

Seeking Applications to join the 2021-2022 Penn State One Health Scholars Cohort

The Penn State One Health Group is thrilled to be piloting the first year of the One Health Scholars Program. We are seeking applicants to join the 2021-2022 Cohort in a cross-disciplinary applied training program working closely with faculty across University Park and Hershey Medical Center whose research, teaching and practice involve One Health.

What is One Health?

One Health is a collaborative, multisectoral, and trans-disciplinary approach - working at local, regional, national, and global levels - to achieve optimal health and well-being outcomes recognizing the interconnections between people, animals, plants and their shared environment.
~One Health Commission.

Simply put, One Health recognizes that the health of people is closely connected to the health of animals and the environment we all share. One Health brings together those whose work supports human health, veterinary and wildlife health, and those who plan, design, manage and analyze the environment to break down disciplinary boundaries to focus on solving complex issues of disease, illness and wellbeing.

Who is eligible?

Applicants from all disciplines are encouraged to apply. Applicants must be advanced undergraduate students in the final two years of their program, or any year of graduate, Phd or professional program. Because this is the pilot year, the composition of the cohort will be determined by the applicant pool. The 2021-2022 Cohort will consist of 2-5 Scholars from University Park and Hershey Medical Center.

Note: at least one Scholar will be chosen for their advanced skills in GIS/ArcMap. Strong applicants for this spot in the cohort may come from (but are not limited to) landscape architecture, architecture, graphic design, geography, epidemiology, rural sociology, ecology, forestry, or other fields that address socio-environmental topics.

Responsibilities and Commitment

This is an applied training program. The Cohort will collaborate with faculty to conduct a pilot project. For 2021-2022, the pilot project will compile data to create a spatial database / map to answer this research question:

What are the socio-environmental determinants of perinatal health in a) humans, and b) animals, in Pennsylvania?

Scholars will work with faculty and their connections at agencies around Pennsylvania to gather data to investigate reproductive and maternal and infant health issues and success factors in humans, domestic animals and wild animals, and spatial, demographic and environmental factors to investigate potential human-environment and animal-environment associations. Scholars will work with the project PIs to gather, compile and clean data, lead the spatial analysis/mapping and present the findings to the faculty

Technical Advisory Committee. Scholars will learn about data management, interdisciplinary collaboration and communication, and One Health analysis across disciplinary perspectives. Scholars will benefit from gaining access to professional networks, resources, and data and may have the potential to collaborate on publications.

Scholars may be eligible for funding (1-2 semester research assistantship or wage pay roll positions in Fall 2021 and/or Spring 2022). Exact funding and hours to be determined by the applicant pool. The Scholars program may also support theses, capstones, and other individual academic research.

Experience, Qualifications, Knowledge and Skills

We are seeking applicants from all backgrounds, identities and diverse experiences. Qualified applicants must have the following:

- An interest in One Health
- Excel at collaboration, especially between faculty and other students in different disciplines
- High work ethic, attention to detail and ability to work independently
- Availability in Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 (schedules can be flexible)
- Ability to work both virtually and in-person (either in State College or Hershey)
- Currently in good academic standing with their respective program

While not required, other qualities we are seeking in ideal candidates:

- Career goals in One Health
- Prior experience working with data
- Comfort with calling and emailing agencies, institutions and faculty to acquire data
- Experienced technical skills in GIS, ArcMap, Excel, R, SPSS and/or Stata

Interested candidates should submit 1) a CV or resume, 2) the attached application form and 3) brief letter of interest **by June 30** to

Dr. Stephen Mainzer spm192@psu.edu (for University Park graduate students)

Dr. Justin Brown jdb56@psu.edu (for University Park undergraduate students)

Dr. Sona Jasani sjasani@pennstatehealth.psu.edu (for Hershey Medical Center applicants)

All other questions can go to Dr. Leann Andrews LAndrews@psu.edu

Application Form for Penn State One Health Scholar

Name:

Campus (University Park or Hershey):

College or School:

Department:

Major/focus:

(If applicable) Medical School:

(If applicable) Residency Program:

Year in program (e.g. year 3 of 4):

Prior degrees (for graduate or professional students only):

Interest in One Health (1-3 sentences):

Experience in collaboration (1-3 sentences):

Reference who can speak to your academic work (name, title and email):

Experience working with data (1-3 sentences):

Experience level with GIS/Arc Map: ___None ___Beginning ___Intermediate ___Advanced

Experience level with Microsoft Excel: ___None ___Beginning ___Intermediate ___Advanced

Experience level working with R/SPSS/STATA: ___None ___Beginning ___Intermediate ___Advanced