

Postdoctoral Update

Office of Postdoctoral Affairs



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Important Information re: Postdoc Insurance:

Effective July 1, 2013, the University of Florida's insurance plan for Postdoctoral Associates and Postdoctoral Fellows will be provided as part of GatorCare, the University's new self-insured health plan. The name of the plan is GatorCare Options. To view a plan brochure for GatorCare Options, please visit http://gatorcare.org/options_g.asp. For further details about GatorCare in general, please visit <http://gatorcare.org>.

Beginning July 1, 2013, newly hired Postdoctoral Associates and Postdoctoral Fellows will be able to complete their GatorCare Options enrollment via the myUFL system. Detailed instructions on how to enroll can be found on the attachment.

Important deadlines:

- New hires must complete enrollment within 60 days of hire.
- Qualifying event changes must be completed within 60 days of the event.
- Open enrollment elections must be completed prior to the end of open enrollment.

If you have questions about enrollment or eligibility, please contact HRS's GA and

- [All Inclusive Guide \(.pdf\)](#)
- [Information from InfoGator \(.pdf\)](#)

Please note that GatorCare is not available to Adjunct Post Docs or Adjunct Clinical Post Docs.

HealthCareReform - Impact for University of Florida employees

From Paula Varnes Fussell, Vice President for Human Resource Services
Issued October 1, 2013

The Patient Protection Affordable Care Act (ACA) required that employers provide medical benefits to employees averaging 30 hours or more of work per week, beginning January 1, 2014. Even though the Federal Government delayed the employer requirement until January of 2015, the State of Florida will begin offering health care insurance to OPS (Other Personal Services) and other temporary employees during Open Enrollment this fall. If an eligible employee enrolls, the coverage would become effective January 1, 2014.

State agencies and the public universities in Florida have been working with the Division of State Group Insurance to identify temporary employees who may be eligible to enroll in state insurance plans during Open Enrollment. We estimate UF will have between 2,000 to 4,000 OPS/temporary employees who may be eligible for insurance based on the average number of hours worked each week. This includes adjunct faculty, clinical postdocs, postdoctoral associates, residents, interns and other administrative OPS. For the purpose of calculating adjunct faculty hours worked, the state has instructed the universities to count 3 hours worked for each credit hour taught.

Temporary employees who are determined eligible by the Division of State Group Insurance will soon be receiving Open Enrollment packets from People First, the third-party administrator for the state. The packet will provide information on available plans, including premium cost and enrollment instructions. Of the group that will likely be determined eligible by the state, approximately 60% (primarily residents and postdocs) are already eligible to receive health insurance under GatorCare. Individuals who are eligible for both the state health and GatorCare health insurance plans may choose to enroll in either GatorCare or the state plan but not both. For more information on eligibility, please visit the State of Florida's FAQ page, <http://www.dms.myflorida.com/content/download/92723/531589>.

For OPS employees who elect state health insurance, the coverage will become effective on January 1, 2014, and will continue for a 12 month period provided they remain employed. In addition to health insurance, the state will begin offering OPS employees supplemental benefits such as life, vision and dental. The premium cost for the state health insurance will be shared by the employee and the university, while employees will pay the entire cost of UFSelect supplemental plans. Many temporary employees covered by GatorCare are already eligible for UFSelect. Employees who are eligible for both state and UFSelect plans should carefully review their options to avoid enrolling in plans during Open Enrollment which duplicate coverage.

Hiring departments and supervisors, please note that the UF fringe benefit rate increased from 2.9% in 2013 to 4.6% for 2014 to include the impact of legislation related to the employer cost of insurance plans under the ACA. This fringe benefit pool change was communicated in July of 2013: <http://www.hr.ufl.edu/benefits/fringepool/memo.htm>. In situations where OPS or temporary employees work for the university and another state agency, and the combined effort makes them eligible for insurance, your department may also be

responsible for a portion of the cost with the other agency.

For more information on this year's Open Enrollment offerings, please visit the Benefits section of the HRS website at <http://www.hr.ufl.edu/benefits>. If you have additional questions regarding the state insurance plan, please call People First at (866) 663-4735. For general benefits questions, please contact University Benefits at (352) 392-2477 or benefits@ufl.edu.

