

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY GME DISTINCTION IN CLIMATE CHANGE, SUSTAINABILITY, AND HEALTH

Climate change presents urgent and complex challenges to human health and health systems globally. Health professionals occupy a critical position in the response to climate change and their professional expertise and roles as health messengers are currently under-employed in our societal response to this crisis.

Graduate medical education (GME) trainees from any residency or fellowship program at Columbia University Medical Center are eligible to apply for a 24-month elective opportunity and upon successful conclusion will receive a Certificate of Distinction in Climate Change, Sustainability and Health. The goal of the program is to develop expertise in these critical topics that may fall outside existing specialty-specific GME curricula, foster multidisciplinary collaboration across GME programs, and train participants to become leaders in climate and health informed clinical care and sustainable health care delivery.

Program objectives:

- Provide trainees who have an interest in climate change and health and/or sustainable health care with the opportunity to receive focused education on these topics as well as mentorship on how to incorporate this as part of a career as leaders in research, clinical practice, and healthcare system operations
- Foster development of skills in advocacy and communication that trainees can use to engage with their patients, community and political leaders, health system leaders and the public on the issue of climate change, health and sustainability
- Offer opportunity for mentored scholarly work in area of climate change/sustainability and health (e.g., research, curriculum development, sustainability initiative project, life cycle assessment analysis)

Program requirements:

- Attend program orientation and 3-day [Climate Change and Health Boot Camp](#) (asynchronous learning option available for 3-day boot camp)
- Attend 9 of 16 in-person sessions (first Thursday of every month from 6-8 pm, September through May except December)
- Lead one journal club or project discussion at an in-person didactic sessions
- Complete mentored scholarly project (Examples include but are not limited to— climate/health research project, development of climate or sustainability curriculum, launch of a sustainability initiative, audit of the carbon footprint of select healthcare activities within a department or division)

Eligibility:

- Current GME trainee at any residency or fellowship training program at CUIMC with 2+ years remaining in training program
- Strong desire to become leaders in health care, climate change and sustainability
- Commitment to attending majority of interactive in-person curricular sessions

To Apply:

Please provide the following 3 application components as a single PDF file to obgyn-education@cumc.columbia.edu by March 21st

- Personal statement (1 page or less, explaining reason for wanting to participate in this program)
- Curriculum vitae or biosketch (< 3 pages)
- Letter of support from GME program director

Decisions will be made by April 20th, 2024

For questions about the program, please reach out to any or all of the program directors.

Program Directors

Cecilia Sorensen, MD Cjs2282@cumc.columbia.edu

Director, Global Consortium on Climate and Health Education, Columbia University
Associate Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, CUIMC
Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Health Sciences, Mailman School of Public Health

Blair Wylie, MD, MPH Ebj2107@cumc.columbia.edu

Director, The Collaborative for Women's Environmental Health at Columbia
Virgil G. Damon Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology, CUIMC
Professor of Environmental Health Sciences, Mailman School of Public Health

Rini Ratan, MD Rr2172@cumc.columbia.edu

Vice Chair of Education and Obstetrics/Gynecology Residency Program Director
Berkowitz Family Professor of Women's Health
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, CUIMC

