**Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows Program**

**2021-22 Application**

Applications can either be sent as an email attachment. If email is not an option, please call us to make other arrangements:

Maya Bauer, Program Director

Schweitzer Fellowship, HMPRG

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The Schweitzer Fellowship is a year-long service-learning program for graduate students in health-related professions to design and implement innovative direct-service projects aimed at improving the health and well-being of underserved Chicago area communities. The Schweitzer Program embraces the World Health Organization definition of health as a state of mental, physical, and social well-being and not merely the absence of illness or infirmity. Many Fellows’ projects address the social determinants of health, such as literacy, violence prevention, mental health/stress, and healthy lifestyles.

*Due to COVID-19, 2021-22 projects will be subject to remote or virtual requirements, as dictated by the best public health science.*

**Fellowship**:

* Each Fellow provides at least 200 hours of service, separate from any existing clinical or fieldwork requirements for their respective university degree programs, or other paid work.
* Fellows participate in leadership development and interprofessional learning as a cohort.
* 30 Fellows are selected annually in a highly competitive process.
* Fellows receive a stipend of $2,500.
* Chicago Schweitzer Fellows conduct their project with health centers, social service agencies, schools, community organization, and nonprofits throughout Chicagoland, thereby helping the organizations expand their capacities. To date, our Fellows have partnered with over 150 agencies.
* Since the Program started in 1996, over 600 Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows have provided over 120,000 hours of direct service.

**Developing Leaders**

Through their community projects and participation in a year-long program that includes mentoring support, monthly meetings, written reflection, and interprofessional collaboration, Schweitzer Fellows are developing the skills and confidence needed to become Leaders in Service—professionals who will remain dedicated to public service and to creating systemic change.

After successfully completing their initial year, Fellows become members of a national **Schweitzer Fellows for Life** alumni network of over 4,000 Leaders in Service.

**Organization**

The Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellowship program is affiliated with the US Schweitzer Fellowship Chapters Collaborative, and is administered by Health & Medicine Policy Research Group, a Chicago nonprofit organization that works to improve the health of all people in Illinois by promoting health equity. The Fellows’ work is entirely funded through contributions from local foundations, individuals, and academic institutions.

**Applications must be received no later than Friday, February 1, 2021**

*Please contact us if you encounter any technical difficulties with the form.*

**APPLICATION**

**Demographic Information**

First Name:       Last Name:

Address:

City:       State:       Zip:

Phone:       Preferred Email Address:

What are your preferred personal pronouns, e.g., he/him, she/her, they/them?

Will you be enrolled in a degree-granting graduate program at least through December 2021?

What year in your degree program will you be during the 2021-22 academic year (include the length or your program. eg. 3rd year, of 4 years)?

When is your expected graduation date?

School:       Discipline:

Degree Program:

(Optional Section: Dual Degree Students)

**If** you are a dual degree student, list other school, discipline, degree program, and expected graduation date:

(Optional Section: Joint Applicant Information)

*The Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows Program* ***rarely*** *selects joint applications and students seeking to submit a joint Fellowship project proposal* ***must*** *contact the Program Director before submitting their applications.*

**If** you are submitting a joint application, list your project partner's name:

Fellows are expected to participate in Fellowship activities throughout the year (May 1, 2021 - May 31, 2022). To achieve the 200+ hours of service and Fellowship activities required will take an average of 4-5 hours/week. Will you have any significant academic/clinical responsibilities during the Fellowship year that may interfere with your ability to participate in the Fellowship?

If yes, please describe:

Indicate any times you anticipate being out of the area for more than two consecutive weeks and/or unable to participate in Fellowship activities for reasons other than those listed above:

**Project Information**

1. Please describe the population you wish to impact with your proposed service project, including demographic information and the community need(s) your project would address. Fellowship projects must engage populations that are underserved. *(Suggested word count 150)*

1. Please describe 2-3 potential interventions or collaborative projects that you might undertake with your proposed community/population. Our program requires that selected Fellows develop their projects in response to community needs and assets assessments, once (or before) they are selected, so we are interested in the kinds of project ideas that might engage your passions. If you plan to continue an existing project, please propose how you might expand or build upon it. (If you have an existing relationship with a community site and have already conducted assessments, you can list project goals here. This is not required.): *(Suggested word count 300)*

1. Proposed community agency/project site (If a site has not yet been identified, please indicate “TBD”). Include a brief description of your relationship to the site, if applicable:

1. Bearing in mind that the majority of your service hours should be direct, face-to-face community service, how would you apportion your time throughout the Fellowship year? Please include a proposed start and end date. *(Suggested word count 150)*

Example: If you plan to meet weekly with your population throughout the year, how many meetings would be required to fulfill the direct service requirement? Be sure you have given some thought to the logistical aspects of this part of your project.

