Postdoctoral Fellowship in Rural Education and Prevention Research

The College of Education of the Pennsylvania State University is seeking a postdoctoral research fellow with interests in rural education and prevention research. This is a two year appointment (August 2007 - July 2009) and is supported by the National Research Center on Rural Education Support (NRCRES) with grant funding from the Institute of Education Sciences. The position will involve analyses of data and preparation of publications from a broad range of longitudinal, cross-sectional, and randomized control trial intervention studies pertaining to the educational achievement and social adjustment of rural children and adolescents. In addition, the successful candidate will have the opportunity to fully participate in the postdoctoral training activities of the Prevention Research Center (www.prevention.psu.edu) at the Pennsylvania State University.

Specific responsibilities: This position will be under the direction of the Director of the NRCRES. Responsibilities will include participation in weekly research conference calls with NRCRES faculty at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, analyses of data, preparation of manuscripts for publication, presentations at national conferences, and occasional involvement in data collection for a national study on rural high school students' aspirations (primarily in spring of 08). The research and analyses will pertain to the impact of school-based prevention studies in rural schools, the social and behavioral trajectories of children and adolescents at key transition points, school social networks, the development and prevention of antisocial behavior, bullying and victimization, national survey data on teacher retention and special education issues in rural schools, interventions to support distance learning in rural schools, and postsecondary aspirations of rural high school students.

Qualifications: Applicants must have documentation that they will complete a Ph.D. by July of 2007 in a relevant discipline (e.g., educational psychology, developmental psychology, human development, applied developmental science, prevention science, sociology, special education, or school psychology). Candidates must have strong quantitative skills in both variable and person-oriented approaches and have experience with longitudinal and large national databases. Individuals with interests in rural education, peer relations and social development, and prevention research are particularly encouraged to apply.

Application materials: Applicants should send a curriculum vita, a letter of interest, and three letters of recommendation to Dr. Thomas W. Farmer, College of Education, Room 227, CEDAR Building, University Park, PA, 16802. Review of Applications will begin March 19th, 2007. Questions regarding the position should be directed to Tom Farmer at twf2@psu.edu.

Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.