



Surgical Outcomes & Quality Improvement Center Fellowship Program



Northwestern University's [Surgical Outcomes and Quality Improvement Center \(SOQIC\)](#) offers a funded, two-year, on-site fellowship in surgical outcomes, health services and health policy research for surgical residents and post-doctoral trainees. SOQIC leverages a long-standing collaboration between the Northwestern Department of Surgery, the Center for Health Services and Outcomes Research, the Department of Medical Social Sciences, Robert H. Lurie Cancer Center, the Digestive Health Center, Northwestern Medicine, and the American College of Surgeons. SOQIC's research spans all surgical specialties and sub-specialties.

The goal of the research fellowship is to help prepare surgical residents and post-doctoral trainees for a successful career in academic surgery by developing an expertise in surgical health services and outcomes research. Research fellows will spend a minimum of two years with the SOQIC research team conducting research, taking advanced degree courses and working on developing a robust, meaningful research agenda. Research fellows will earn a Master's or PhD degree that best suits their needs through one of the [programs offered at Northwestern](#). The advanced degree tuition will be fully funded. Applicants are not required to enroll in degree programs if a similar-level degree has already been achieved.

The work done during the fellowship has launched successful research careers and has helped residents secure coveted clinical fellowships, faculty positions and funding. Prior fellows have achieved numerous presentations (e.g. American Surgical Association, American College of Surgeons) and successful grant acquisitions (e.g. NIH, American Cancer Society). On average, trainees author 18 papers during their time with us, and 7 prior trainees have achieved first-author JAMA or NEJM publications.

The SOQIC Research Fellowship is a unique opportunity that allows the surgical resident to gain firsthand experience in outcomes and health services research methodology, as well as in practical quality and process improvement work. Key areas of research include surgical outcomes, health policy, and surgical education. The program also prepares the fellow for a career in academic surgery with a focus on national surgical healthcare issues.

Strong preference will be given to candidates with prior research experience. One-year fellowships will not be considered. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or residents. Please send your CV to kirsty.engelhardt@northwestern.edu for pre-screening and to request an application.

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