1. With the uncertainty of COVID-19, what would make your service project possible during this uncertain time? Would virtual work be possible? What COVID precautions or alterations would you be ready to make*? (Suggested word count 50)*

**Personal and Professional Information as it Relates to Fellowship Activities**

1. Considering that there are many different types of community service projects a Fellow could design, what inspired you to develop your particular project idea? (*Suggested word count 200*)
2. Tell us about a time in which you failed or faced a major obstacle but persevered. *(Suggested word count 150)*
3. What would you hope to learn during your Fellowship year? *(Suggested word count 50-100)*

1. Personal Statement: Please include anything about your personal and professional background, as well as motivation for applying to the Schweitzer Fellowship that you would like to share with the selection committee. *(Suggested word count 800)*

**References and Resume**

1. Please list three (3) references. (Please do not submit letters of recommendation.)

**Proposed Faculty Mentor name, include title:**

Phone number and email address:

Please describe your relationship in one sentence:

**Reference 1/Academic Reference name (separate from the faculty mentor):**

Phone number and email address:

Please describe your relationship in one sentence:

**Reference 2/Personal reference such a volunteer supervisor (current or past), previous employer, or general personal reference name:**

Phone number and email address:

Please describe your relationship in one sentence:

1. Please list someone at your proposed site who could serve as a site mentor or who has been your site contact. (Indicate “TBD” if not yet identified.)

* Name:
* Job Title and Organization:
* Phone:
* Email:

Has the representative above indicated to you that the organization welcomes your proposed project? \_\_\_

1. Attach a brief resume (no longer than 2 pages).

**To help us with processing your application, please answer the following questions about your proposed project:**

1. Please write a 2-sentence description of yourself and your proposed project, including an introductory line of your name and your school/program. (If you are selected as a Fellow, this will be posted on our website and in press releases. Note that you will be able to edit this throughout the Fellowship year if you'd like.)

*Example: “Elizabeth Salisbury, Rush University College of Medicine. Elizabeth proposes to initiate prenatal classes for pregnant Hispanic teens at the Infant Welfare Society. The classes will provide education and will serve as a social support structure for the young women.”*

1. Select at least 1 and up to 4 of the following health issue areas that your project would address.

Access to Care

Alcohol/Substance Abuse

Arts/Dance/Creative Expression

Chronic Diseases (Diabetes, cancer, etc.)

Health Career Trajectory Programs

Health Literacy/Education

Leadership/Empowerment

Legal

Life Skills/Employment

Literacy/Tutoring

Maternal/Child Health

Mental Health

Nutrition

Oral Health

Physical Fitness

Sexual/Reproductive Health

Social Support

Trauma/Sexual Assault

Violence

Vision/Eye Health

Wellness/Healthy Lifestyles

Other:

1. Select at least 1 and up to 4 of the following target populations that your project would work with.

Native Americans

African Americans

Asian Americans

Latinos

Immigrants/Refugees

Disabled People

Youth

Families

Teen or Single Mothers

People experiencing homelessness

Incarcerated/Recently Incarcerated

LGBTQ

Women

Men

Older Adults

Other:

1. **How did you first hear about the Schweitzer Fellows Program?**

I read a flier on a bulletin board

I know a Fellow or former Fellow

I attended a Schweitzer symposium or other event

A faculty member or other staff at my school encouraged me to apply

A community organization I'm involved with told me about it

I found out about it browsing the internet

I received a notice about it from a club or association I belong to

I attended a Schweitzer applicant information session

My school generally promoted it

Other (please specify):

**5. What aspects of the Fellowship INTERESTED YOU THE MOST in deciding to apply (check up to 3)?**

Personal development

Enhance my leadership skills

Ability to design and direct a project of my own

Interprofessional development, learning about other disciplines and graduate studies

Connection to alumni network

Ability to enhance my academic training with real world experience

Ability to meet and share inspiration with other students in the Fellowship program

Ability to do community work

Prestige

Stipend

Other (please specify):

**Thank you!**