Postdoctoral Research Fellowship
Cleveland Alliance for Education Research (CAER)
Center for Urban Education at Cleveland State University

Start Date: January 2022; Duration: Two years

The Cleveland Alliance for Education Research (CAER) is a premier education research-practice partnership (RPP) between the Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD), the Center for Urban Education at Cleveland State University (CSU), and the American Institutes for Research (AIR). CAER works democratically to identify problems and create knowledge that promotes equity and excellence for K-12 students in Cleveland, Ohio and beyond. CAER’s work is supported by leading funders of social science research including the Institute for Education Sciences (IES) and the Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA) of the U.S. Department of Education, the William T. Grant Foundation, and William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.

Fellowship Activities

The postdoctoral research fellow is central to CAER’s community-engagement and research activities. The fellowship will afford the opportunity for specialized research and publication in one or more of the following areas:

- Adolescent and/or child development
- Community-engaged research
- Equity and justice in education
- School context, climate, and culture and/or social and emotional learning
- Urban education
- Use of research evidence
- Youth participatory action research

The fellow is encouraged to collaborate and lead research efforts that include existing CAER data and data to be collected in the course of the fellowship.

The fellow will be a conduit between the three CAER partner institutions and spend time at both CMSD headquarters in the Office of Research and Evaluation and CSU. They will coordinate research-practice partnership activities that include outreach to stakeholders (e.g., families, students, teachers) to understand knowledge needs and research-evidence dissemination strategies; data identification, collection, and analysis; and building capacity to use and access to research evidence among district stakeholders. CAER has identified several knowledge priority areas—whole child approaches, equity and justice, personalized and out-of-school learning, and lost learning time due to the pandemic—that the fellow will help operationalize into a research agenda with input from stakeholders. The fellow will have a leadership role in executing this research agenda as well as co-creating innovative strategies for increasing the use of research evidence by district decision-making through dissemination, access, and other strategies. Some travel to schools and community sites will be required.
The fellow will be supervised primarily by Dr. Adam Voight, Director of the Center for Urban Education at CSU with additional supervision from Dr. Joshua Terchek, Director of Research and Development at CMSD and Dr. Elisabeth Davis, Principal Researcher at AIR. CSU ranks 18th among all U.S. universities in both promoting opportunity and producing research according to the Brookings Institution. The National Science Foundation ranks CSU in the top 20% in research expenditures among U.S. universities. CSU is a Doctoral University with “High Research Activity” and “Community Engagement” classifications from the Carnegie Foundation. The fellow will have the opportunity to teach undergraduate and/or graduate courses at CSU, if desired.

Requirements

Applications are welcomed from those with earned doctorates in diverse and/or interdisciplinary social science fields, including education, psychology, sociology, and social work. Applicants should have a strong intent to pursue an academic or research career and the capability to independently conduct community-engaged research. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Compensation

The fellow will receive a stipend of $60,000 annually. A benefit package including health and dental care, paid time off, and a retirement plan with university contribution is provided.

To Apply

Applicants should submit the following materials to the Center for Urban Education at CSU at ctrurbaneducation@csuohio.edu with the subject line “Postdoctoral Fellowship”:

- Cover letter addressing scholarly interests, prior research experience, career goals, and perceived fit with the fellowship;
- Curriculum vitae;
- Scholarly writing sample (preferably a published first-author article); and
- Names and contact information of three individuals willing to provide letters of recommendation (letters do not need to be provided with the initial application).

For fullest consideration, please apply by November 12, 2021.

Equal Opportunity is the Law

It is the policy of CSU to provide equal opportunity to all qualified applicants and employees without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, national origin, age, protected veteran or disabled status, or genetic information.