

Dwight Tillery Fellowship Program

Who is Dwight Tillery?

Dwight Tillery grew up in Cincinnati where he was educated in its public schools and graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. He received his J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School.

Mr. Tillery is the Founder and President and CEO of The Center for Closing the Health Gap whose mission is “to lead the efforts in eliminating racial and ethnic health disparities in Greater Cincinnati through Advocacy, Education, and Community Outreach.” Mr. Tillery served two years as Vice President of the National Bar Association. He has served on the Cincinnati Board of Health, served on the Governor’s advisory’s Health Coverage Reform, appointed by the State Director for the Department of Health to its Obesity Prevention Round Table.

In 1991, Mr. Tillery stunned the City of Cincinnati by becoming the first African American popularly elected Mayor of Cincinnati. He also served as a member of city council, where he sponsored many pieces of legislation that benefited the poor and minorities. He authored legislation that created a surrogate-parenting program entitled “It Takes a Village.”

Mr. Tillery has held a number of distinguished professional positions throughout his career. Mr. Tillery is a licensed attorney in the state of Ohio and is licensed to practice before the Federal District court, the Six Circuit Appellate Court, and the United States Supreme Court. Mr. Tillery has been an attorney for more than 30 years.

Program Overview

The Tillery Fellowship offered by The Center of Closing the Health Gap (The Health Gap), a community-based 501c3 organization, is a 1-year training program designed to assist students pursuing an MPH degree at the University of Cincinnati. The Tillery Fellowship will develop and strengthen key practices necessary to lead efforts that will promote a culture of health for the most underserved populations of the greater Cincinnati area. Successful candidates must have an interest and commit their efforts toward health disparities.

The program offers several fellowships to support MPH students for different purposes. The total amount of funding will be approximately \$20,000 in any academic year.

Fellowships

Training Fellowship

Description

- The awardee will be trained at the Health Gap to gain valuable skills and experience to effectively develop and implement program initiatives aimed to engage, empower, and advocate for the health of the African American, Appalachian, and Latino communities.
- The awarded student will receive **\$1,250**.

Requirements

- Both newly accepted and current MPH students are eligible to apply.
- Applicants are required to demonstrate interested in research and activities of health disparity through training at the Health Gap.

- A minimum GPA of 3.75 from either the MPH study or an undergraduate/graduate degree is required.
- The awardee is required to complete 90 hours of training at the Health Gap.

Application

- The applicant must submit a letter of interest if he/she is a current MPH student or a two-page essay if he/she is newly accepted student.
- The applicant must submit two letters of reference.
- The applicant will be interviewed by a Health Gap staff member before submitting an application.
- The deadline for application is no later than the Friday of the second week of the semester/term.

Practicum Fellowship

Description

- The awardee will choose the Health Gap as the practicum site to practice MPH competencies and gain valuable skills and experience in health disparity.
- The awardee will receive **\$2,500.**

Requirements

- The student must meet the requirements for the practicum.
- The preceptor is a staff member at the Health Gap.
- A minimum of 120 hours of practice is required in a semester/term.
- The student is required to demonstrate interest in research and activities of health disparity through the practicum at the Health Gap.
- A minimum GPA of 3.75 from the MPH study is required.

Application

- The applicant needs to submit a letter of interest.
- Confirmation from the staff member at the Health Gap to serve as the preceptor is required.
- The application is closed at the end of the second week of the semester/term.

Capstone Fellowship

Description

- The awardee will choose a topic of health disparity related to a project within the Health Gap as the capstone project.
- The awardee will receive **\$5,000.**

Requirements

- The student's capstone project must be related to health disparities.
- The capstone must also be related to an ongoing project at the Health Gap.

Application

- The applicant needs to submit a letter of interest or an outline of the capstone proposal.
- The application is closed at the end of the second week of the semester/term.

New Student Award for Achievement in Improving Health Disparity

Description

- The award is for newly accepted students who have demonstrated achievements in improving health disparities through internship, volunteering, or other activities.
- The awardee will receive a **\$500** award in the first semester.

Requirements

- MPH students in their first semester of the program.
- Evidence of achievements or contributions in health disparity.

Application

- A 2-page essay.
- One reference letter.
- Application is due in the end of the second week of semester/term.

Most Achieved Student Award in Improving Health Disparity

Description

- The awardee will receive a **\$1,000** award for her or his achievement in helping improve health disparity during their time as a MPH student.

Requirements

- Applicants must be graduating during the semester of application.
- A minimum of 3.75 GPA is required.

Applications

- Candidates can be self-nominated or nominated by a faculty member, a community partner, or another current or former MPH student. Please complete the form in Appendix A.
- The deadline is one week before the end of semester.

Excellence in Diversity Student Award

Description

- The awardee will receive a **\$1,000** award for her or his achievement in MPH studies, activities, and research.

Requirements

- Must be an underserved or underrepresented minority student.
- Applicants must be graduating during the semester of application.
- A minimum of 3.75 GPA is required.

Application

- Candidates can be self-nominated or nominated by a faculty member, a community partner, or another current or former MPH student. Please complete the form in Appendix A.
- The deadline is one week before the end of semester.

Travel Award for Presentation at a Regional Conference

Description

- The awardee can receive up to **\$250** for associated costs of presenting their research findings at a regional conference, including travel, lodging, and registration fees.

Requirements

- The topic of presentation needs to be related to health disparity, health equity, or improving the health of underserved populations.
- An acceptance letter or e-mail from the Conference is required.
- The Conference is at the regional/state level.

Application

- An original abstract submitted to the Conference.
- The acceptance letter/e-mail from the Conference.
- The application needs to be submitted within one month of the Conference

Travel Award for Presentation at a National Conference

Description

- The awardee can receive up to **\$750** for associated costs of presenting their research findings at a national conference, including travel, lodging, and registration fees.

Requirements

- The topic of presentation needs to be related to health disparity, health equity, or improving the health of underserved populations.
- An acceptance letter or email from the Conference is required.
- The Conference is at the national or international level.

Application

- An original abstract submitted to the Conference.
- The acceptance letter/e-mail from the Conference.
- The application needs to be submitted within one month of the Conference.

