

Keck School of Medicine of USC

The Center for Health Equity in the Americas

Institute for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Research,
Department of Preventive Medicine, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Community Health Equity and Dissemination Scholarship Description and Application Process

The USC Center For Health Equity in the Americas (CenHealth) Community Health Equity and Dissemination Scholarship seeks to fund current USC Keck School of Medicine students for travel and/or registration cost to attend: 1) a conference where students will be presenting research/practice on a topic related to Health Equity in the Americas, or 2) travel to a practicum and/or conducting a research project related to Health equity in the Americas. Scholarships can be used for both national or international travel.

The goal of CenHealth is to further develop the research pipeline, by encouraging more students to pursue health equity research and practice in the Americas, and promote the dissemination of findings. To receive this award, it is expected that students will have either an accepted presentation/poster at a conference or have been approved to be working on a project (such as a Practicum) related to health equity. By accepting the award, students are expected to acknowledge CenHealth properly during their presentation, and must be committed to writing a blog on our CenHealth website during the execution of the project or while presenting at the conference. The blog will highlight their project and/or experiences gained.

Scholarship Coverage: Students can be awarded UP TO a Maximum of \$1000.

This award **may cover** conference registration fees, lodging expenses, and/or travel (travel to and from practicum location, arrival and departure, but not internal travel). Travel is defined as airfare/bus fare/train travel *to and from* the conference destination site, or student practicum/research project destination site and the US home base or at travel site.

We do encourage students to include travel insurance in their budget, in case travel is suspended for any reason or baggage are lost, and international travel insurance when travelling international. That is an approved cost in the travel request to CenHealth. However, the University or CenHealth or any of its representatives are not responsible for additional unanticipated costs incurred during travel, lost baggage, or personal life loss or injury during travel. Students are also expected to stay abreast of any new developments regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and follow USC mandated travel restrictions (<https://emergency.usc.edu/alerts/2-23-2020-study-abroad-and-travel-updates-for-covid-19/>). Should the travel condition in the area where you are studying reach the CDC Level 3 or U.S. State Department Level 4 travel advisory, USC policy states you will be required to leave the area. Should any situation arise, immediately contact: 1) the U.S. Embassy in the country, region, location, site you are traveling to, 2) USC's office of Campus Support & Intervention and 3) CenHealth (contact Yaneth Rodriguez at ylr@usc.edu).

The award is a competitive process; **applying for this award does not guarantee you will get the scholarship**. You need to make a compelling case as to why you need these travel funds and explain why you cannot obtain funding through other means.

Eligibility:

- Current USC Keck School of Medicine students at any academic level (students in the undergraduate HP program, masters in global medicine, masters in public health, medical school, occupational health, pharmacy, dental school, among other Keck schools, and PhD students at any level, in a variety of programs at the Keck School of Medicine are eligible for this award).

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- Planning to travel under one of two conditions:
 - Student has been accepted to present (poster or oral presentation) on research or practice on a topic related to Health Equity in the Americas at a conference (Student **must be** the primary author on the accepted abstract).
 - Student is conducting a practicum and/or research project related to Health equity in the Americas and has proof of acceptance for this practicum or research project.
- Must be at least 18 years of age or older.
- If out of country travel, country must not be in the State Department warning or limited travel list.

Application Process:

Application Process for Students Presenting at a Conference:

- 1) Community Health Equity and Dissemination Scholarship Application
- 2) Submit a detailed travel budget.
- 3) Statement of Purpose, 1 page: What conference have you been accepted to present? What health equity topic will you be presenting on? How does it relate to the advancement of health equity in the Americas?
- 4) Copy of Letter of Acceptance listing student as the primary author of accepted abstract (Email or screen shot stating primary author has been accepted to present at the given conference).

Application Process for Students requesting travel assistance for a practicum/research project:

- 1) Community Health Equity and Dissemination Scholarship Application
- 2) Submit a detailed travel budget.
- 3) Statement of Purpose, 1 page: Describe your practicum or research project. How does it relate to health equity in the Americas? How does it relate to the advancement of health equity in the Americas? How do you intend to disseminate the information you will gain?

