

NJ Prevention Fellowship Program



Are you looking for an opportunity to become an agent of change in your community?

Prevention science is an exciting field within public health that is regularly evolving with evidence-based practices effecting positive change in schools, workplaces, faith-based organizations and community centers across the country.

What is a Prevention Specialist?

Prevention Specialists play many valuable roles in society, including but not limited to community organizing, coalition-building, and project leadership, specifically dealing with substance use and the impact of the addiction crisis.

What is the Prevention Fellowship Program?

The Prevention Fellowship program will advance professionals toward becoming a Certified Prevention Specialist (CPS) through the Addiction Professionals Certification Board, Inc. (APCB) and gain quality experience working with experts in the field.

The program is targeting young, aspiring professionals not yet entering the workforce who will be selected to become a Fellow and receive education, training, and supportive services to complete all or most of their requirements to receive their CPS. The prevention field will be expanded with a qualified, diverse cohort of young prevention professionals that will implement evidence-based strategies, interventions, and programs with a broader reach into the diverse communities in NJ.



This is a Paid Fellowship.

Fellows will work on projects assigned by their placement approximately half the time, and will dedicate the other half (up to 30 hrs/week) to learning and capacity-development activities coordinated by the New Jersey Prevention Network.

The New Jersey Prevention Network (NJPN) is a public health agency working to create healthier communities by reducing the burden of substance misuse, addiction and other chronic disease. NJPN brings professionals together through focused networks and training opportunities supporting prevention, treatment and recovery support programs offered throughout New Jersey.

This project is supported by SABG Covid Supplement Grant T1083538 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).



What we're looking for in an NJ Prevention Fellow

NJPN is recruiting a cohort of young professionals with diverse backgrounds and experience to become part of the NJ Prevention Fellowship Program. A competent, LGBTQ-inclusive, ethnically, racially, and gender diverse workforce is essential in addressing the many health disparities found across the state of NJ. The Prevention Fellowship program will expand and strengthen the prevention workforce for the future.



NJPN is seeking NJ residents who:

- Reflect the diversity of New Jersey in race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status
- Have experience working or volunteering in culturally diverse communities
- Are interested in expanding their work experience in public health and want to make a difference in communities across NJ
- Have or are working towards a bachelor's or master's degree in a relevant field
- Possess effective communication skills
- Are willing to travel throughout New Jersey and work non-standard hours
- Have access to transportation for in-state travel

What you can expect as an NJ Prevention Fellow

Fellows will:

- Gain and reinforce knowledge of prevention science
- Join a cohort of young professionals entering the field of public health and become a NJ Prevention Fellow
- Attend and complete the course work required to become a Certified Prevention Specialist (CPS) through immersion experiences, day long courses and other needed trainings.
- Participate in statewide prevention trainings and technical assistance
- Gain experience in strategic planning, program design, implementation, and program management working with expert prevention agencies across the state (Placement opportunities available in north, central, and south NJ regions)
- Assist with public health policy and programmatic development for New Jersey
- Gain hands-on experience working within and across the state's prevention system

Support provided to Fellows accepted into the NJ Prevention Fellowship Program

- NJPN will provide stipends to Fellows who agree to participate fully in the program which includes in-person trainings, courses, support sessions, experience hours, etc. (15 - 30 hours per week, as agreed upon at time of enrollment)
- Education (Phase 1)
 - Attend classes throughout 2023 to complete CPS certification course requirements
- Practicum (Phase 2)
 - Fellows will receive the opportunity to complete the requirements for their CPS certification from the APCB which includes supervised practicum and experience hours towards the 2-year requirement. Fellows will be matched to a prevention agency in NJ to work and gain required experience hours towards their CPS

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