



CDC-Emory Scholarship

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's International Emergency and Refugee Health Branch and Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health are offering a joint 1-year Public Health Scholarship. The **Global Complex Humanitarian Emergency Scholarship** is a competitive scholarship that invests in its scholars to create public health leaders in developing countries. Through the program, nominating institutions and organizations build internal capacity and increase both general public health and complex humanitarian crisis response competence. Scholars will work closely with the CDC in developing a relevant practicum/thesis project that can be implemented by their sponsoring organization/agency upon completion of the scholarship.

This scholarship is intended to build:

- **National capacity** to respond in the event of a complex humanitarian emergency;
- **Strong technical skills** in epidemiology, rapid health assessment, surveillance, surveys, data analysis, monitoring and evaluation; and
- **Relationships** and collaborative operations research projects.

Components of the scholarship include:

- One-year Public Health Masters Degree in Global Health, Global Epidemiology or Global Environmental Health
- Graduate Certificate in Complex Humanitarian Emergencies
- Applied research project chosen by the sponsoring agency that will address a critical public health need in the scholar's country

a. Eligibility Requirements

This scholarship is intended for mid-career professionals with the following minimum qualifications:

- Three years experience working in a conflict or post conflict and/ or resource poor environment;
- Baccalaureate degree;
- Fluent speaking, reading and writing in English; and
- Basic computer skills.

Please note:

- Sponsoring agencies must approve the leave of a candidate for one year with the understanding that if s/he is awarded a scholarship, s/he will return to work for the organization for at least 1 year.
- Priority will be given to candidates from organizations working in conflict and post conflict settings.
- Priority will be given to individuals from countries and regions affected by conflicts and / or humanitarian emergencies.
- Preference will be given to candidates with MD or post-baccalaureate education.



Scholarship Components

a. Academic Requirements

Completion of an MPH degree with a specialty in Global Health, Global Epidemiology or Global Environmental Health requires 42 semester hours of course work. Scholars will complete these requirements in 1 year with 30 credits earned through academic coursework and 12 credits earned through applied research with the CDC. Scholars are required to take RSPH/departmental core courses as well as required courses for the Complex Humanitarian Emergency Graduate Certificate. All courses must be taken for a letter grade and scholars must maintain a minimum 3.0 grade point average.

Please note: Because of the rigorous nature of completing the program in two semesters there is little flexibility in the academic program. The following outlines the expectations.

Fall Semester
July 2010- December 2010

<u>Course Number</u>	<u>Course Name</u>	<u>Credit Hours</u>
BIOS 500	Statistical Methods I (with lab)	4
EPI 530	Epidemiological Methods I (with lab)	4
GH 501	Policies in Global Health	3
GH 538	Food and Nutrition in Human Emergencies	2
GH 590R	Global Planning for Emergencies and Disasters (Fall Break)	1
GH 595	Global Health Practicum	--
	CDC Applied Research Project	6
	Total Credit Hours	20



Below provides a sample schedule to help scholarship candidates understand what is likely to be expected in the Fall semester of the program.

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
8 a.m.	GH 538		CDC		
9 a.m.		EPI 530			GH 501
10 a.m.					
11 a.m.					
12 p.m.					CDC
1 p.m.		GH 501		GH 501	
2 p.m.					
3 p.m.		BIOS 500		BIOS 500	
4 p.m.	EPI 530		EPI 530		
5 p.m.					

Spring Semester
January 2011- May 2011

<u>Course Number</u>	<u>Course Name</u>	<u>Credit Hours</u>
BSHE 504	Social Behavior in Public Health	2
EOH 500	Environmental & Occupational Health	2
GH 510	Epidemiological Methods in Humanitarian Emergencies (Winter Break)	2
GH 512	Health in Complex Emergencies (Spring Break)	2
GH 542	Strategies in Global Health	3
GH 590R	Plan Psycho-Social Aspects of Disasters (3-day class)	1
GH 599R	Thesis	4
	CDC Applied Research Project	6
	Total Credit Hours	22



Below provides a sample schedule to help scholarship candidates understand what is likely to be expected in the Spring semester of the program.

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
8 a.m.	CDC	CDC		EOH 500	CDC	
9 a.m.			BSHE 504			
10 a.m.						
11 a.m.			GH 542			
12 p.m.						
1 p.m.						
2 p.m.						
3 p.m.						
4 p.m.						GH 542
5 p.m.			GH 542			
6 p.m.						
7 p.m.						

b. Applied Research

Scholars are expected to bring a rigorous applied research project with them that will be implemented by their sponsoring agency/organization upon completion of the scholarship. This project should deal with a critical public health or humanitarian emergencies issue. The scholar will work closely with the CDC to develop this research project and will be expected to spend the equivalent of 6 credit hours on the project each semester with an additional 4 credit hours in the spring developing the project into a thesis.

CDC staff will work closely with scholars to provide oversight, field expertise and technical assistance to develop strong research projects. Project support will be specifically tailored to a scholar's intended research, based on the nominating agency and country priorities as well as the scholar's interest.



Core competencies that will be developed through this research project include discipline specific skills in:

- Biostatistics, such as the development of statistical reasoning;
- Environmental Health Sciences, including understanding environmental factors that affect the target population;
- Epidemiology, such as identifying disease patterns in the target population;
- Health Policy and Management, including understanding the delivery, quality and costs of program components of the research project;
- Social and Behavioral Sciences, such as researching behavioral and cultural factors related to healthcare and health disparities.

It is expected that the research project will incorporate specific competencies from the above discipline specific skills areas as well as interdisciplinary/cross-cutting competencies including:

- Communication and informatics
- Diversity and culture
- Leadership
- Public health biology
- Professionalism
- Program planning
- Systems thinking

Additional information about APHA core competencies can be found at:

<http://www.asph.org/UserFiles/FINAL%20-%20Version%201.3%20for%20DISTRIBUTION1.pdf>

c. Practical Logistics

Emory University will provide:

Food/Housing/Local Transportation	✓	\$1,700/month
Travel to/from Home Country	✓	\$3,000 (one time stipend)
Health Insurance	✓	For full year

Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health has a number of international scholars programs and provides assistance in securing housing as well as an in-depth orientation for all international scholars prior to the start of the school year.



Application Process

The application process is by nomination only. A Supervisor and Senior Director must approve the application and ensure the candidate has approval to attend Emory University for 1 year with the understanding that s/he will return to work for the nominating organization for at least one year should s/he be selected as a scholar.

The application sections **MUST** be filled out in their entirety. Any applications not fully completed will not be considered. Additionally, the application packet must include the following:

- Certified and sealed college transcripts including post-baccalaureate transcripts if applicable;
- Essay providing a clear description of the proposed research project as well as the goals and expectations for the project during the scholarship;
- Curriculum Vitae or resume, written in English;
- Photocopy of a valid passport;
- Proof of registration for the TOEFL and GRE (note TOEFL and GRE do not to be taken in order for the application to be submitted, proof of registration is sufficient).
- Three references (to be sent directly to the CDC)

Application Schedule

February 15, 2010:	Completed application due to CDC
March 31, 2010:	TOEFL and GRE must be taken and score requested to be given to Emory University
May 15, 2010:	CDC/Rollins School of Public Health selects the scholar(s) for 2010 academic year

TOEFL and GRE Test

There are no waivers for the TOEFL and GRE tests. It is the responsibility of the applicant to research the dates and locations of testing for both the TOEFL and GRE. Please note that testing availability varies greatly from country to country. More information on the tests can be found at:

- **TOEFL:** <http://www.ets.org/toefl/>
- **GRE:** <http://www.ets.org/gre/>



V. FAQs for the Applicant

1. I cannot find a testing site for the TOEFL or GRE in my country, what do I do?

We recognize that some applicants may need to travel to other cities in their country, or in rare cases, to other countries to have access to a testing site. We regret the amount of travel that might be required, but can make no exceptions to the testing policy. We do suggest, however, that potential applications contact the testing organizations directly to find the closest site to them.