UF Administrative Memo: <https://administrativememo.ufl.edu/2013/10/healthcare-reform-impact-for-university-of-florida-employees/>

Benefits Open Enrollment period runs Oct. 21-Nov. 8

Each year during Open Enrollment, UF employees have an opportunity to make changes to their benefits plans for the upcoming plan year. This year's Open Enrollment period runs Oct. 21 at 8 a.m. through Nov. 8 at 6 p.m. EST. Changes made during this Open Enrollment period will be effective Jan. 1, 2014

From October 2013 UF InfoGator:

<http://www.hr.ufl.edu/infogator/2013/october/expanded.htm>

Free Grant Workshops, December 9 & 10, 2013

The Office of Research is pleased to announce Grant Writing Workshops presented by Dr. Robert Porter.

Date: Monday and Tuesday December 9-10, 2013

Location: UF/IFAS Straughn Extension Center ([map](#)).

These workshops are free for participants and open to all UF faculty, staff, and students by first-come, first-served registration.

Online registration is required by Friday, November 15.

Participants may [register for any or all of the following sessions](#):

Monday, December 9, 2013, 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM: Writing Successful Grants.

Monday, December 9, 2013, 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM: Strategies for Success in Sponsored Research

Tuesday, December 10, 2013, 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM: Building the NEH (National Endowment for the Humanities) Grant Proposal

Tuesday, December 10, 2013, 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM: Career Development Grants for Pre- and Postdocs

For full descriptions of each of these workshops and the overall program, please visit:

<http://my.research.ufl.edu/Applications/FundingOpportunities/ArticleDetail.aspx?id=34188>

To register by November 15, please visit: <http://research.ufl.edu/faculty-and-staff/proposal-development-submission/grantsmanship-resources/registration-dr-robert-porters-grant-workshops.html>

Please note: Participants will be required to fill out a workshop evaluation and participate in a review exchange pool after the workshops - committing to reviewing proposals or parts of proposals for their fellow participants in the future, and having access to this service themselves.

For question, please contact Jenn Hubbs hubbsj@ufl.edu

Submitted by the Office of Research

Reminder: Postdoc Development Workshop Oct. 30

Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Noon-2pm

McKnight Brain Institute Conference Room (LG-110 A/B)

How to get the most out of your postdoc experience by developing your skills as a mentor and mentee.

Guest Workshop Speaker: Dr. Lorraine Tracey

Chair of the Board of Directors of the National Postdoctoral Association

Refreshments will be served.

Cystinosis Research Foundation RFP - due October 25

The ultimate goal of the Cystinosis Research Foundation is a cure for cystinosis. Currently, the Cystinosis Research Foundation has \$1,000,000 available for research and fellowship grants. The number of awards and their value will depend on the number of outstanding proposals and the funds available at the time.

The deadline for the Fall 2013 grant proposals and fellowship applications is Friday, October 25, 2013.

Research Proposals

The Cystinosis Research Foundation is prepared to fund proposals to improve the immediate care of children and young adults with cystinosis and to develop new understanding and treatment of cystinosis to help these children in the future.

Research grants awarded in 2013 thus far range from \$45,000 for a one-year grant to \$500,000 for a three-year grant.

Postdoctoral Fellowships

The Cystinosis Research Foundation has launched a postdoctoral research fellowship program to attract qualified, promising investigators to establish careers in cystinosis research. The fellow's stipend should be the usual amount for such a trainee at that institution. The total award cannot exceed \$75,000 per year including overhead. Awards will generally be for a period of 1-3 years.

First priority will be given to "named" postdoctoral trainees. However, investigators who are already studying cystinosis can apply for a fellowship position with the expectation of attracting a suitable postdoctoral fellow within a year.

For more information visit: <http://www.cystinosisresearch.org/For-Researchers>

Please let me know if I or my colleagues can help you with the application.

Margaret Atherton, matherton@uff.ufl.edu, UF Development & Alumni Affairs

Submitted by Margaret Atherton, UF Development and Alumni Affairs

Am Heart Association - funding opportunities due 11/1/13 and 1/14/14

We want to be sure you are aware of these funding opportunities from the American Heart Association. I would like to know if you or any of your colleagues choose to pursue an application, and would be happy to help with it. Please also forward this note to anyone else who might be interested.

