

Thursday, October 24,  
2024

# GLOBAL FIELD EXPERIENCE FINANCIAL AWARD INFO SESSION

Dr. Deborah McFarland, Director, Hubert Department of Global  
Health

Gerald Clay  
Associate Director, Professional Advancement & Student  
Experience Center



EMORY

ROLLINS  
SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH



# GFE SUPPORT TEAM



Dr. Deborah McFarland  
Hubert Department of Global Health  
Director GFE Program



Gerald Clay  
Professional Advancement & Student Experience Center  
Associate Director



EMORY

ROLLINS  
SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH



# WHAT IS THE GLOBAL FIELD EXPERIENCE (GFE) FINANCIAL AWARD PROGRAM?

- **History & Purpose:** The awards program started around 1995 to encourage students interested in global health to participate in supervised field training which will facilitate the transfer of classroom knowledge into practice experiences.
  - It is administered by one staff member and a faculty review committee chaired by Dr.McFarland.
- **Important Note:**
  - This is a supplemental funding source that ranges between \$2500 and \$4500.
  - The awards are funded by designated endowments and how much we can award each year depends upon financial returns.



EMORY

ROLLINS  
SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH

# AWARDS MADE POSSIBLE BY:

Philip S. Brachman, Sr.,  
William and Paula Foege,  
Dorothy and Stanley O. Foster,  
Eugene J. and Rose Salamone Gangarosa,  
Richard and Linda Hubert and the Hubert  
Foundation,  
Carol and Carlos Martel,  
Deborah A McFarland,  
Don E. and Kathleen Sokolik



EMORY

ROLLINS  
SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH



# HOW CAN I QUALIFY FOR THE GFE FINANCIAL AWARD?

**Qualifications:** To qualify for the financial award, the student must have:

- **Secured a 6-12 week summer fieldwork opportunity** that benefits the populations of LMIC or priority populations in the US as identified by the CDC Office of Minority Health & Health Equity.
- Identified a **faculty guide** who will offer guidance for your experience.
- **Enrolled in courses for Fall 2024.**
- **After securing an opportunity,** completed the GFE Application by the designated due date in the Spring Semester.

## Tip:

Start looking for opportunities now by working your network, exploring 12Twenty, and reaching out to Faculty Members.



EMORY

ROLLINS  
SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH

# CAN MY GFE PROJECT COUNT AS AN APPLIED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE?

The opportunity that you secure may count as Applied Practice Experiences (APE) if they meet your department APE requirements.

- If you are unsure if a position that you are interested in meets those requirements, contact your ADAP or departmental APE advisor.
- If you are enrolled in a certificate, please check with your certificate coordinator for additional APE requirements.



EMORY

ROLLINS  
SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH



EMORY

ROLLINS  
SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH

# APPLICATION PROCESS

1

REFLECT

2

EXPLORE

3

PLAN

4

CONSULT

5

APPLY



EMORY

ROLLINS  
SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH

# APPLICATION PROCESS

# 1

## REFLECT

Reflect on why you are pursuing public health. How will you prioritize what is most important to you about a summer experience: setting, population, topic or skills?

**Tool:** Use our worksheet on website to facilitate reflection.

**Global Field Experience Financial Awards**

**Public Health Reflection and Field Experience Planning Worksheet**

During your course of study at the Rollins School of Public Health, you will have several opportunities to enhance your life- and career preparation through applied practical experience. Experiential learning provides important opportunities for building practical skills; these opportunities are also among the few times in a course of study and/or career when you have the full power to choose what you will do.

This document is designed to assist you in pre-planning as you begin applying to different experiences at Rollins, including the Global Field Experience (GFE) Award. You may engage in this exercise multiple times in order to expand your ideas or weigh differing interests and priorities. Ultimately this form is for your use in reflecting on how you want to chart your own experiential learning path.

Other opportunities for experiential learning include your practicum experience, fieldwork, participation in student organizations, volunteering and your thesis or capstone.

\*This form has been adapted from Dabney Evans, PhD who was the original creator of this guide.

**The Big Picture**

Take a few moments to reflect on why you are pursuing public health studies in the first place.

What are you passionate about?

How does public health fit in your life story? How will your time at RSPH fit, or divert from, your previous studies, work experience, volunteering and life experience?

Where do you see yourself in three years (job setting/location; type of work; hobbies, interests)?

Where do you see yourself in five years?

Where do you see yourself in ten years?

# 2

## EXPLORE

# 3

## PLAN

# 4

## CONSULT

# 5

## APPLY





EMORY

ROLLINS  
SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH

# APPLICATION PROCESS

## 2

### EXPLORE

**Tip:**

You can complete this step now! To qualify for GFE, we recommend securing an opportunity by mid-February, at the latest.

**You are responsible for securing an opportunity and a faculty guide to qualify for the GFE**

**Program:**

- Work your network: Talk to faculty, second-years, and guest speakers.
- Explore 12Twenty
- Search past projects on the GFE Website

**NOTE:** Not all projects qualify for GFE. Exclusions include third-party public health tourism, medical/clinical shadowing or work in a lab or with data sets with no clear reason why global setting is relevant.

## 1

### REFLECT

## 3

### PLAN

## 4

### CONSULT

## 5

### APPLY



EMORY

ROLLINS  
SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH

1

REFLECT

2

EXPLORE

# APPLICATION PROCESS

3

PLAN

**Tip:**

These questions are on the GFE Application. Remember, give yourself at least two weeks to complete the application after securing an opportunity.

