

The Social Environment and Health (SEH) program at the University of Michigan Institute for Social Research (UMISR) has post-doctoral research fellowships for outstanding quantitative scholars to study racial residential segregation and racial inequalities in environmental toxicants. Fellows will work with Dr. Margaret Hicken on a research project on the intersection between environmental toxicants and social and economic inequalities and their relation to racial health inequalities in the US. Specifically, fellows will work as part of an interdisciplinary team examining the linkages among racial residential segregation, air pollution, and racial inequalities in aging. In particular, we will be examining these exposures in relation to DNA methylation patterns.

Previous experience in environmental toxicants or population health is not necessary. However, fellows will be required to obtain training and develop substantial expertise in the geospatial air and noise pollution, particularly using the US Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Risk Screening Environmental Indicators Geospatial Microdata (RSEI-GM) dataset. As part of the post-doctoral training, fellows will conduct critical literature reviews in both environmental epidemiology on air pollution and the social science foundations of structural and cultural racism. Furthermore, training will include regular professional development meetings with other program post-doctoral fellows and junior faculty to develop an independent research program.

The UMISR is the largest academic social science research institution in the world. This interdisciplinary community includes researchers from sociology, anthropology, economics, psychology, information and computer science, statistics, geography, public policy, public health, and medicine, among others. The SEH program includes quantitative and qualitative scholars from epidemiology, geography, sociology, architecture, and computer science who collaborate to examine the contextual determinants of population health and health inequalities.

Required qualifications:

- PhD in public health (e.g., epidemiology, environmental health sciences), a social science (e.g., sociology, geography, economics), or information sciences, or related quantitative social science
- Strong quantitative analytic skills, particularly with population-level and large datasets
- Demonstrated proficiency with statistical programs such as STATA or R
- Ability to work independently as well as part of an interdisciplinary research team
- Excellent communication skills

Desired qualifications:

- Experience in population health inequalities and/or environmental epidemiology
- Experience in geospatial analysis
- Desire to develop an independent research program within the Social Environment and Health program
- Commitment to academic diversity, equity, and inclusion

To apply, please send a cover letter expressing the reasons for interest in this position, a CV, and the names and contact information for three research-based references to nprieur@umich.edu.