

Dalla Lana School of Public Health
University of Toronto

JOB POSTING – POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW IN GENETIC AND EPIGENETIC EPIDEMIOLOGY OF THROMBOEMBOLIC TRAITS AND RISK PREDICTION

Area of Research:

The Dalla Lana School of Public Health (DLSPH) at the University of Toronto invites applications for a Post-Doctoral Fellowship in genetic and epigenetic epidemiology of thromboembolic traits and risk prediction.

We are seeking a highly motivated quantitative epidemiologist or biostatistician to join a team of epidemiological and statistical geneticists with a deep culture of innovation and impact rooted in interdisciplinary research excellence and collaboration.

The successful candidate will play a leadership role in a funded research project on the genetic and epigenetic determinants and risk prediction of first and recurrent venous thromboembolism and risk factors, and opportunities for important contributions on a wide range of polygenic risk prediction projects in collaboration with a well-established team of epidemiological and statistical geneticists working on polygenic risk score methods development, applications and knowledge translation.

The successful candidate will be joining a team of principal investigators in epidemiological and statistical genetics, their trainees and collaborators. The principal investigators are part of the STAGE (Statistical Training for Advanced Genetic Epidemiology, <https://stage.utoronto.ca/>) and McLaughlin Centre PRS (Polygenic Risk Score) teams.

Statistical and epidemiological genetics principal investigators from the University of Toronto community joined forces in 2009 to create STAGE, a research training program that addresses emerging study design and analytic challenges in an interdisciplinary manner. The team is composed of a core group of 11 statistical and epidemiological geneticists at various career stages, and several biomedical and clinical collaborators. Combining resources and synergic expertise and building on the success of the STAGE program, the team has recently established a PRS analytics research team to advance the potential of omics science for precision health.

Description of duties:

- Design and execute analytic plans for genetic and epigenetic data analyses
- Maintain meticulous records of decision-making processes throughout analytic plan and implementation, tool development and validation
- Contribute to the grant preparation and writing process



- Lead and co-author collaborative refereed publications

Salary:

Annual salary range is \$55,000-\$75,000 plus benefits; salary will be dependent on the candidate's experience and qualifications.

Required qualifications:

- PhD in Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Population Genetics or related disciplines; the PhD degree must have been obtained in 2014 and onwards from hiring; exceptions allowed are postdocs who may have taken maternity/parental or medical/personal leave.
- Well-developed statistical programming and analytic skills
- Research experience in statistical or epidemiological genetics
- Hands-on experience working with complex data sets and open-access databases
- Experience with pre-processing and quality control methods
- Demonstrated ability to think and work independently solving analytic challenges
- Ease working in a supercomputer environment
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Experience with peer reviewed scientific publications and presentations
- Enthusiasm for working in a highly collaborative and interdisciplinary environment

Application instructions:

Individuals interested in this position should submit a cover letter clearly indicating their interest and experience in the research area, a curriculum vitae, and copies of 2 published scientific papers. Applicants should include names and e-mail addresses of two potential referees and indicate the date they will be available to begin. All application materials must be submitted as PDFs in a single email to France Gagnon (france.gagnon@utoronto.ca). Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. We appreciate all expressed interests in this position, only those candidates short listed for interview will be contacted.

Closing date: Applications will be considered starting on October 21, 2019. This posting will remain active until the position is filled.

Supervisor: The postdoctoral fellow will work under the primary supervision of Professor France Gagnon.

Expected start date: immediately available

Term: Initial one (1) year contract with a possibility of three years total based on progress.

FTE: The position is a 1.0 FTE.

Employment as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Toronto is covered by the terms of the CUPE 3902 Unit 5 Collective Agreement. This job is posted in accordance with the CUPE 3902 Unit 5 Collective Agreement. *The University of Toronto is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from visible minority group members, women, Aboriginal persons, persons with disabilities, members of sexual minority groups, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas.*

