

LSX Call for Applications

Are you a scientist on the cusp of new discoveries in child development? Maybe you are a mid-career journalist seeking the next big story in early education? Could you be the television script writer or game developer who needs to better understand how children learn and develop? Or perhaps you are the early education policy professional invested in helping young children thrive?

Answering “yes” to any of these questions means that you are an ideal candidate for a new cutting edge, interdisciplinary two-year fellowship called the Learning Sciences Exchange (LSX). LSX was designed to break through traditional silos that separate learning scientists from those in journalism, education policy, and entertainment. The goal of LSX is nothing short of deepening society’s understanding of child development. This unique fellowship will foster the exchange of ideas across disciplines about how to share crucial insights with the public and positively affect children and families’ lives. Fellows will work in teams of 3-4 people on cross-sector projects, visit labs and other significant sites, attend conferences across different disciplines, and work collaboratively on concrete deliverables such as blog posts and op-eds.

The ideal LSX fellows candidate will be engaged in projects related to early child development. This fellowship will provide them the counsel and inspiration they need to reach larger audiences. Several examples illustrate the power of such an exchange. In the entertainment industry, there are a few examples already of tv script writers embedding child development information in shows that enjoy enormous reach. In the popular Netflix show *Orange is the New Black*, for example, writers incorporated a short segment about how important it is to talk to children when one of the fathers came to visit a mother in jail.

Twelve fellows will be chosen, three from each of the four sectors (learning science, policy, journalism, and entertainment). A high-level advisory board will guide each fellow with advice and input. At the culmination of the fellowship, the LSX Fellows will present an LSX Talk—a short, highly polished multimedia presentation of to be developed for a general audience and livestreamed internationally.

The LSX is a partnership of the International Congress of Infant Studies, New America, and the Jacobs Foundation. To learn more about the aims of the fellowship read the Detailed Information

How to Apply

In addition to the online application, all LSX Fellowship applicants must submit short personal statements on the assets that they bring and what they hope to gain (no more than 200 words each); a description of a particular area of study or project that they will embark upon that would be suitable for the LSX; a brief description of a desired site visit (this would be a site or facility where fellows could observe day-to-day life outside their field; examples are a developmental psychology lab, policymaker's offices or town hall meetings, a family health center, a producer's studio, etc.); a résumé or CV; a list of previous projects or published articles; and a short, 1-2 minute video statement on their motivation for applying. If an applicant is selected for the short list, we will request that they submit references.