



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Center for

Weight, Eating and Lifestyle Science

College of Arts and Sciences

Post-Doctoral Fellowship Positions at the WELL Center

The Center for Weight, Eating and Lifestyle Science (**WELL Center**; drexel.edu/wellcenter) is currently recruiting several postdoctoral fellows in the areas of adult and adolescent obesity, eating disorders, and health-related behavior change for 2024. The **research postdoctoral fellowship positions** are NIH-funded and include work on NIH-funded clinical trials under Drs. Butryn, Forman, Juarascio, and/or Manasse. They offer ample opportunities for, and training/mentoring in, manuscript writing, grant writing, the use of innovative technology and methodology, and leadership roles. The positions are flexible depending on the interests of the postdoctoral fellow, and considerable attention will be devoted to developing the fellow's line of research including the planning and execution of an independent project and the submission of independent grant proposals. Pilot study funding will be provided. As a result of fellowship activities, training, and mentorship, fellows will be highly competitive for tenure-track and research faculty positions (including at the WELL Center), NIH Loan Repayment Program and for NIH training grants (e.g., F32s, K23s). Research fellows who wish to receive supervised clinical hours for psychology licensure are typically able to. The **clinical postdoctoral fellowship position** will provide mandated hours and supervision for state licensure purposes. **Details of both positions are provided below.**

The WELL Center is an interdisciplinary clinical research center, which develops, tests and disseminates new behavioral and technological solutions to the problems of obesity, poor diet, sedentary behavior, and disordered eating. Currently, the Center houses 55 faculty, staff, fellows and students, and 19 grant-funded projects valued at \$26M. Faculty at the WELL Center (all of whom have been successful at attracting federal and foundation funding, and generating high-impact scientific scholarship) take a team science approach to research, and thus, advise each other, co-write grant proposals and manuscripts, and serve as co-investigators on each other's projects. The WELL Center has a superior research infrastructure and an overall excellent scientific environment. Incoming faculty are well-positioned for success, in terms of scholarship, scientific impact and extramural funding.

Drexel is a world-class comprehensive research university committed to use-inspired research with real-world applications, and the University's research activities result in more than \$131 million in annual expenditures for sponsored projects. Drexel was founded in 1891 and is one of the nation's largest private universities. Drexel is also ranked in the top 8% of U.S. colleges and universities in a list compiled by *The Wall Street Journal* and *Times Higher Education*. and was recently named the most innovative mid-sized research university in the country.

Drexel's hometown of **Philadelphia** is one of the nation's first and largest cities, and the birthplace of the nation. The city regularly wins awards (e.g., City of the Year 2018, Best Restaurant City, Best Place to Visit, Most Walkable City, Coolest City, First World Heritage City, Best Shopping City), and offers a plethora of opportunities to learn, play, work, and engage in the arts, history, and culture.

Drexel University is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer. The University actively encourages applications and nominations of women, minorities and persons with disabilities and applications from candidates with diverse cultural backgrounds

Candidates should apply *as soon as possible* using the links specified below each position. ***Applications will be reviewed as they are received.*** If you have questions, please contact Michael Machado mm572@drexel.edu.

Postdoctoral Research Fellow Positions

The Center for Weight, Eating and Lifestyle Science (WELL Center; drexel.edu/wellcenter) is currently recruiting for several Postdoctoral Research Fellows in the areas of adolescent or adult obesity, eating disorders, and health-related behavior change under the supervision of Meghan Butryn, Evan Forman, Adrienne Juarascio, Ph.D. and/or Stephanie Manasse, Ph.D. Fellows will be assigned 1-2 primary mentors depending on their interests. **Applicants should specify and rank order in their cover letter which mentor(s) they are interested in working with.**

The positions entail working on NIH-funded clinical trials examining innovative interventions for adolescent and/or adult eating disorders, obesity, or disease prevention. Most positions will have both clinical and research components, with the split being flexible depending on interests, previous training, and availability. Applicants from fields other than psychology are also encouraged to apply. This training experience is designed to build expertise in clinical research in the areas of adolescent or adult eating disorder or obesity treatment. Fellows will engage in manuscript and grant-writing activities, and, depending on the position, may assist in the development of treatment protocols, lead interventions, supervise research staff, provide training to graduate students and junior team members. Good statistical and writing skills (e.g. publications) are required. Some positions may require experience with assessment methods (e.g., semi-structured diagnostic interviews) and a strong background in cognitive-behavioral and/or eating and weight-related treatments.

