Visiting Extension Specialist, Integrated Health Disparities
Social and Community Health

We transform lives
Everything we do is designed to improve the quality of life of the people in the state of Illinois, across the nation, and around the world. We discover, develop, translate, and disseminate knowledge to address societal concerns and train the next generation of experts and leaders in a way that empowers them to expand the boundaries of science to higher levels of understanding and influence.

Be a part of our story
Through learning partnerships that extend knowledge and change lives, University of Illinois Extension provides educational programs aimed at making life better, healthier, safer, and more profitable for individuals and their communities. Illinois Extension has operated continuously for more than 100 years connecting the citizens of Illinois to their land-grant university by providing educational programming around the state. University of Illinois Extension is based in the College of ACES and works with all colleges and units of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

The Visiting Extension Specialist, Integrated Health Disparities (Social and Community Health) serves as a full time, 12-month academic professional with primary responsibility for planning, developing, and implementing community health education content (in-person and digital), curriculum, instructional materials, and other resources for University of Illinois Extension’s integrated health education programs. This position is a member of the Integrated Health Disparities statewide team and supports the creation of instructional materials for statewide programming. State specialists are the backbone of Extension, providing research, evidence-based information, and programs on specific disciplines to our community and stakeholders. From authoring publications to providing resources for the community and stakeholders, this position will serve a critical role for Extension.

We are searching for an innovative social and community health specialist to join our IHD team. In this role, the Specialist will complete community assessments, make programmatic plans, work with other extension professionals to develop community support plans, and conduct individual and/or group educational sessions. The successful SCH health specialist will have sound knowledge and skills in human behavior in the social environment as it relates to social work, ability to conduct assessment, intervention, and evaluation of practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. The Specialist is expected to provide a referral to intervention when required. Ideal candidates should be compassionate problem solvers who feel comfortable collaborating with other health and health care experts.

The ideal candidate is adept at building and maintaining trust-based relationships, engaging stakeholders, and applying an equity lens towards transforming lives and communities. As such, we strongly encourage applications from candidates who foster and promote the values of diversity and inclusion. Knowledge to develop standards of practice, recommend health policy, improve health programs and ensure patients, families, and organizations receive high quality and state-of-the-art social work service is critical.

One full-time position is available.

Location: Urbana-Champaign Campus

Application Due
April 27, 2022

Proposed Start Date
As soon as possible after the closing date

Salary
Commensurate with experience and qualifications

To Apply
Go To: http://go.illinois.edu/162421
Log in to your account and upload a cover letter and resume, as well as the names and contact information of three professional references

More Information
The position is a temporary, full-time, benefits eligible, non-tenure academic professional position. The position may become non-visiting at a later time dependent upon funding and/or programmatic needs. Generous vacation and sick leave. State Universities Retirement System. Group health, dental, vision and life insurance.

This is a security-sensitive position. Comprehensive background checks, including but not limited to a criminal conviction information check, and a review of the Registered Sex Offender list, will be conducted.
Curriculum and Content Development
- Conducts needs assessments, develops, and implements innovative and impactful curricula using advanced theories and technologies to enhance learner engagement, development, and retention.
- Implements outreach efforts through communications campaigns (e.g., healthy relationships and community behavior; common risk behaviors; immunization education; breastfeeding; exercise engagement; healthy home environment; etc.); utilizes educational materials designed to increase awareness and understanding, and ultimately inform decision-making among communities in Illinois.
- Adapts curricula to meet the needs of professional providers in the field.
- Designs and develops learning materials in a variety of formats (scenario-based, problem-based, competency-based, hybrid models with synchronous and asynchronous delivery). This may include course revisions, activities, and assessments for online content.
- Writes and revises courses, activities, and assessments for online content.
- Develops and implements prevention and promotion education plans directed to improve health programs and ensure individuals, families, and stakeholders in Illinois to receive high-quality and state-of-the-art social work service, and more that Extension educators may deliver to residents of Illinois.
- Develops effective and contemporary approaches to communicate with clientele. This may include constantly evolving electronic technologies (e.g., Twitter, blogs, e-learning, etc.).
- Reviews and enhances existing content to ensure level appropriateness and consistency with learning objectives; provides translation of curriculum materials for specific populations, including English as Second Language learners.
- Research educational best practices, instructional resources, instructional technologies, and multimedia hardware/software to support teaching and learning.
- Utilizes innovative organizational development and adult learning techniques and principles.
- Suggests and assists with implementing instructional technology for effective and efficient training delivery theory and online learning technologies.
- Collaborates with content teams, clinical staff, and subject matter experts to build, review, and revise content as needed to adapt to the emerging needs of the field.
- Identifies, locates, and curates resources to inform and support course content to meet field needs.
- Uses research and evaluation findings to create innovative programs and make changes to existing programs in order to improve quality.
- Plans and conducts training for instructors to prepare to deliver newly developed curricula.
- Conducts all activities in accordance with the Civil Rights Act, Title IX, Rehabilitation, Americans with Disabilities Act, and the University of Illinois Extension Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity Plan.

