

## 2012–2013 Call for Applications

### Application Deadline

September 21, 2012



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

# Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholars

### Purpose

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholars program provides two years of support to postdoctoral scholars at all stages of their careers to build the nation's capacity for research and leadership to address the multiple determinants of population health and contribute to policy change. The program is based on the principle that progress in the field of population health depends upon multidisciplinary collaboration and exchange. Its goal is to improve health by training scholars to:

1. investigate the connections among biological, genetic, behavioral, environmental, economic and social determinants of health; and
2. develop, evaluate and disseminate knowledge, interventions and policies that integrate and act on these determinants to improve health.

The program is intended to produce leaders who will change the questions asked, the methods employed to analyze problems and the range of solutions to reduce population health disparities and improve the health of all Americans.

### Total Awards

- Up to 12 scholars will be selected for two-year appointments beginning in the fall of 2013.
- Scholars will receive an annual stipend of \$80,000.

### Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible, scholars must:

- have completed doctoral training by the time of entry into the program (September 2013) in one of a variety of fields, including, but not limited to: the behavioral and social sciences; the biological and natural sciences; health professions; public policy; public health; history; demography; environmental sciences; urban planning; engineering and ethics;
- have significant research experience;
- connect their research interests to substantive population health concerns; and
- be U.S. Citizens, Resident Non-Citizen Nationals, or Resident Foreign Nationals at the time of application and must not be receiving support from other research fellowships/traineeships at the time they begin the program.

Additionally, individual candidates for receipt of award funds cannot be related by blood or marriage to any Officer\* or Trustee of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, or be a descendant of its founder, Robert Wood Johnson.

\* The Officers are the Chairman of the Board of Trustees; President and CEO; Chief of Staff; General Counsel; Secretary; Assistant Secretary; Treasurer; and Assistant Treasurer of the Foundation.

### Key Dates and Deadlines

- **July 18, 2012**  
Online application system becomes available at [www.healthandsocietyscholars.org](http://www.healthandsocietyscholars.org).
- **September 21, 2012 (5 p.m. ET)**  
Deadline for receipt of applications.
- **January 2013**  
Finalist interviews.
- **Mid-to-late February 2013**  
Notification of acceptance.
- **September 2013**  
Scholars enter the program at participating universities.

### Inquiries

For information on the program, eligibility criteria and the application process, please contact the NPO:

Gerard P. Lebeda, *deputy director*  
Phone: (212) 419-3566  
Email: [hss@nyam.org](mailto:hss@nyam.org)

[www.healthandsocietyscholars.org](http://www.healthandsocietyscholars.org)

We encourage all applicants to read the complete details about the program found in the call for applications brochure at [www.rwjf.org/cfp/hss](http://www.rwjf.org/cfp/hss).

For information about funding opportunities from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, visit Grants at [www.rwjf.org](http://www.rwjf.org).

Sign up to receive email alerts on upcoming calls for proposals at <http://my.rwjf.org>.

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### **Selection Criteria**

We will consider the following criteria in evaluating applicants:

- Potential to contribute creatively to the field of population health.
- Demonstrated openness to new ideas.
- Demonstrated critical thinking skills.
- A strong interest in interdisciplinary collaboration.
- Commitment to a career consistent with the program's purpose and goals.
- Quality of past research.
- Leadership potential.
- Ability to take advantage of the program's opportunities.
- Recommendations by faculty and other individuals with whom the applicant has studied or worked.

### **Use of Grant Funds**

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) has made grants to the four participating universities in accordance with our regular funding guidelines. Scholars will have access to a full range of university resources and will receive an annual stipend of \$80,000, plus health insurance from their university site. Scholars will also have access at each university to financial support for research-related expenses, training, workshops and travel to professional meetings.

### **How to Apply**

Individuals may apply only through our online system, which will be available through the program's website at [www.healthandsocietyscholars.org](http://www.healthandsocietyscholars.org) beginning July 18, 2012.

Applications to the *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholars* program will be reviewed by the national advisory committee (NAC), national program office (NPO) and program site directors. Approximately 50 finalists will be selected for interviews at one or more of the participating sites. After these interviews, up to 12 scholars will be selected to enter the program in September 2013. Assignment to sites will be based upon a review of selected scholars' preferences for sites and the sites' preferences for specific scholars. Neither the NPO nor RWJF provide individual critiques of applications submitted.

Complete details on the application process and answers to frequently asked questions are available on the program's website or by contacting:

Gerard P. Lebeda, *deputy director*  
Phone: (212) 419-3566  
Email: [hss@nyam.org](mailto:hss@nyam.org)

**[www.healthandsocietyscholars.org](http://www.healthandsocietyscholars.org)**