

IOWA | PUBLIC HEALTH

Tenure-Track Faculty Member, Cancer Prevention and Control
University of Iowa, College of Public Health
Iowa City, Iowa

THE SEARCH

The University of Iowa College of Public Health, in close collaboration with the NCI-designated Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center (HCCC), invites applications for a tenured or tenure-track faculty position in cancer prevention and control at the rank of Associate or Full Professor. Cancer prevention and control has been identified as critical areas for growth at Iowa, both within HCCC's research portfolio and in response to pressing public health needs in the state, which faces among the nation's highest and rising cancer incidence rates.

The new faculty member will join a highly collaborative academic health environment and play an essential role in strengthening research that spans cancer etiology, prevention, screening, survivorship, disparities, and population health. The position is based in the College of Public Health but tightly integrated with HCCC, offering access to the full range of the university's health sciences expertise and partnerships.

Supporting research in alignment with state priorities, Iowa offers a distinctive combination of assets that create a compelling platform for discovery and impact:

- [The College of Public Health](#), among the top 10 publicly funded colleges of public health in the country, includes five academic departments: Biostatistics, Community and Behavioral Health, Epidemiology, Health Management and Policy, and Occupational and Environmental Health. The College is dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in public health scholarship, teaching, and community service, with collective areas of excellence in rural health, community engagement, and comparative effectiveness. Housed in a beautiful LEED-certified facility overlooking the Iowa River, the college offers a rich environment for interdisciplinary research and is home to an array of graduate programs (MPH, MHA, MS, PhD) and undergraduate degree programs in public health (BA, BS).
- [The Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center](#) is Iowa's only NCI-designated comprehensive cancer center. The NCI designation recognizes the Cancer Center and its faculty for advancing research that improves prevention, detection, and treatment. Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center

coordinates all cancer-related research, education, and patient care by faculty from 41 departments and six colleges, as well as University of Iowa Health Care and Children's Hospital.

- [Iowa Cancer Registry](#), one of the nation's longest-standing SEER sites, is housed directly within the College of Public Health. Unlike many registries that are managed externally, Iowa's structure allows investigators easier and more timely access to population-based data, a distinctive advantage that has fueled decades of impactful cancer epidemiology and outcomes research.

Together, these assets—augmented by the [Residual Tissue](#) and [Virtual Tissue Repositories](#), the [Implementation Science Center](#), the [Iowa City VA Medical Center](#) and robust community partnerships through the [Iowa Cancer Consortium](#) and the Department of Health and Human Services—provide an unparalleled environment for advancing cancer prevention and control science. Additionally, the faculty member will be positioned to build collaborations across the College of Public Health and the health sciences campus, including medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and dentistry, as well as with health systems and community organizations across the state.

The successful candidate will be an established, extramurally funded investigator with a strong record of scholarship in areas such as epidemiology, behavioral science, cancer communication and decision-making, health disparities, survivorship, implementation science, or health policy. While the position is not defined as administrative, senior scholars with aspiration and aptitude will find meaningful opportunities for leadership within both the College of Public Health and HCCC, particularly in program development and cross-disciplinary initiatives.

THE ROLE

The faculty member appointed to this position will join the University of Iowa at a pivotal moment, with cancer prevention and control recognized and resourced as both a statewide priority and a critical area of growth for the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center. Additionally, the University of Iowa's strategic initiatives include focusing on cancer research and patient care as one of its three Distinctive Collaborative Opportunities, allocating up to \$15 million in public-private partnership funding for FY 2026 to support strategic initiatives, including improving health outcomes for cancer survivors. With this strong commitment to strengthening this field, the new faculty member will find resources and partnerships available to support ambitious research.

This is a broad recruitment, open to scholars across a range of disciplines in public health and population science. Regardless of disciplinary home, the successful candidate will have the opportunity to shape Iowa's future in cancer prevention and control, contribute to the Cancer Center's NCI designation priorities, and strengthen the College of Public Health's leadership in rural health, disparities, and community-engaged research. For senior scholar candidates, there is potential to assume programmatic or institutional leadership roles as appropriate.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Advance cancer prevention and control research for a rural population with high and rising incidence.