Greater Southeast Affiliate Grant-in-Aid (Winter 2014)

To encourage and adequately fund the most innovative and meritorious research projects from independent investigators. Research broadly related to cardiovascular function and disease and stroke, or to related clinical, basic science, bioengineering or biotechnology, and public health problems, including multidisciplinary efforts. Proposals are encouraged from all basic disciplines as well as epidemiological, behavioral, community and clinical investigations that bear on cardiovascular and stroke problems. Total Award Amount is \$165,000 over two years.

Application Deadlines: Greater Southeast Affiliate - Jan. 14, 2014

[Greater Southeast Affiliate Mentored Clinical and Population Research Award \(Winter 2014\)](#)

To encourage early career investigators who have appropriate and supportive mentoring relationships to engage in high quality introductory and pilot clinical studies that will guide future strategies for reducing cardiovascular disease and stroke while fostering new research in clinical and translational science, and encouraging community- and population-based activities. This grant does not fund basic science or support senior researchers, but encourages mentoring of early career investigators. Funding is available for research related to cardiovascular disease and stroke prevention or treatment, or to related clinical and public health problems, including multidisciplinary efforts. Proposals are encouraged on provider behavior, patient behavior, behavioral outcomes, risk factor outcomes, disease outcomes, cost benefit analyses, efforts to evaluate outcomes of patient care delivery and patient/provider and/or system compliance and adherence to recommendations, as well as pilot clinical research studies that may provide preliminary data for larger-scale investigation. Studies using existing databases are also encouraged. Ancillary studies or a clearly defined sub-study of an ongoing clinical research study are also encouraged. There must, however, be clear justification that the proposal is a sub-study and not a piece of an already funded project. **Total Award Amount:** \$143,000 over two years.

Application Deadlines: Greater Southeast Affiliate - Jan. 14, 2014

[Greater Southeast Affiliate Postdoctoral Fellowship Program \(Winter 2014\)](#)

To help trainees initiate careers in cardiovascular and stroke research while obtaining significant research results under the supervision of a sponsor or mentor; supports individuals before they're ready for some stage of independent research. Research broadly related to cardiovascular function and disease and stroke, or to related clinical, basic science, bioengineering or biotechnology, and public health problems, including multidisciplinary efforts.

Proposals are encouraged from all basic disciplines as well as epidemiological, behavioral, community and clinical investigations that bear on cardiovascular and stroke problems.

Maximum Annual Award Amount: \$43,264 - \$58,180 / **Award Duration:** One or two years

Application Deadlines: Greater Southeast - Jan. 14, 2014

[Greater Southeast Affiliate Predoctoral Fellowship Program \(Winter 2014\)](#)

To help students initiate careers in cardiovascular and stroke research by providing research assistance and training. Research broadly related to cardiovascular function and disease and stroke, or to related clinical, basic science, bioengineering or biotechnology, and public health problems, including multidisciplinary efforts.

Proposals are encouraged from all disciplines, as well as epidemiological, behavioral, community and clinical investigations that bear on cardiovascular and stroke problems. **Total Award Amount:** \$52,000 over two years

Application Deadlines: Greater Southeast - Jan. 14, 2014

[National Collaborative Science Award](#)

To foster innovative, new collaborative approaches to research projects which propose novel pairings of investigators from at least two broad disciplines. The proposal must focus on the collaborative relationship, such that the scientific objectives could not be achieved without the efforts of at least two coprincipal investigators and their respective disciplines. The combination and integration of studies may be inclusive of basic, clinical, population and/or translational research. Applications by existing collaborators are permitted, provided that the proposal is for a new idea or new approach that has not been funded before. Research broadly related to cardiovascular function and disease and stroke, or to related clinical, basic science, bioengineering or biotechnology, and public health problems, including multidisciplinary efforts. Proposals are encouraged from all basic disciplines as well as epidemiological, behavioral, community and clinical

investigations that bear on cardiovascular and stroke problems.

Total Award Amount: \$750,000 over three years. *Letter of Intent Due: Nov. 1, 2013*

[National Fellow-to-Faculty Transition Award \(Winter 2014\)](#)

This program provides funding for trainees with outstanding potential for careers as physician-scientists in cardiovascular or stroke research during the crucial period of career development that spans the completion of research training through the early years of the first faculty/staff position. The award provides a supportive mentored experience during this period of transition. The award will (1) greatly enhance the awardee's chances of obtaining a high-quality faculty/staff appointment; (2) improve the awardee's success and retention in an investigative career in cardiovascular science; and (3) develop the mentoring skills of the awardee as a potential future sponsor. The award will provide support for beginning physician-scientists for a minimum of one year and a maximum of three years of research training and the first years of the first faculty/staff (or equivalent) appointment, for a maximum of five years of support. It is strongly encouraged that the five years of the award run consecutively, but the applicant and sponsor may propose and justify an alternative plan for peer review consideration. Research broadly related to cardiovascular function and disease and stroke, or to related clinical, basic science, bioengineering or biotechnology, and public health problems, including multidisciplinary efforts.

