The Department of Medical Social Sciences (MSS) (www.mss.northwestern.edu), Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University invites applications for a tenure track (Associate or Full Professor level) inaugural Division Chief for its newly formed Division of Implementation Science. We strongly encourage people from communities that are underrepresented in medicine (URiM) to apply including people from racial and ethnic minoritized communities; first generation scholars; LGBTQ+ and non-binary people; people with disabilities; and women.

We seek an exceptional mid-to-advanced career investigator, leader, and innovator with a cutting-edge research portfolio focused on the development of implementation science methods, designs, and analytic strategies to build, foster, and expand the implementation research portfolio within the new Implementation Science Division. Priorities include quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods and range from design and conduct of implementation trials (including hybrid trials); multilevel mediation and mechanistic work; applying causal inference methods to implementation studies; new statistical methods for implementation science; development of optimized multilevel adaptive implementation strategies; marrying social and behavioral science methods to implementation science (e.g., behavioral economic theory, systems science, engineering); rapid qualitative analysis; and coincidence analysis. We welcome both implementation scientists who add depth and/or new breadth to our existing portfolio from a content (e.g., HIV, mental health, substance use, cancer) and methodological perspective (e.g., implementation strategy design and co-creation, community partnered approaches, equitable implementation, approaches to testing comparative effectiveness of implementation strategies) across the lifespan and across settings (e.g., ambulatory care, acute care, global settings, schools). Those leaders whose work emphasizes a health equity lens across their area of specialization will be prioritized.

This is an exciting time to join Feinberg School of Medicine (FSM). FSM has made a commitment to advancing the science of dissemination and implementation science via the inclusion of dissemination and implementation science in its strategic plan, the launching of the new Center for Dissemination and Implementation Science (CDIS), led by inaugural Director, Sara Becker, PhD, and the creation of the new Implementation Science Division within MSS. As the inaugural MSS Division Chief of Implementation Science, this position will build on existing strengths and create new opportunities, including recruiting and mentoring new faculty to help grow the Division in close collaboration with CDIS and other FSM entities. The Division Chief will lead, collaborate, and orchestrate new scientific opportunities in implementation science and its intersection with other areas of focus within MSS. Division chiefs will also work closely with the MSS leadership team to ensure integration, cross-fertilization, equity and a robust Departmental “whole.”

MSS is a transdisciplinary department in the Feinberg School of Medicine with approximately 80 social scientists guided by the shared mission to harness the social and behavioral sciences to advance equity, innovation, and impact in health. MSS includes four divisions that map on the public health approach and include Outcomes and Measurement Science, Determinants of Health, Intervention Science, and Implementation Science. MSS is the leading department of its kind as measured by Blue Ridge rankings, with a robust research portfolio including $51 million dollars in federal funding annually, high impact and output including over 450 publications annually, and global reach including collaborations with scientists in over 102 countries. The Division of Implementation Science includes 14 faculty with primary appointments and 11 faculty with secondary appointments. The Division Chief will partner closely with CDIS, a cross-departmental center and the focal entity which leads coordination of dissemination and implementation science activities throughout FSM and Northwestern Medicine. The mission of CDIS is to advance equitable access to evidence-based public health and medical interventions by accelerating research across the translational continuum; training the next generation of D&I science researchers and practitioners; and serving as a hub of pragmatic D&I science research at Feinberg, locally, domestically, and globally. CDIS provides an array of service, training, and educational opportunities to support faculty development in close partnership with MSS, the Institute for Public Health and Medicine, the Institute for Sexual and Gender Minority Health and Wellbeing, the Third Coast Center for AIDS Research, Institute for Innovations in Developmental Science, and the Northwestern University Clinical and Translational Science Institute.
Candidates will have the opportunity to engage and/or enroll graduate students and postdoctoral fellows via a variety of relevant programs including MSS’s Social Science and Health track within the Institute of Public Health and Medicine (IPHAM) Health Sciences Integrated Program (HSIP), ACCELERAT K12 Learning Health Systems Faculty Career Development Program, and multiple health services, methodological and/or health equity focused pre-postdoctoral T32s.

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, and BELONGING

MSS is strongly committed to diversity, and equity is critical to the mission of advancing excellence in academic programs, world-class research, and health programs. As our healthcare and academic institutions serve increasingly diverse constituencies, it is vital to understand the ways in which differences in gender, class, race, ethnicity, religious affiliation, and other identities can both divide us and offer us better ways of thinking and working. The MSS Inclusion, Diversity Equity and Action (IDEA) Committee drives a dynamic discourse and department wide effort to continually expand MSS engagement with, and action towards creating and training a more inclusive and representative health sciences.

Applications are encouraged from diverse applicants, and the Department is committed to supporting faculty to work in an increasingly diverse society by promoting equity and justice for all individuals, actively working to eliminate barriers and obstacles created by institutional discrimination. Engagement in discrimination or harassment against any person because of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, military service, disability, sexual orientation, and gender identity or expression will not be tolerated. MSS has a central objective to advance the health and wellbeing of diverse populations. The importance of respecting and valuing this aspect of diversity permeates interactions and activities with faculty, trainees, and staff. Northwestern University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer and does not discriminate against qualified individuals on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, parental status, marital status, age, disability, citizenship status, veteran status, genetic information, or any other protected class. Individuals from all diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Hiring is contingent upon eligibility to work in the United States. For more information, please see the University’s Policy on Discrimination and Harassment at northwestern.edu/civil-rights-office/policies-procedures/policies.

The Northwestern campus sits on the traditional homelands of the people of the Council of Three Fires, the Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and Odawa as well as the Menominee, Miami, and Ho-Chunk nations. We acknowledge and honor the original people of the land upon which Northwestern University stands, and the Native people who remain on this land today. Chicago is a city of neighborhoods. While there is power in community, the neighborhoods were created through the explicitly racist policies of Red Lining. The segregation enforced by these codes result in modern day inequities in health, educational, and income outcomes that disproportionately impact the City’s communities of color. MSS is committed to community-engaged research that addresses inequities and aims to transform health for all through the social and behavioral sciences.

Start date is negotiable. We will begin reviewing applications November 1st, and applications will be accepted until the position is filled. When applying, please upload a curriculum vitae, cover letter, and completed list of references form (feinberg.northwestern.edu/fao/docs/admin-fac-reg-tracks/Recruitment/FSM-List-of-References-for-New-Faculty.docx) describing your interest and alignment with the position. All applicants should include in their cover letter a clear statement about their commitment and contribution to diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives.

Applications accepted here: https://facultyrecruiting.northwestern.edu/apply/MTk0MQ==