

## **Substance Use Disorder and Academic Pharmacy Fellowship**

### **Overview:**

The Belmont University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences is pleased to offer a 2-year postgraduate fellowship in substance use disorder and academic pharmacy. The fellowship is designed as an immersive program fostering the development of clinical, research, and academic skills in the treatment of substance use disorder and the care of vulnerable populations as part of the newly established BU TRAINS initiative. BU TRAINS is an initiative of the Belmont University Center for Interprofessional Engagement and Simulations and health professions programs whose goal is to provide treatment, harm reduction, increased access, and innovative interprofessional training that minimize stigma and improve the care of this vulnerable population. The goal of the fellowship is to train pharmacists who will be equipped and dedicated to caring for underserved and vulnerable populations often disproportionately affected by substance use disorder as part of an interprofessional team. Fellows will gain a holistic understanding of the many factors that impact patients with substance use disorder and its treatment. The fellowship is supported by a 3-year grant from the Tennessee Opioid Abatement Funds. The Substance Use Disorder and Academic Pharmacy Fellowship is designed to develop pharmacists with advanced skills in the management of substance use disorders through provision of patient care, teaching, and independent research. Fellows will be well prepared for a career in pain management, academia, community health, and health policy environments.

Belmont University aims to equip people to solve our world's complex problems through teaching, research, and service while being radical champions for helping people and communities flourish. The College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences is committed to this goal through the training and development of students and postgraduate trainees. Pharmacy is an evolving area of healthcare and is well positioned to champion access to healthcare services and develop innovative practice models that address the needs of patients managing substance use disorders.

### **Program Description:**

The Substance Use Disorder and Academic Pharmacy fellow will develop in-depth therapeutic knowledge to advance pharmacy practice and the care of underserved populations through the provision of patient care, development and implementation of population health measures, teaching experiences, and research and scholarship. The fellow will divide their time between Belmont University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Belmont University Mobile Health Clinics, and local substance use recovery centers. The Belmont University Mobile Health Clinics are a new initiative to provide low-threshold, low barrier harm reduction and interdisciplinary care through partnership with organizations serving unhoused and transitional living populations in middle Tennessee. The fellow will have the unique opportunity to assist program directors with project implementation in addition to serving on the mobile clinics. Fellows will work as part of a team to improve and personalize evidence-based harm reduction

and substance use disorder care for individuals and communities in the greater Nashville area and surrounding counties.

**Program implementation and practice:** Fellows will spend approximately 30% of their time assisting with the development of best practices for harm reduction and substance use management utilizing mobile health clinics. Additionally, the fellow will work with local recovery organizations to provide chronic care management to patients who are in recovery. This includes making recommendations for optimizing therapy in relation to substance use, but also mental health, hypertension, diabetes, and other chronic conditions. Additional clinical opportunities may be available in other clinics affiliated with Belmont University and determined based on the fellow's development goals.

**Teaching activities:** The fellow will be actively involved in the Belmont University College of Pharmacy PharmD curriculum including small group facilitation and large group lectures. The fellow will have the opportunity to develop lectures, teaching materials including cases and various components of active learning and assessment. Additionally, the fellow will participate in the development of educational training and curriculum for both students and healthcare providers around opioid use disorder. Topics to be addressed include harm reduction principles, evidence-based practices in prevention and treatment of substance use disorder, identifying patients at risk, chronic pain management and appropriate opioid prescribing, as well as cultural humility and trauma informed care. The fellow will also contribute heavily to the development of substance use disorder focused education for medical trainees and clinicians in the community. It is expected that the fellow will spend approximately 40% of their time engaged in teaching related activities. The fellow will participate in the College of Pharmacy Academic Teaching Program offered through the Belmont University College of Pharmacy with other residents and fellows completing training in the greater Nashville area.

**Research/scholarship:** The fellow will design, implement, and conduct research in collaboration with Belmont University faculty and as part of the BU TRAINS program. The fellow will have the opportunity to develop projects in line with their own clinical interests as well. It is expected the fellow will spend approximately 30% of their time on research and scholarly activities. The fellow will utilize acquired knowledge to drive research and initiatives to advance health equity for the underserved in our community dealing with substance use disorder. It is expected that the fellow will publish in peer-reviewed journals, apply for grants, and disseminate their research findings at a national meeting.

## **Qualifications:**

Applicants must have a PharmD prior to fellowship start date and be eligible for pharmacist licensure in the State of Tennessee. Completion of a PGY-1 residency or equivalent pharmacy practice experience is preferred but not required. Applicants should have a strong desire for research, teaching, and practice within both academic and environments focusing on unhoused and underserved populations impacted with substance use disorders. Applicants must be comfortable interacting closely with this population.

## **Application Requirements:**

1. Curriculum Vitae
2. Letter of Intent
3. Response to Belmont's Mission, Vision, and Values statements
4. Contact information for three references
  - a. Include name, title, and contact information
5. Official transcripts

Applications can be submitted via the following link:

<https://belmont.csod.com/ux/ats/careersite/10/home/requisition/4090?c=belmont>

\*Application materials are due on or before **January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. Interviews will be conducted the end of January/early February.

## Questions:

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Fellowship Program Director  
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