Maximum Annual Award Amount: \$65,000 (training stage) / Maximum Annual

Award Amount: \$132,000 (faculty stage) / Award Duration: Five years

Application Deadline - Jan. 17, 2014

[National Scientist Development Grant \(Winter 2014\)](#)

To support highly promising beginning scientists in their progress toward independence by encouraging and adequately funding research projects that can bridge the gap between completion of research training and readiness for successful competition as an independent investigator. Research broadly related to cardiovascular function and disease and stroke, or to related clinical, basic science, bioengineering or biotechnology, and public health problems, including multidisciplinary efforts. Proposals are encouraged from all basic disciplines as well as epidemiological, behavioral, community and clinical investigations that bear on cardiovascular and stroke problems. **Total Award Amount: \$308,000 over four years.**

Application Deadline - Jan. 17, 2014

For more information,

http://my.americanheart.org/professional/Research/FundingOpportunities/Funding-Opportunities_UCM_316909_SubHomePage.jsp

Please let me know if I or my colleagues can help you with the application.

Margaret Friend, frienm@shands.ufl.edu

Submitted by Margaret Friend, UFHealth Office of Development

Living Well

This month Living Well will focus on health literacy, bone and joint health, and breast cancer. Did you know that peak bone mass usually occurs around age 18-20? After that we face an uphill battle simply trying to maintain bone density.

Living Well will be participating once again in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk in Downtown Gainesville. We will also be hosting our first ever tie-dye party, October 15th from 5:00-7:00PM in the Florida Gym, to create some festive pink garb for the walk. We hope you'll join us! Bring a friend or the whole family!

To read our newsletter or get more information on our Pink Tie-Dye Party, visit our homepage at: <http://livingwell.ufl.edu/>

We encourage you to join our team or make a donation to the cause by visiting our

team website at:

http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?fr_id=55704&pg=team&team_id=1495862

Submitted by Morgan Papworth, Living Well

Post Doc Journal

Postdoc Journal, a Journal of Postdoctoral Research and Postdoctoral Affairs, is an international peer-reviewed online publication.

[Journal Flyer](#) (.pdf)

More information: <http://www.postdocjournal.com>

Submitted by Biswapriya B. Misra, Postdoctoral Associate, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Study Examines Which Faculty Members Retire—and Which Don't

One reason that young, aspiring academics find it so hard to land faculty jobs, many believe, is that older, established academics hang onto their positions well past traditional retirement age. Until 1993, many universities enforced mandatory faculty retirement at age 70, but a change in federal law that went into effect on the last day of that year ended their ability to do that.

Since then, "a dramatic shift in retirement behavior" has taken place, according to a study by Sharon Weinberg and Marc Scott of New York University in New York City. Published 15 July in Educational Researcher, the study examines a single university, but its conclusions appear likely to apply to others.

[Complete Article in Science Careers](#)

Reminder: University of Florida Postdocs on Facebook and LinkedIn

Join this [Facebook group](#) for University of Florida postdocs as well as the LinkedIn group: http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Gainesville-Postdocs-4479251?trk=myg_ugrp_ovr%20

Submitted by the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

Reminder: FREE Affiliate NPA Membership

If you did not receive your invitation to join the National Postdoctoral Association or if your invitation has expired and you need to be sent a refreshed invitation, please [contact Kim Pace](#) to receive an invitation.

[More information.](#)

Submitted by Kim Pace, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

Reminder: Postdoc Info Listserv

Want to receive e-mail prompts prior to postdoc events like the [Postdoc Development Workshops](#) and other postdoc events?

A listserv has been created for postdocs to receive reminders for upcoming postdoc events. Please e-mail Kim Pace (kp pace@aa.ufl.edu) and tell me you wish to subscribe to the "postdoc info listserv."

Submitted by Kim Pace, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs