The Learning Partnership
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STEM Equity Postdoctoral Fellowships

The Learning Partnership is seeking to hire 4 postdoctoral research fellows to conduct STEM equity research and development with our partners in Chicago, Milwaukee or Puerto Rico. The Learning Partnership promotes STEM equity and educational excellence by building school district capacity for continuous improvement to engage, inspire and elevate all students. Through long-term partnerships with schools, districts, and community organizations, the postdoctoral fellows will collaboratively engage in rigorous research that both informs solutions and contributes to educational theory. These fellowships are ideally suited for researchers who want their research to make a difference for the lives of teachers and students. Below are descriptions of the 4 fellowship opportunities.

1. The Learning Partnership is seeking a qualitative postdoctoral fellow to study and address variations in computer science outcomes for Latinx students in the Chicago Public Schools, where more than 14,000 students recently graduated having earned one year of computer science credit. A background in computer science or STEM is not required. What is most important for this fellowship is a track record of research on how students’ cultural backgrounds and socioeconomic conditions interact with success in school. Research shows that a learning environment that emphasizes the connection between students’ lives and academic content is particularly important for Latinx students. The fellow will conduct research on the Build Connections program, which is an emerging evidence-based strategy that helps teachers and students connect course content to students’ lives. The successful candidate will be fluent in English and Spanish. This fellowship will be located in Chicago.

2. The Learning Partnership is seeking a science education postdoctoral fellow to support research and development related to its curriculum and professional development projects. For example, the Journey to El Yunque (elyunque.net) program seeks to engage students in model-based reasoning to develop scientific arguments about the ways that ecological disturbances, such as hurricanes, impact the stability of the ecosystem. The successful candidate will have a track record of research on supporting students in scientific modeling and argumentation. This fellowship will be located in Chicago.

3. The Learning Partnership is seeking a science education postdoctoral fellow to conduct research on the Luquillo Schoolyard LTER Data Jam program in Puerto Rico. Data Jam engages students in the process of exploring, analyzing, and summarizing long-term data about El Yunque rainforest ecosystem that is the subject of extensive long-term study. The successful candidate will have a track record of research on technological tools for supporting student data analysis and teacher professional development on cultivating pedagogical practice related to authentic scientific data. The successful candidate will be fluent in English and Spanish. This fellowship will be located in Puerto Rico.

4. The Learning Partnership is seeking a quantitative postdoctoral fellow to conduct research on student success along computer science pathways in the Milwaukee Public Schools. A background in computer science and STEM is not required. What is most important for this fellowship is a track record of research expertise in quantitative techniques such as Rasch modeling and HLM applied to large scale datasets in education. The fellow would be a part of the research team at our researcher-practitioner partnership working directly with educators to ensure that all students have the opportunity to participate and succeed in AP STEM coursework. This fellowship will be located in Milwaukee.

The postdoctoral fellowships are all two-year, grant-funded, 100% FTE position with The Learning Partnership under the mentorship of Dr. Steven McGee. The successful candidate will eventually be required to work in Chicago, IL, Milwaukee, WI, or Puerto Rico depending on the fellowship. In the short-term, accommodations can be made for successful candidates to work remotely until it is safe to move to the project location. The successful candidate must be authorized to work in the United States.

The Learning Partnership offers a rich variety of benefits, including up to three weeks of vacation, medical and dental insurance, a generous retirement plan, and short-term/long-term disability insurance.
To Apply
To apply for this position, please send your cover letter specifying which fellowship you are applying for, curriculum vitae, a sample research paper, and a list of three professional references to jobs@thelearningpartnership.net. Review of applications will begin on February 1, 2021 and will continue until the positions are filled.

The Learning Partnership is committed to equal employment opportunity and non-discrimination for all employees and qualified applicants without regard to a person’s race, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, ancestry, disability, veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, or any characteristic protected under applicable law.