

JOHNS HOPKINS
SCHOOL OF NURSING

Building for Scale Scholars Program

Program Highlights

- Six-month online program for researchers in the early stages of designing an innovation or developing an intervention.
- The scholar participates in intensive learning experiences, including customer discovery and human-centered design.
- Program focused on designing or adapting, testing, and scaling an evidence-based program or technology that promotes the health and wellbeing of individuals with disabilities and their families.



THE RESILIENCE CENTER

Research and Education to Support the Science of
Independent Living for Inclusion and Engagement

Building for Scale Scholars Program

The Johns Hopkins School of Nursing (JHSON) Building for Scale Scholars Program is designed to support talented behavioral researchers committed to developing or adapting, testing, and scaling an innovative, evidence-based program or technology that promotes the health and wellbeing of individuals with disabilities and their families. Researchers seeking to develop or adapt innovations that contribute to equity, inclusion and opportunities to maximize health in individuals with disabilities across the lifespan and their families are encouraged to apply.

Program Highlights

The Building for Scale Scholars Program is a six-month online program intended for researchers in the early stages of designing an innovation or developing an intervention. The scholar will participate in intensive learning experiences focused on designing or adapting testable and scalable innovations that will best meet the needs of individuals and families in the disability community. The 2024 Scholars Program commences on July 15, 2024 and concludes on January 15, 2025. The program is offered as a remote model, with online components and includes the following learning activities:

- **Customer Discovery.** The [I-Corps program](#) at Johns Hopkins, an immersive learning experience, is a key feature of the Scholars Program. The I-Corps program challenges participants to test their hypothesis on their innovation's relevance and viability through customer discovery. Customer discovery is the process of learning the wants and needs of potential customers, stakeholders, users, and influencers to determine the real value of an innovation. The program includes two half-day virtual workshops at the commencement and conclusion of the I-Corps program plus 10-15 hours per week over a four-week period for customer discovery interviews. In addition, the scholar will work individually with a member of the I-Corps teaching team. The I-Corps program runs from July 25 – August 22, 2024.
- **Human-Centered Design.** Human-centered design (HCD) is a collaborative and creative process that starts with the people being designed for - users or customers - and ends with new solutions tailored to meet their needs. HCD is used to co-design products, services, and systems that address the core needs of the user. Ultimately, HCD contributes to more equitable, desirable, and viable solutions. The Scholars Program includes an HCD component to provide the scholar with best practices in HCD across stages of development, testing, and implementation to increase efficacy and sustainability of their innovation design. Through individual mentoring and collaborative learning experiences, the scholar will work with an HCD specialist to gain a better understanding of how to advance intervention design through co-creation with their end users.
- **Brainstorming Workshop.** Once the I-Corps and HCD components are completed, the scholar will have the opportunity to present during an online brainstorming session with other researchers to generate new ideas that strengthen their work.
- **Specific Aims Page.** After completion of I-Corps, HCD component, and brainstorming session, the scholar will work with JHSON faculty to refine and develop a purpose statement/specific aims page that will serve as the basis for future research and funding.

- **Concluding Presentation.** At the conclusion of the program, the scholar will lead an interactive online presentation on their proposed innovation. The scholar may opt to extend the fellowship up to an additional three months if they and their mentor(s) believe more time is needed to complete learning objectives.

Eligibility

- PhD or equivalent research doctoral degree
- Working in an academic, practice or policy organization
- Proposed program or technology should be designed to improve equity, inclusion and opportunities to maximize health in individuals with disabilities and their families. The innovation should be clear and focused, although the design and implementation strategies may not yet be fully developed.
- Applicant must hold either U.S. citizenship or permanent residency.
- Applicants with disabilities and/or from other diverse, under-represented, or marginalized backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

Application Requirements

- Completed Online Application found **HERE** or <http://apply.interfolio.com/139007>
- **Current Curriculum Vita or Resume** including:
 - Educational background and degrees
 - Employment background
 - Awards or fellowships received
 - Publications
 - Past and current research
- **Personal Statement** (300-word limit) describing:
 - Your current work in the field of disability and/or rehabilitation research and the experiences that led you to your current work and role.
 - How your work aligns with your career goals and how those goals will be advanced through this opportunity.
- **Research Statement** (750-word limit) describing:
 - Brief overview of the state of the evidence
 - Current work and proposed innovation or intervention
 - Anticipated benefit of proposed work to individuals with disabilities and families.
- **Letter of Recommendation** addressing the applicant's relevant experience, research competence or potential, and commitment to developing or adapting an innovation or technology for the disability community. Please include reference contact information for any follow-up if needed.
- **Program completion.** By submitting the application, applicant is committing to completion of the program requirements if selected.

Selection Criteria

One scholar will be selected from applicants. Key factors considered include:

- The strength of the research experience of the applicant
- The applicant's potential for independent contribution to scientific knowledge
- A clear sense of purpose and articulation on how the Building for Scale Scholars Program would help the applicant achieve their goal of developing or adapting, testing, and scaling an innovation that contributes to equity, inclusion and opportunities to maximize health in individuals with disabilities across the lifespan and their families. The potential of the applicant to make a positive, long-lasting contribution to the disability community.

Timeline

- Applications open on **February 15, 2024**.
- A completed application with accompanying documentation must be submitted by **April 15, 2024**.
- Applicants will be notified of decisions via email no later than **May 15, 2024**.
- The six-month program commences on **July 15, 2024** and concludes on **January 15, 2025**.
- Orientation meeting will be scheduled prior to commencement of the I-Corp program.

About the RESILIENCE RRTC at Johns Hopkins School of Nursing

The Building for Scale Scholars Program is sponsored by The [RESILIENCE CENTER](#) at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing. The Center is a national center funded by the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) to improve the health and function of people with disabilities and their caregivers.

Questions?

Any questions regarding the program or application can be directed to Brian Fitzek at bfitzek@jhu.edu.