

Post-Doctoral Fellowship Position
Children's Learning Institute
UT Health: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

The Children's Learning Institute (CLI) at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston invites applications for an Institute of Education Sciences sponsored 2-year Post-Doctoral Fellowship. The CLI has several federal- and state-funded projects in language and literacy, with a particular emphasis on preparing young "at risk" children for school and on understanding and addressing learning difficulties in school-age children and adolescents. Postdoctoral training is available in either a preschool or school-age strand with opportunities to obtain expertise in research on English Language Learning.

Faculty mentors at CLI conduct exploratory/basic research, intervention/efficacy research, and research to develop and pilot new interventions. Some examples of randomized trial research studies at CLI include: comparing whether a combined home and school intervention is more effective than either approach alone for improving school readiness in high risk preschoolers; small group interventions for young children in dual language classrooms who are at highest risk for disabilities in language and reading; Tier 2 and 3 interventions for school-age children who demonstrate lack of responsiveness to previous high quality reading programs; comparing interventions for children with ADHD and severe reading disability; and the efficacy of a computerized commercial literacy program for children at risk for reading difficulties. Our research on the development and testing of new interventions includes a combined decoding and comprehension curriculum for young school-age children at serious risk for reading difficulties, and a vocabulary and comprehension curriculum for children in the early primary grades. Our studies that combine basic exploratory research with the development of new interventions involve the investigation of reading comprehension-related factors in middle and high school students and the development of interventions to address the instructional needs of older students with comprehension difficulties.

The successful candidate will have a faculty mentor and work on one or more projects such as those listed above. Individualized training is provided in research design and statistics, publication of peer-reviewed papers, writing and submission of research proposals, research collaboration, and project management. The postdoctoral fellow will be provided with funding for travel, professional development, and research-related costs that support training and research activities.

More information about our training program, our projects, and our mentors can be found at www.childrenslearninginstitute.org under the *Our Programs link*.

Applicants should have a doctorate in education, special education, educational psychology, or developmental psychology; however, we will also consider fellows with a strong research track record in other areas of relevance for education, such as cognitive psychology, quantitative psychology, speech and language pathology, and so forth, who wish to combine their skills with the type of training CLI can provide to allow them to conduct high quality research in special education in the area of language and literacy. Only applicants who have completed all requirements for their doctoral programs or who have completed all requirements and have a scheduled dissertation defense date will be considered. Consistent with the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) requirements, candidates must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States. The start date is negotiable with a preferred start date no later than September 1, 2011.

Information for Applicants:

1. Send an electronic copy of your C.V. and a cover letter to Marcia Barnes at marcia.barnes@uth.tmc.edu. The cover letter should describe:
 - Your areas of competence in research including methodological and statistical training and content expertise
 - What areas of competence you would like to pursue through postdoctoral research training
 - Your career goals
 - The project(s) on which you are most interested in working.
2. Send sample publication(s) with your application documents.
3. Arrange for three letters of reference to be sent directly by your referees to Marcia Barnes at marcia.barnes@uth.tmc.edu or mailed to Marcia A. Barnes, Ph.D., Children's Learning Institute, University of Texas Health Science Center-Houston, 7000 Fannin Street, Suite 2400, Houston, TX, 77030. Two of these references must come from graduate advisors/mentors with whom you worked on research.