position is for one year, with the possibility of renewal for an additional one year based on satisfactory performance and available funding. This position is available starting in July 1st, 2025. The specific start date will depend on the candidate's completion of the necessary pre-employment documentation.

Qualifications

The candidate should be completing (or have completed) a doctoral degree or equivalent (e.g. PhD, DBA, ScD) in Economics, Public Health, Biostatistics, Computer Science, Finance, Epidemiology, and/or a related field. We require evidence of a strong background in statistical programming, exceptional scientific writing skills, and robust oral communication abilities. We require candidates to have previous experience collaborating effectively with colleagues in a team-based approach and publishing original research manuscripts. Experience with large medical claims datasets, clinical outcomes projects, and hospital financial analyses is strongly encouraged.

Location

The Enumah lab is located within the Department of Surgery at the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC). Rochester is an affordable city in upstate New York with a remarkable history and thriving research community. Rochester is close to the Finger Lakes Region, which is home to numerous lakes, forests, and nature trails. By car, Rochester is about 1 hour from Buffalo, 3 hours from Toronto, and 5 hours from New York City. The University of Rochester has an active Postdoc Association that provides a highly enriched environment for postdocs, including career development workshops and social opportunities to build community. More information about postdoc activities and opportunities is available on this webpage:

<https://ccc.rochester.edu/pda/home/>

The University is committed to fostering and supporting a workplace culture inclusive of people regardless of their race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, marital status, age, physical abilities, political affiliation, or religious beliefs, so that all employees feel included, valued, and supported.

Candidates interested in this position should email a cover letter, curriculum vitae, writing sample, and the names of two references to Dr. Samuel Enumah (samuel_enumah@urmc.rochester.edu).