

Internships and Fellowships at DESPR

DESPR conducts research and supports research training in the fields of reproduction, child health, and maternal health as part of the NICHD's intramural research portfolio. Visit the [DESPR home page](#) to learn more about its activities and portfolio.

Internships

DESPR's [Biometry and Mathematical Statistics Branch](#), [Epidemiology Branch](#), and [Prevention Research Branch](#) actively participate in the [NIH Summer Internship Program for Biomedical Research](#). Each year, Branch investigators select a small group of interns, on a competitive basis, to work on various publishable research projects.

Individuals interested in this program can [submit their application](#) online.

Once their application is submitted, students interested in working in the Epidemiology Branch should send a letter of inquiry to the DESPR Epidemiology Branch Chief, [Dr. Germaine Buck Louis](#), indicating their specific scientific interests.

For more information about internships at the Prevention Research Branch, contact [Dr. Denise Haynie](#).

Fellowships

Fellowships are available within each DESPR Branch, according to its own requirements and mechanisms, as explained below. The NICHD Web site also provides additional information on [Career Development and Training/Fellowships](#).

Biometry and Mathematical Statistics (BMS) Branch

Postdoctoral fellowships are available within the [BMS Branch](#) for candidates with these minimum qualifications: a Ph.D. or other doctoral degree in statistics within three years of application; and research interests to apply statistical methodology to problems in public health, particularly in child and maternal health.

The successful candidate will spend 80 percent of the time in statistical research, and 20 percent in collaborative research on biomedical projects under the supervision of Branch faculty. For more information, please contact the BMS Branch Chief, [Dr Kai Fun Yu](#), or any of the [BMS Branch Staff](#).

Epidemiology Branch

[Predoctoral fellowships](#) and [postdoctoral Intramural Research Training Award](#) fellowships are available in the [Epidemiology Branch](#) on an ongoing basis pending funding availability. Predoctoral fellows come to the NICHD to work with Branch investigators to complete their dissertations. Postdoctoral fellows work in collaboration with Branch investigators on large projects, in addition to developing their own independent areas of research.

Individuals interested in a predoctoral or postdoctoral fellowship should send a letter of inquiry and a curriculum vitae to the DESPR Epidemiology Branch Chief, [Dr. Germaine Buck Louis](#).

Prevention Research Branch

The [Prevention Research Branch](#) regularly has undergraduate and graduate fellowship opportunities. Fellows at all levels are encouraged to work on the breadth of studies ongoing in the Branch. Senior scientists provide mentorship to all fellows to ensure a valuable training experience, as well as sound guidance regarding fellows' professional development.

Postdoctoral and predoctoral fellows are an important part of the research staff. Postdoctoral fellows have training in health education, psychology, public health, or related fields. Postdoctoral fellows serve as investigators on the research area(s) that most suits their interests and experience. There are also opportunities for independent research. In addition, postdoctoral fellows might have supervisory and mentorship roles when working with junior staff. Predoctoral fellows generally select one research area of primary responsibility, but may work on any of the ongoing studies in the Branch. Their level of responsibility is determined by their experience and level of training.

For those at the undergraduate level, both summer internships and year-long post baccalaureate internships are available. Fellows are given significant responsibility on various research projects, as appropriate to their level of training and experience.

For more information about internships or fellowships at the Prevention Research Branch, contact [Dr. Denise Haynie](#).