Project Management and Transfer of Training
- Works as part of a team in the execution of communication plans and projects, including assisting in project and program coordination and execution.
- Serves as a culturally competent and effective team member and volunteers for leadership roles as appropriate.
- Manages projects from ideation to launch to measurement.
- Prepares grants; leads and completes externally funded projects.
- Reports impacts to Assistant Dean/Program Leader for IHD as required.
- Meets deadlines, complies with all reporting deadlines and requirements (e.g., plans of work, activity, impact reporting, database entry, etc.), and adjusts to shifting priorities.
- Assists with instructor preparedness and effectiveness and onsite learning instruction, as needed.
- Provides instructor feedback and coaching to improve the delivery of content.
- Develops instructor and course evaluations, analyses, and reports.

Professional Development and Scholarship
- Maintains the competencies to develop and deliver relevant educational programming, and professional credentials with national and/or state credentialing authorities.
• Continually seeks professional development opportunities to enhance content and cultural competency in subject matter area.
• Establishes professional relationships and participates in campus-based partnerships that tie academic programs and research to complement Extension programming by partnering with other Extension field staff and/or faculty members on research projects as appropriate within the initiatives.
• Leads and cooperate in the conduct of applied research in social and community health education programs that promote health and illness prevention, educational best practices, instructional resources, instructional technologies, and multimedia hardware/software to support teaching and learning.
• Prepares and secures internal and external resources (grants) to enhance the development of innovative educational programs with potential for high impact; leads and completes funded projects. Cooperation with campus faculty is strongly encouraged in securing resources.
• Be an active member within a professional society(ies) to keep abreast of changes within the discipline.

Other Information
• Comply with all University of Illinois Extension Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity policies and guidelines in all aspects of Extension work; assist unit staff with data collection for Affirmative Action, Gender, and Targeted reports as needed.
• Assume additional related responsibilities to enhance the mission of the unit.
• Local, regional, and statewide travel required; personal transportation required.
• To perform the functions of this position, the employee will be required to perform work both within an office and outside in the communities that are served, and must have the capability to travel from one location to the other in a timely fashion. Employee is responsible for securing personal transportation. A valid driver’s license is preferred. Some work will be required during evenings and/or weekends. When working, the employee may be exposed to a variety of environmental factors to include, but not limited to, hot or cold weather, exposure to noise and allergens, and uneven ground. In performing the functions of this position, the employee may be subjected to various mental and physical demands as well to include, but not limited to, independently traveling to and performing work at different locations, lifting and moving items that may occasionally weigh up to forty (40) pounds and frequently weigh up to twenty (20) pounds, and twisting, pushing and pulling movements. More detailed information regarding the functions of this position (including the physical, mental and environmental requirements of the position) may be obtained from Human Resources for the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) by contacting hr@aces.illinois.edu.

Environmental Demands:
To perform the functions of this position, the employee will be required to perform work both within an office and outside in the communities that are served, and must have the capability to travel from one location to the other in a timely fashion. Employee is responsible for securing personal transportation. A valid driver’s license is required. Some work will be required during evenings and/or weekends. When working, the employee may be exposed to a variety of environmental factors to include, but not limited to, hot or cold weather, exposure to noise and allergens, and uneven ground. In performing the functions of this position, the employee may be subjected to various mental and physical demands as well to include, but not limited to, independently traveling to and performing work at different locations, lifting and moving items that may occasionally weigh up to forty (40) pounds and frequently weigh up to twenty (20) pounds, and twisting, pushing and pulling movements. More detailed information regarding the functions of this position (including the physical, mental and environmental requirements of the position) may be obtained from Human Resources for the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) by contacting hr@aces.illinois.edu.