After securing an opportunity, identify and connect with your faculty guide and field supervisor early and often to discuss the scope of your fieldwork experience & prepare for your application.

- What are my career goals?
- What is the background of the work that I will be doing?
- What are the objectives my project?
- What methods will I use?
- What is the timeline of my project? Is it feasible?
- What are the deliverables that I will provide to the organization?
- What is my Plan B, in case I am unable to complete this opportunity as originally planned?

4

CONSULT

5

APPLY



EMORY

ROLLINS  
SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH

1

REFLECT

2

EXPLORE

3

PLAN

4

CONSULT

**Tip:**

These questions are on the GFE Application. Remember, give yourself at least two weeks to complete the application after securing an opportunity.

As you work with your faculty guide and field supervisor, be sure to ask lots of questions and receive feedback with humility. Other items that you should consider when applying are:

- What do I need to do to prepare for travel?
- What are the language requirements?
- What is my budget when pursuing this experience?
- What resources do I have available to ensure that I and the communities I serve are safe? How can I mitigate or manage risk?
- What contribution or support is my field supervisor / host organization providing, if any?

5

APPLY



EMORY

ROLLINS  
SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH

# APPLICATION PROCESS

1

REFLECT

2

EXPLORE

3

PLAN

4

CONSULT

5  
APPLY

**Tip:**

The GFE application requires some time to complete. We anticipate that the application will be due by February 28

Develop your application in a word processing app first; it must be submitted all in one sitting.

Include draft tools/materials as uploads, indicating you will revise in- country or in practice with local input.

Give your faculty guide ample time to complete the Faculty Guide Approval Form.

# OTHER IMPORTANT QUESTIONS FOR YOUR FIELD SUPERVISOR AND FACULTY GUIDE

- Be sure to have a contact that you work with **throughout project development**
- They must contribute towards both your project **AND supervision during the program.**
- **Communicate in advance on site-specific project components:**
  - Seasonal changes
  - Religious holidays
  - Populations at risk
  - Personal and beneficiary risk mitigation
  - Confidentiality of data
- **Be sure that your project contributes to the needs of the organization and that this is documented in application.**
  - Are they able to provide any in-kind support such as subsidizing accommodations
  - Do they provide ground transportation
  - Do they cover the cost of translators or research participant incentives.
  - **Be prepared for the answer to be “no”.**
- **Ask whether local/national IRB is required.**
  - If so, it will often take a long time.
  - Start early and discuss ASAP with your advisors.
  - Remember: Global experiences are often self-driven and require you to communicate or ask questions.



EMORY

ROLLINS  
SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH



THE BOTTOM LINE

IS THIS A MEANINGFUL, RIGOROUS, ETHICAL PROJECT, RESPONSIVE TO COMMUNITY NEEDS, AND CAN IT BE DONE IN THE TIMEFRAME?



EMORY

ROLLINS  
SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH



# I RECEIVED THE AWARD! WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

COMPLETION OF AN ASYNCHRONOUS, PREDEPARTURE TRAINING COURSE IS REQUIRED FOR ALL GFEFA RECIPIENTS AND ANY STUDENT TRAVELING FOR SUMMER FIELDWORK

- **Objectives:**

- Demonstrate humility while engaging in fieldwork.
- Identify, mitigate, address, and report potential security risks that may occur while traveling or during fieldwork.
- Document compliance with school / program expectations regarding travel safety.
- Engage in safe, meaningful, fieldwork with global communities.

- **Topics Include:**

- Ethics and Cultural Humility
- Travel and Safety, including engaging with International SOS (ISOS)
- Health, Wellness, and Immunizations

**IMPORTANT:**

**All students are required to follow Emory University International Travel Policies:**

- All international travel must be booked through the Emory University travel agency: **Maupin Travel**
- All international travelers are covered by ISOS when travel booked through Emory travel
- **You should be prepared for changes in your international travel plans.**

UPON  
RETURN

WHEN YOU RETURN YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE  
IN DEBRIEFING EVENTS AND PROVIDE A SUMMARY AND  
PHOTO FROM YOUR PROJECT



EMORY

ROLLINS  
SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH



# Student Panel



- Abinav Vaidyanathan
- Global Health '25
- Project Completed in Nepal



- Aditya Mehta
- Global Epidemiology '25
- Project Completed in Mozambique



- Leslie Owusu
- Global Environmental Health '25
- Project completed in Ethiopia



- Santino Diaz-Palma
- Global Epidemiology '25
- Project completed in Brazil



- Natnael Kassahun
- Global Health '25
- Project completed in Ethiopia



# ADVICE FROM PREVIOUS STUDENTS

- Make sure you know appropriate work clothing for the culture you're entering
- Make copies of your passport
- It's really helpful to talk to and ask questions of students and faculty who have spent time in the area you're traveling to
- Prepare for jetlag
- Be realistic about what you can accomplish in a summer
- Be sure to budget for other trips
- Keep track of your phone
- Plan, plan, plan for everything and anything
- Have a back-up summer APE because it can all fall apart in April
- Have the thesis project discussion early if you plan to use your APE for your thesis
- If there are red flags about the project, believe them
- Plan a budget and **STICK TO IT**. Give yourself some wiggle room, too. Your budget is not going to be 100% accurate
- Don't expect everything to go as planned



EMORY

ROLLINS  
SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH

The Application opens on 1/14/25  
The Application closes on 2/28/25  
QUESTIONS?

Email [gfererequests@emory.edu](mailto:gfererequests@emory.edu) for additional specific questions



EMORY

ROLLINS  
SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH