Health Education East of England & University of Cambridge

JOB DESCRIPTION

ACADEMIC CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
&
ACADEMIC FELLOWSHIP IN PUBLIC HEALTH

2 POSTS AT ST1 LEVEL
JOB DESCRIPTION

Objective of the posts
These ACF/AF posts are aimed at trainees in public health with outstanding potential for development as academics. The ACF posts are for medically qualified candidates, and the AF posts are for candidates without a medical qualification. The posts provide an exceptional opportunity for combined service public health and academic training. The posts allow trainees to combine first class training in public health with research training in the world-class academic environment of Cambridge University and other partners on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus. We aim to attract the brightest and the best into an academic career in public health, helping them to develop a highly competitive application for a research training fellowship leading to a PhD. The posts will be appointed with a NTN (A) and will allow the appointees to undertake public health training with 25% of their time protected for research.

Programme Director
The programme for the Cambridge ACFs and AFs will be coordinated by Professor Nick Wareham (Director of the MRC Epidemiology Unit, University of Cambridge), who will also provide academic leadership for the Cambridge programme and Dr Alistair Lipp (Head of School of Public Health), who will be responsible for the service training element.

Duration of the post and academic context
The ACF and AF posts are for a maximum of three years and carry an academic national training number- NTN (A). The ACFs and AFs will, after appointment, be provided with an individually tailored training programme that will comprise 25% research and 75% public health training. The successful applicant will be matched to an academic supervisor according to their research interests.

It is expected that the post holders will compete for and successfully secure a competitive research training fellowship within the three year tenure of the post, allowing them to complete research towards a higher degree (PhD or MD). After completion of a research training fellowship it is anticipated that the post holders will continue higher training within Health Education East of England to complete specialist training in public health. They will also be in a strong position to apply for the post of Clinical Lecturer or compete for an Intermediate Fellowship to pursue their academic career. If the post-holder fails to obtain a competitive research fellowship, the programme directors in conjunction with Health Education East of England will assess their clinical progress and if this is satisfactory they will continue to higher specialist training on a non-academic track.

Service Public Health Training
Every trainee has an Educational Supervisor. The trainee must participate in the usual Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP) which, for an ACF post, is informed by a report from the Educational Supervisor.

Further details can be found at: https://heeoe.hee.nhs.uk/ph_training

An appointee who decides during the training programme that they do not wish to pursue a clinical academic career, or who is unsuccessful in obtaining an externally-funded Doctoral fellowship within their first three years, will be supported in their application for continuing service training, assuming satisfactory progress in training is being maintained. Further
appropriate training placements across the East of England would then need to be discussed with the Training Programme Director.

**Health Protection Training**

All public health trainees must undertake a minimum of three months continuous training in health protection which is provided in one of several health protection units in the East of England. This training is provided in the period after passing Part A MFPH before attempting Part B MFPH. On call duties do not commence until after a successful attempt at part A and demonstration of competence to commence on call duties.

**Eligibility criteria**

Applicants are expected to be able to demonstrate an active interest in research with evidence of relevant work and experience. The posts are open to both medical and non-medical candidates. Medical candidates will have undergone at least two years of post-qualification general professional training and are able to evidence satisfactory attainment of Foundation level competence by the time they take up the post, and the equivalent for non-medical candidates.

Candidates who currently have a NTN and are at ST1 level (existing trainees in a PH programme) will, if successful at interview, be appointed at ST1 but then may have their time remaining at ST1 reduced. Candidates who are not in a training programme will be required to undertake clinical benchmarking via the national process.

**MPhil course**

Successful candidates at ST1 level will normally undertake the University of Cambridge MPhil in Public Health (which supports preparation for the Part A examination of the Membership of the Faculty of Public Health) in Cambridge. If you are offered and accept this post, it will be assumed that you will also apply for the MPhil course, and this arrangement will only be changed under exceptional circumstances. The need for any successful candidate who already holds a Masters in Public Health to attend the MPhil course will be assessed after appointment depending on individual educational need.

**Research training**

The research training element of the ACF/AF position will be based in either the MRC Epidemiology Unit or the Department of Public Health and Primary Care, which are both departments of the University of Cambridge and approved training locations in the East of England Public Health training programme.

The MRC Epidemiology Unit ([www.mrc-epid.cam.ac.uk](http://www.mrc-epid.cam.ac.uk)), headed by Professor Nick Wareham aims to understand the genetic, developmental and environmental determinants of obesity, diabetes and related metabolic disorders and to translate this understanding into preventive action. The Unit has a set of inter-linked programmatic areas which cover the aetiological aims of the Unit and those focused on individual and public health approaches to prevention. The multi-disciplinary programmes are supported by a core set of large scale epidemiological studies (e.g. InterAct within EPIC-Europe), detailed quantitative trait metabolic studies (Fenland), case-control studies and trials that serve both aetiological and preventive purposes and natural experimental studies. The Unit is supported by a shared infrastructure of technical teams providing statistical support, data management, study coordination, field epidemiology, laboratory services and IT.

The MRC Epidemiology Unit is based within the Institute of Metabolic Science (IMS) on the Cambridge Biomedical Research Campus. The IMS is dedicated to research, education, prevention and clinical care in the areas of diabetes, obesity, related metabolic and endocrine diseases. The Unit is also part of the Institute of Public Health, which provides
strong methodological foundations and multidisciplinary collaborations aiding the translation of epidemiological observations into public health action. CEDAR, a UKCRC funded centre of public health research excellence (http://www.cedar.iph.cam.ac.uk/) is also based within the MRC Epidemiology Unit and is aimed at understanding the determinants of population-level physical activity and dietary behaviour, and the evaluation of planned interventions and natural experiments.

The Department of Public Health and Primary Care has been headed by Professor John Danesh since 2001 and comprises over 350 staff and graduate students. Groups in the Department are underpinned by major programme grants, such as those from the UK Medical Research Council (MRC), the Wellcome Trust, the British Heart Foundation (BHF), Cancer Research UK, the UK National Institute of Health Research, the European Union, the US National Institutes of Health, industrial partnerships, and several other sources. The DPHPC provides excellent training and educational programmes in biostatistics, epidemiology, public health, and primary care, at both undergraduate and graduate levels, including training of Academic Clinical Fellows. Presently, there are about 48 doctoral students and about 30 Masters students. Students in the DPHPC are typically supported by prestigious awards, such as studentships from the MRC, BHF, CRUK, Gates-Cambridge Trust, NIH-Cambridge Fellowships and GSK.

The overall research mission of the Department of Public Health and Primary is to generate evidence that will inform the prevention of premature death and disability, the promotion of health, and the formulation of evidence-based health policy. A major element of the Department’s research strategy is to build long term relationships with key external partners in order to benefit from complementary perspectives and expertise and to accelerate the impact and dissemination of our research findings. Our strategic partners include major research institutes (e.g. the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute), components of the health service (e.g. NHS Blood and Transplant), the not-for-profit sector (e.g. RAND-Europe), and industry (e.g. pharmaceutical and small biotechnology companies).

**Clinical Speciality / Division**

The MRC Epidemiology Unit and the Department of Public Health and Primary Care are both training locations for Public Health within the Cambridge Institute of Public Health. The MRC Epidemiology Unit is additionally a "national treasure" training location for Public Health. The senior staff of both departments include Consultants in Public Health who have Honorary positions with Public Health England. The interface with Public Health England covers all areas of the work of the Institute of Public Health.

**Further information**

Applicants who wish to discuss the post are invited to contact the academic lead Professor Nick Wareham by email at nick.wareham@mrc-epid.cam.ac.uk or by telephone on 01223 330315 and/or the Head of School of Public Health, Health Education East of England, Dr Alistair Lipp by email at Alistair.lipp@nhs.net or phone 0113 825 3171.

**For further information please contact:** Health Education East of England, 2-4 Victoria House, Capital Park, Fulbourn, Cambridge, CB21 5XB recruitment.eoe@hee.nhs.uk