



"The Schweitzer Fellowship gave me the opportunities to better understand the health inequities that the highest risk part of my community experience. It provided education to jumpstart my involvement in community engagement and connected me with the right people to realize these visions. On top of the personal growth, I was able to model behavior to my community, inspire critical thinking, and promote healthy behaviors."

-Jessica Rodriguez, 2019-20 Fellow and Northwestern University Physical Therapy student

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THE ALBERT SCHWEITZER FELLOWSHIP®

Improving Health • Developing Leaders • Creating Change

The Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows Program is a one-year interdisciplinary, mentored fellowship program focused on community service, leadership development, and reflection. Graduate and professional students from Chicago Area schools obtaining degrees in health-related fields may apply.



"The Schweitzer Fellowship provided me with a network of amazing individuals with unparalleled drive to do good in their communities...Through my work, I realized that mentorship and service are values that I am committed to embrace throughout my professional future career as a physician."

— Fadi Hamati, 2019-20 Fellow and Rush Medical College student

The Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows Program aims to:

- Provide communities in the Greater Chicago area with needed health and human services through the talented assistance of graduate and professional students
- Build a diverse group of future leaders in service who are skilled and committed to working with underserved populations
- Support program alumni who continue in lives of service through a network of more than 4,000 Schweitzer Fellows for Life.

PROGRAM ELEMENTS & REQUIREMENTS

The 2021-22 Fellowship year runs May 1, 2021—May 31, 2022

- Orientation and Retreats:** Fellows must attend a weekend orientation (April 24-25, 2021) and an all-day Saturday midyear retreat in November 2021.
- Service Project:** Working in collaboration with a local community agency, each Fellow must design and carry out a service project of at least 200 hours that addresses an unmet community health need.
- Reports & Evaluations:** Fellows submit monthly reflections about their activities, a written final report, and an evaluation about the Fellowship experience.
- Monthly Meetings:** Monthly meetings provide the Fellows with leadership development, interdisciplinary discussions, time for reflection on community service, and an opportunity to network with professionals in service professions.
- Collaborative Learning:** Fellows form small interprofessional teams that study a topic or skill
- Stipend:** Fellows receive a stipend of \$2,500, distributed in four payments throughout the Fellowship year.
- Celebration of Service:** Fellows attend a celebration of their year of service in April 2022.

ELIGIBILITY

Students who will be enrolled in a graduate or professional degree granting program in a health-related field in the Greater Chicago area are eligible to apply. Applicants must be enrolled at least part time throughout the 2021-22 academic year. Note: medical and podiatric students who will be entering the third year of their program may not apply.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

The community service projects of Schweitzer Fellows should aim to provide direct service to an underserved population in the Chicago area. The majority of the service hours must be spent in direct contact with the population you are serving. Research, fundraising/administrative, and policy-based projects are not considered appropriate Fellowship projects.

Applicants need to submit a project proposal that addresses a community's needs. The proposal should be specific about their exact role in the project, short and long-term goals, and how the project might be of enduring value to the community. Upon request, we can send a community site guide that can be a useful source for project ideas and potential community sites.

The Schweitzer Fellowship encourages Fellows to think broadly about health as a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. Rooted in this holistic understanding of health, Schweitzer projects address not only clinical health issues, but also many community issues that affect one's health and well-being.

DEADLINE

Applications must be received on or before February 1, 2022. For complete application guidelines and to download the application form, visit www.hmprg.org/programs/schweitzer/. Finalists will be interviewed in mid March, and Fellows will be announced in early April.