Administrative Relationship: The Visiting Extension Specialist is administratively responsible to the Assistant Dean, Integrated Health Disparities.

Qualifications

Required:
• Master’s degree in Social Work, Public Health, or closely related discipline from an accredited institution of Higher Education. Candidates with a Master’s degree in progress may be considered for interviews, but degree must be completed by hire date.
• Minimum 2 years of field experience in social work, community health promotion, health education, human health science, psychology, sociology, interdisciplinary studies, human development and family studies, or a closely related field. Evidence of teaching adult and/or youth audiences in the programmatic responsibilities fields. Coordination of quality improvement initiatives, and facilitation of evidence and practice-based research network project. At least two years of demonstrated work experience in the area of programming and service delivery, working with curriculum development, instructional design teams, and training delivery. Experience managing multiple tasks, timelines, and schedules while maintaining high-quality work. Expertise in quality data collection, evaluation, and reporting. Evidence of the ability to conduct community-based participatory research and apply research results to real-world situations. Experience in displaying strong
Application Procedure:
To apply, go to:
https://go.illinois.edu/162421.
Log in to your account and upload a cover letter and resume, as well as the names and contact information of three professional references. Resume dates must be in month/year format and employment history, at a minimum, should include all work dating back to the completion of your undergraduate degree. Positions that were less than full-time/100% must be noted as being part-time. Transcripts may be requested at a later date. To receive full consideration, all requested application materials must be submitted via the online system by the close date of April 27, 2022.

Certified credentials related to the field, Licensed Social Counselor (LSC), Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), or certified to provide training programs that focus on social-emotional health, such as Certified Social Worker in Health Care (C-SWHC), or related discipline.

Preferred:
- Earned doctorate degree (Ph.D. or D. Sci.) in a field relevant to the programmatic responsibilities in social work, community health promotion, health education, human health science, psychology, sociology, interdisciplinary studies, human development, and family studies, or a closely related field from an accredited university.
- Five years of experience working in social services or public health care setting with adult and/or youth audiences in the programmatic responsibilities assigned. Knowledge of or experience with community-based education, including Extension and “train-the-trainer” models. Evidence of experience working with diverse audiences in multicultural environments. English/Spanish bilingual communication skills and/or knowledge of regional dialects is preferred (proficiency in oral and written Spanish). Evidence of the ability to be an effective educator and mentor. Ideal candidates will also have successful experiences in coalition and partnership building, community and organizational facilitation, community planning, non-profit management, community economic development, local government, community and economic data analysis, international development, leadership development, and conflict-resolution.
- Certification of training or professional licenses related to social work or community health, including First Aid Mental Health training.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:
- Knowledge to improve health programs and deliver high quality and state of the art social work or public health services. Ability to effectively work with people from different cultural backgrounds, including those associated with race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, socioeconomic status, age, gender, disability, sexual orientation, and other aspects of human diversity. Basic understanding of community-, organizational-, and system-level factors that affect health outcomes and contribute to health disparities. Ability to liaise with healthcare providers, families, caregivers, social workers, community members, and teachers, as required. Ability to observe the appropriate workplace health and safety guidelines at all times. Knowledge of integrated health disparities impacts and outcomes, adult learning theory. Excellent written and verbal English communication, analytical, interpersonal, and organizational skills. Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite (Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, Word). Proficiency in educational and technical writing. Excellent skills in digital and online creative platforms and technology. Skilled at using Adobe suite other creative software and tools to create digital assets. Strong interpersonal skills and ability to work well with groups. Self-motivated and able to work semi-independently. Familiarity with the national Extension system and/or University of Illinois Extension and effective and innovative teaching strategies that engage others, including strong listening, written, and oral communication skills are preferred.

For further information about the position please contact Search Chair Lisa Diaz at lbdiaz@illinois.edu. For technical assistance with the online application process, please email jobs@illinois.edu.