2. I do not have a baccalaureate, are other types of education sufficient?

In some countries the equivalent to a 4-year bachelor's degree is called something different such as an Honours degree (common in countries that follow the British education system) or a Licence (common in countries that follow the French education system). As long as the degree is equivalent to a baccalaureate degree it meets the education requirement. Two-year degrees (called Associate Degrees in the United States) or trade/skill school certificates are not sufficient to meet the education requirement for this scholarship.

3. I am married, may my family accompany me?

The scholarship stipend is not intended or sufficient to house and feed a spouse and/or family. If a successful candidate would like to bring his/her family we do not prohibit it but cannot provide any monetary resources for travel or living expenses.

4. What types of projects are appropriate for the research project with the CDC?

Any rigorous research project that will have an immediate, practical application in the candidate's home country and deals with a critical public health or humanitarian emergencies need is an appropriate project. We expect that the project scope will be determined by the particular needs of the applicant's country and the priorities of the applicant's nominating agency/organization. The CDC will work with scholars to further develop the research project.

5. What can I expect during my year scholarship?

This is a very rigorous year. Most MPH programs at Emory University are completed in two years. In order to be able to complete the requirements in one year, the course load is heavy and the expectations of the scholars are high. There is significant support from both Emory University and CDC for our scholars but it should be expected that there will be little free time and the academic and applied research requirements are significant.

6. How fluent should my English be?

All classes are taught in English and all course materials are in English as well. It is essential that our scholars are fully conversant in English and can both read and write English very well.



7. What does basic computer skills mean?

At a minimum a successful candidate should be proficient in Microsoft Office (Word, PowerPoint and Excel) as well as have good Internet research skills.

8. Can I get more information about the CDC branch I will be working with?

The International Emergency and Refugee Health Branch (IERHB) is responsible for implementing and coordinating the CDC's response to complex humanitarian emergencies, as requested by U.S. government and United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations. Our mission is to improve the health of populations affected by complex humanitarian emergencies such as war, famine, civil strife, disaster, genocide, drought and displacement. We are a technical group working in diverse public health areas. We work with the scholars as peers and value the exchange of information that the program brings.

V. FAQs for the Nominating Organization

1. How do I know the qualifications that make a good candidate for the scholarship?

A good candidate will have a strong work ethic and a dedication to improving the quality of life in his/her country.

Additionally, a successful candidate should have:

- several years field experience working in conflict or post conflict, resource poor settings.
- an excellent grasp of spoken and written English.
- a strong interest in the proposed research project and able to be a leader in its implementation and management when s/he returns.
- Ability to train others in the skills s/he learned and apply them to projects in addition to the proposed research project.

2. How much contact will I have with my employee if selected as a scholar?

While your employee will be in another country and busy with a rigorous academic schedule, you will probably have more contact with him/her than you might expect. The scholar will be in regular contact with his/her sponsoring agencies as the research project develops. Beyond the collaboration on the research project, it is up to the scholar's supervisor how much regular contact s/he wants.

3. What is expected of my organization when our scholar returns?

Any organization whose nomination is accepted into the program is expected to implement the research project as soon as possible.



4. What are the costs associated with the application and who pays for them?

The CDC does not charge an application fee. There are, however, fees to take both the TOEFL and the GRE. The costs vary country to country but are somewhere around US 400USD excluding travel costs. It is up to the nominating organization how they want to address the cost of testing, but neither the CDC nor Emory University can assist in underwriting them.

5. What are the costs associated with the scholarship program and who pays for them?

The CDC and Rollins School of Public Health underwrite the entire costs of the scholarship. The total cost of the program is estimated at more than \$72,000. The breakdown of the cost is:

Tuition	✓	\$50,400*
Living Expenses	✓	\$17,000 (based on 10 mos.)
Travel Expenses	✓	\$3,000
Health Insurance	✓	\$2,158 (based 2009 fees)

*the cost of a traditional 2 year MPH program at Rollins