

## Illinois Distinguished Postdoctoral Research Associate and Visiting Scholars Program

Extended Deadline - March 16, 2018

Funding is available to support up to four post-doctoral research associate or visiting scholar positions that would enhance campus diversity. Candidates must be nominated by academic units that wish to hire them. Candidates may not apply directly. Priority will be given to external candidates, preferably identified through a search or in the context of a project funded by DRIVE (see RFP <http://diversity.illinois.edu/DRIVE.html>). The goal is to identify individuals from underrepresented groups, or women traditionally underrepresented in STEM areas, who are potential candidates for campus positions that would help to diversify the faculty and promote strategic hiring goals. Each Postdoc or Scholar must be assigned a faculty mentor/sponsor, and the application must include a mentoring plan. The objective is to provide additional mentoring and support for high-potential candidates with the goal of preparing them for tenure track assistant professor appointments at Illinois. In addition, departments are encouraged to apply for funding through the Target of Opportunity Program (TOP) after successful completion of the post-doc/visiting scholars program by the candidate.

### Stipend

- The stipend for the 2018-2019 year is \$47,500 (for a 12-month appointment) and includes health benefits. Units can provide supplemental funds.
- An additional \$5,000 is provided for the research, travel, and related expenses and units can provide additional funds.

### Guidelines/Eligibility

- Must be nominated by a University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign academic unit.
- The applicant must have obtained his or her Ph.D. prior to July 1, 2018.
- A Mentoring Plan is required in the application
- Applicants must demonstrate promise for a tenure track appointment at Illinois.
- Postdocs or Scholars are normally appointed for one year, and can be reappointed for a second year.
- Recipients must be in residence full-time for the duration of the award period.
- Postdocs or Scholars may teach at least one course, at the discretion of the department.
- A letter of support from the dean of the college that wishes to nominate the candidate.
- In the final year of a post-doctoral fellow, the unit (or units) will undertake a rigorous review of the post-doc's qualifications for a tenure-track position. Given that the candidate has undergone a national search, if the unit(s) chooses to hire the candidate as a tenure-track faculty member, the position will be eligible for TOP funding through the traditional search process.

Faculty members should submit requests for the program in the HireTouch system. If you do not have access to HireTouch, please contact the HR Support in your College and/or Department or contact the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Access (Heidi Johnson at [johnso19@illinois.edu](mailto:johnso19@illinois.edu) or 333-0885).