The positions may involve taking a prominent role in a number of NIH-funded projects that are developing and testing novel treatments. These projects include:

- Juarascio: Development and evaluation of innovative treatments for eating disorders, with a current focus on both mindfulness and acceptance based treatments for eating disorders (NIMH R01) and just-in-time adaptive intervention (JITAI) augmentations to CBT for eating disorders (NIMH R01)
- Butryn: behavioral weight loss, with a focus on optimal use of digital self-monitoring data; interventions to reduce intake of ultra-processed foods; improving adherence to dietary guidelines for cancer prevention; development of a patient navigator model to assist adults in identifying and persisting with evidence-based weight loss interventions
- Manasse: Developing and testing novel treatments for adolescent and adult problematic eating behavior, including: An acceptance-based healthy lifestyle modification program for diverse adolescents (NIH R61/R33); A novel intervention integrating a sleep-focused intervention with lifestyle modification for adolescents (NIH R03); interventions to improve outcomes for binge-spectrum eating disorders (NIH projects under development/under review)
- Forman: novel behavioral and technology-based interventions to promote health behavior; currently running 3 NIH R01-funded projects, i.e., *Activate* (Multiphasic Optimization Strategy Trial evaluating the independent effects of mindfulness and acceptance components of behavioral weight loss, *ReLearn* (evaluating an AI system for optimizing the delivery of

weight loss interventions), and *NeuroFit* (evaluating whether gamification and neurocognitive training improve engagement and weight loss outcomes for men).

The fellow could assist with development and iteration of the treatments; data processing and analysis; and manuscript write-up. In addition, the fellow will help develop follow-up designs and grant proposals.

Research activities may include:

- Overseeing research coordinators, undergraduate and graduate students
- Monitoring study protocols
- Assisting in the development of a treatment protocols
- Providing training to graduate students
- Assisting with development and iteration of the technologies, methodologies and algorithmic functions of the research projects
- Data processing and analysis
- Conducting statistical analyses
- Developing follow-up designs and grant proposals
- Writing scientific manuscripts.

Clinical activities may include:

- Clinical service and/or supervision of clinical service.
- Conducting assessments of potential participants.
- Leading treatment groups.
- Conducting outpatient treatment for adults or adolescents with eating and weight disorders.

Link to online application: <https://careers.drexel.edu/en-us/job/501597/postdoctoral-research-fellow>

Clinical Postdoctoral Fellow - Eating Disorders

The Center for Weight, Eating, and Lifestyle Science (WELL) Clinic (drexel.edu/WellClinic) is currently recruiting for Postdoctoral-fellow-to-permanent-psychologist position under the supervision of Paakhi Srivastava, Ph.D.

The position entails working as a clinician in the WELL Clinic to deliver evidence-based treatments for eating disorders. The position is fully clinical, with 100% of time dedicated to direct clinical contact, case management, individual and group supervision (2-4 hours per week), and administrative duties related to clinical work. The majority of the fellow's time will be spent in delivering individual, outpatient treatments (e.g., CBT) for eating disorders. The fellow will carry a caseload of approximately 15-20 individual patients and will gain sufficient hours for licensure after 1 year. This training experience is designed to build expertise in evidence-based treatment for eating disorders and to gain mandated hours and supervision for state licensure purposes.

Once licensed, the postdoctoral fellow will transition to the permanent psychologist position. In the new role, depending upon interest, psychologist will provide training and supervision to trainee

clinicians (e.g., clinical interns), lead development of a new treatment track, participate in outreach programming to local area providers to improve awareness of eating concerns and familiarity with WELL Clinic services; and engage in ongoing training to remain aware of current treatment trends and gain competency in specialized treatments that have proven efficacy (e.g., mindfulness and acceptance-based treatments for eating disorders). Finally, the WELL Clinic will support the clinician by offering ongoing weekly group supervision and by supporting to attend continuing education opportunities.

This position also offers opportunities to collaborate on research (e.g., co-developing treatment manuals, provision of treatment as study therapist, writing scientific manuscripts, present papers at conferences), though this allocation is flexible depending on interests. This is an excellent opportunity to work directly with and gain mentorship from leading authorities in eating disorders treatment.

The ideal candidate will have a doctorate in clinical psychology and have experience with CBT for eating disorders. Training and experience with evidence-based, manualized, and/or cognitive behavioral treatments for psychopathology (e.g., anxiety, depression, eating disorders) are required.

People without eating disorder specialization who have a strong background in cognitive behavioral treatment and masters level clinicians are encouraged to apply; strong training in treatment for eating disorders will be provided.

Link to online application: <https://careers.drexel.edu/en-us/job/501582/clinical-postdoctoral-fellow-eating-disorders>