Iowa faces one of the highest cancer burdens in the nation, with incidence rates that continue to climb. The new faculty member will have the opportunity to shape innovative research that improves prevention, screening, and survivorship outcomes for a predominantly rural population, generating insights with national and global relevance.

Strengthen the prevention and control program of the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Cancer prevention and control has been identified as a priority area for HCCC, and the new faculty member will play a vital role in bolstering the center's research portfolio and enhancing its NCI designation. This work will contribute directly to the Cancer Center's impact on the state and its standing among leading national institutions.

Leverage Iowa's highly collegial and collaborative environment.

The University of Iowa is known for its culture of collaboration across schools and disciplines. The new faculty member will be able to forge partnerships within the College of Public Health and across the Colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Dentistry, as well as with health systems and community organizations statewide.

Advise, support, and mentor others in advancing cancer prevention and control.

Beyond their own research, the faculty member will serve as a resource for colleagues and trainees, helping to extend the reach of prevention and control science across campus. This includes mentoring junior faculty, guiding graduate students, and providing expertise to investigators in related fields.

Translate research into practice through Iowa's strong community and policy partnerships.

The state's long history of collaboration among public health agencies, healthcare systems, and community organizations offers fertile ground for dissemination and implementation research. The new faculty member will have the opportunity to ensure that discoveries in cancer prevention and control reach the populations that need them most.

QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

Candidates for this position must hold a doctoral degree (PhD, DrPH, or equivalent) in a public health science or related field and be qualified for appointment at the rank of Associate or Full Professor in the College of Public Health.

The successful candidate will bring a strong record of scholarship in cancer prevention and control, demonstrated through peer-reviewed publications, contributions to the field, and evidence of national visibility. A history of extramural funding—particularly as principal investigator on NIH or NCI grants—is

highly desirable. Candidates who have not yet achieved this level of sustained funding but show clear evidence of a trajectory toward it will also be considered.

In addition to research accomplishments, candidates must demonstrate a commitment to teaching and mentorship, with the ability to contribute to graduate and professional education in public health and to support the development of junior faculty and trainees. The ability to engage in collaborative work across disciplines—within the College of Public Health, with colleagues across the health sciences campus, and with external partners such as public health agencies, healthcare systems, and community organizations—is essential.

Preferred characteristics include experience working in a public health academic setting, service on national committees or editorial boards, and evidence of leadership in team science or program development. Candidates whose expertise includes epidemiology, behavioral science, cancer communication and decision-making, disparities, survivorship, implementation science, or health policy will be particularly well aligned with institutional priorities.

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

[The University of Iowa](#) is one of America's premier public research universities. Founded in 1847, it is the state's oldest institution of higher education and is located alongside the picturesque Iowa River in Iowa City. A member of the Association of American Universities since 1909 and the Big Ten Conference since 1899, the University of Iowa is home to one of the most acclaimed academic medical centers in the country, as well as globally recognized leadership in the study and craft of writing. Iowa is known for excellence in both the arts and sciences, offering world-class undergraduate, graduate, and professional academic programs in a wide variety of fields.

LOCATION

[Iowa City](#) is one of the ten best college towns in America. With a metro population over 170,000, the area offers a vibrant mix of academic excellence, cultural richness, and a thriving literary scene as a UNESCO City of Literature. With a lively downtown, diverse restaurants, and scenic outdoor spaces along the Iowa River, it's the perfect place to balance work, study, and leisure. Affordable living, a welcoming community, great public schools, exceptional healthcare, and a strong economy make Iowa City an ideal destination for students, professionals, and families alike! In addition, the University is less than 250 miles from the major metropolitan areas of Chicago, Omaha, and St. Louis.

APPLICATIONS, INQUIRIES, AND NOMINATIONS

Screening of complete applications will begin immediately and continue until the completion of the search process. Inquiries, nominations, referrals, and CVs with cover letters should be sent via the Isaacson, Miller website:

[Application Link](#)

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The University of Iowa is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply and will receive consideration for employment free from discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy (including childbirth and related conditions), disability, genetic information, status as a U.S. veteran, service in the U.S. military, sexual orientation, or associational preferences.

This document has been prepared based on the information provided by the Iowa College of Public Health. The material presented in this leadership profile should be relied on for informational purposes only. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, the original source documents and information provided by the Iowa College of Public Health would supersede any conflicting information in this document.