Please note: In the **budget** students will need to include

- Registration cost of the conference, if applicable.
- Estimated travel cost, to and from the destination chosen.
- Lodging cost
- If student needs any special travel accommodations that will incur additional travel fees.

Application Deadline and Submission:

Please email ylr@usc.edu the complete application packet with subject line: "CenHealth Community Health Equity and Dissemination Scholarship Application" by 5:00pm PST on March 13, 2020 (late applications will **not** be accepted). You will receive an email confirmation that your application has been received within 1-2 days of submitting.

Announcement of Award:

March 31, 2020

Requirements, If Awarded:

If awarded, students will be required to:

- Post a blog about your experience on The Center for Health Equity in the Americas website <https://healthequityamericas.usc.edu>
- Submit the travel request form provided by CenHealth with travel dates and time preferences. CenHealth will book travel arrangements. This does not include: incidentals, any other on the ground transportation fees, baggage fees, food/beverages, and any additional fees due to travelling.
- Submit conference registration information. CenHealth will register you for the conference.

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Prior to Traveling Students are responsible for:

- Obtaining any vaccinations needed prior to travel.
- Staying informed of any epidemics or current problems that may affect their safety or health while traveling.
- Staying informed of any Zika, Coronavirus or other virus outbreak in the destination you are traveling to or in case of other highly infectious diseases in the country of travel, address any precautions you intend to take in the application.
- Following USC mandated travel restrictions as listed on the USC website (posted on USC Emergency Information and USC Student Health)
- Acquire any documentation needed prior to traveling.
- Complete all USC travel permission forms required by the University.

The University of Southern California, CenHealth, and any of its affiliates are not liable for any issues that may arise.

Questions and Answers

If I received the CenHealth Ambassadors Brigade Fellowship can I still apply for this Community Health Equity and Dissemination Scholarship award?

No, sorry you are not eligible to apply to this Community Health Equity and Dissemination Scholarship if you are awarded as a CenHealth Ambassador Brigade Fellow.

What if I want to stay longer than the conference or practicum scheduled dates?

You will need to pay the cost difference and/or any additional costs to the flight, lodging, bus, or train fare in addition to any other expenses.

What if I can't stay for the whole conference?

Students are encouraged to stay for the whole conference. If you are unable to do so, and only want funding to attend your presentation or other such obligations, please provide information on the reduced registration cost (such as going for only one day, or other such information). We do encourage students to stay for the entire conference, especially if registration has been paid by CenHealth.

What if I do not have a passport?

You must have a valid and current passport at the time of travel, if planning to travel outside of the U.S. All visas and any other documentation that is required for travel are the responsibility of the student.

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CenHealth Community Health Equity and Dissemination Scholarship Application

Applicant Information		
KSOM Student Name		
USC ID Number		
Mailing Address		
E-Mail Address		
Home Phone #		
Cell Phone #		
Year in School		
Department/Program		
Is your program a residential or online program?		
Dates of proposed project/conference time frame and location	(Month/Year - Month/Year)	City, State, and Country (if out of the U.S.)

___ Check if there are any warnings issued on the U.S. Dept. of State’s Alerts and Warnings website for the specific country where you plan to do your research or presentation.
<http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html>

Practicum Eligibility Approval

If this scholarship will be used for travel for a practicum through the Masters of Public Health Program, a signature needs to be obtained from either Rose Park or Keisha Chandler, which approves your eligibility to complete the practicum course this semester.

Practicum Coordinator (Rose Park or Keisha Chandler) Signature:

Person In the U.S. to Notify in Case of Emergency	
Name	
Relationship to applicant	
Home Phone #	
Work Phone #	
E-Mail Address	
Mailing Address	

Key Dates:

- Application Submission Deadline is March 13, 2020 by 5:00pm (late applications will **not** be accepted).
- Notice of awards will be announced March 31, 2020.