

Postdoctoral Fellows at Harvard/MGH

starting in 2022/23

SUMMARY:

MJ LAB (mj-lab.mgh.harvard.edu) seeks up to three postdoctoral fellows to join new and ongoing projects awarded by the U.S. FDA, CDC, NIH, and NSF. The lab utilizes simulation modeling and data science methods to inform population-based decision and policy making, and includes researchers with strong methodological capabilities (a) or a focus on health/disease areas of interest (b).¹

These opportunities provide researchers interested in faculty positions with training and hands-on experience in grant development, design and initiation of research projects, and team management.

MAIN REQUIREMENTS:

- **Research:** Experience in (a) or (b):
 - (a) one of these analytical methods
 - simulation modeling (any quantitative approach)
 - systems thinking, community-based system dynamics
 - supervised machine learning
 - classification, clustering, natural language processing
 - time-series analysis
 - (b) population-level outcome research²
 - opioids, stimulants, alcohol misuse, poly-substance
 - infectious diseases, including HIV/AIDS, COVID-19
 - health equity and social determinants of health
- **Doctoral degree:** A doctoral degree in health policy, population and outcome research, epidemiology, economics, biostatistics, statistics, mathematics, operations research, industrial and systems engineering, computer science, or a similar program is required.
- **Personal capabilities:** Creative thinking, ability to work independently, willingness to learn new skills, and the ability to handle multiple tasks are expected. Priority goes to highly motivated and organized individuals committed to doing impactful research, with great attention to detail and excellent organization and teamwork skills.

OTHER SKILLS & COMPETENCIES:

- Excellent writing skills for article and grant writing
- Programming experience (R, Python, or MATLAB)

¹The nature of the research at MJ LAB is interdisciplinary and researchers from different areas (e.g., engineering and social sciences) collaborate closely.

²Using analytical methods listed in (a) is not required; however, publication track record in one of the areas of (b) is essential.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

Candidates will work closely with the supervisor and the team of postdocs, RAs, and interns in a collaborative, productive, and friendly research environment. Each postdoc leads a team of RAs and students and will often be in touch with the funding agency and co-investigators from other institutions.

The lab is located at MGH Institute for Technology Assessment: 101 Merrimac St, Boston, MA 02114; however, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, remote collaborations are considered. All postdoc candidates receive a dual affiliation at Harvard and MGH.

DURATION:

One year with the expectation of renewal for a second year (preferred). Other durations can be considered upon mutual interest.

HOW TO APPLY:

Send your CV and a cover letter to Dr. Mohammad Jalali ('MJ') at msjalali@mgh.harvard.edu (subject line: Postdoctoral Fellow). Include your preferred start date, and feel free to ask any questions.

Submit your application for any starting date as soon as possible.

Useful suggestions to consider before applying for 'any' postdoc positions:

- <https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6949712216824676352/>
- https://med.emory.edu/education/postdoctoral-training/_documents/How%20do%20I%20apply%20for%20a%20Postdoc%20Position.pdf
- <https://mitcommlab.mit.edu/cee/2022/06/27/on-finding-and-choosing-a-postdoc/>