

Postdoctoral Trainee Position

Mentors: Dr. Pamela G. Bowen, UAB School of Nursing; Dr. Ronald M. Lazar, UAB Heersink School of Medicine, University of Alabama at Birmingham.

The Brain Health Advocacy Mission (BHAM) Lab is seeking a highly motivated candidate for a postdoctoral training position. Our research focuses on the development and implementation of proactive, healthy lifestyle interventions that decrease vascular risk factors and promote good brain health. Specifically, we use multi-disciplinary and multi-level designs to: a) examine individual and community strategies that influence healthy lifestyle behaviors, b) identify psychosocial, cultural, behavioral, and biological factors that mitigate or delay cognitive decline, and c) develop and test evidence-based interventions to support positive associations with an overall improved McCance Brain Care Score (BCS) and the primary prevention of cognitive loss as people age. Much of the lab's work focuses on the promotion of brain health, specifically, the prevention of brain diseases, and the BCS metrics among community dwelling populations who are disproportionately impacted by social determinants of health.

Under the mentorship of Drs. Bowen and Lazar, the postdoctoral trainee will contribute to the UAB McKnight-MGH McCance Brain Health Foundation study to obtain preliminary data demonstrating that exercise has both a direct impact on cardiorespiratory fitness and a broader effect across other risk factors, thus improving overall brain health. The postdoctoral trainee will be involved in research examining the effect of moderate vs intensive exercise on BCS outcomes, along with sophisticated study of a retinal biomarker using Optical Coherence Tomography Angiography (OCT-A). The postdoctoral trainee will be involved in grant writing with the goal of submitting competitive funding proposals for mentored career or research development awards (K-award or equivalent). Other responsibilities include:

- Quantitative data management for ongoing federally or other extramural studies
- Analysis of existing data
- Leading and supporting manuscript development
- Leading and supporting grant proposal development

The successful candidate will have a PhD in nursing, psychology, public health, gerontology, or other health-related fields completed within the past two years. Candidates should have skills in data analysis and writing. A background in social behavioral research focused on successful aging, brain health, preventative health is highly preferred.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Statement of career objectives/research goals. The brief statement should be 1-2 pages double spaced and include:
 - Future career goals,
 - Specific interest in cardiovascular and brain health research, and

- Academic and career development plans for the fellowship.
- Curriculum Vitae
- Three (3) letters of recommendation submitted to Dr. Pamela G. Bowen (pbowen@uab.edu) and state in email subject line: "Letter for (applicant's name): Postdoctoral Trainee/ Fellowship Position.
- Official Transcript from PhD program