

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors.
Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.**

NAME: Fabricio E Balcazar, PhD

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login):

POSITION TITLE: Professor & Director, Center on Capacity Building for Minorities with Disabilities Research
EDUCATION/TRAINING (*Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.*)

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
Department of Psychology, Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá Colombia	B.A	1974 - 1979	Psychology
Department of Human Development, University of Kansas	M.A	1981 - 1983	Human Development
Department of Human Development and Family Life, University of Kansas	Ph.D	1983 - 1987	Developmental and Child Psychology

NOTE: The Biographical Sketch may not exceed five pages. Follow the formats and instructions below.

A. Personal Statement

Dr. Fabricio E. Balcazar, Ph.D., is a Professor in the Department of Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago. Dr. Balcazar's primary research interest is developing effective strategies for enhancing empowerment and personal effectiveness among individuals with disabilities. Dr. Balcazar has conducted research over the past 25 years on several disability-related areas, such as the development and evaluation of a model service delivery approach to increase consumers' empowerment in the Vocational Rehabilitation system; the promotion of cultural competence in rehabilitation services; the development of interventions for helping Latino youth with disabilities who have dropped out of high school return to education and/or find jobs they can keep; the development of interventions to help minority students with disabilities transition into employment (including the development of entrepreneurial skills and start-ups for small businesses) and career development; and promoting entrepreneurship for people with disabilities, among many others. Dr. Balcazar directs the *Center on Capacity Building for Minorities with Disabilities Research* and co-edited a book entitled *Race, culture and disability: Issues in Rehabilitation Research and Practice*. Dr. Balcazar is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association and is Past President of Division 27 of APA—Society for Community Research and Action.

B. Positions and Honors

List in chronological order previous positions, concluding with the present position. List any honors. Include present membership on any Federal Government public advisory committee.

Positions and Employment

1987 - 1990	Senior Research Associate, Research and Training Center on Independent Living, The University of Kansas
1990 - 1994	Senior Research Specialist in Developmental Disabilities, Institute on Disability and Human Development (UAP), University of Illinois at Chicago (100%).
1994 – 2006	Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Illinois at Chicago (25%).

- 1994 - 2006 Associate Professor, Department of Disability and Human Development, College of Applied Health Sciences, University of Illinois at Chicago (75%).
- 2006 – Present Professor, Department of Disability and Human Development, College of Applied Health Sciences, University of Illinois At Chicago (100%).

Other Experience and Professional Memberships

- 2016 - 2017 Member of a national expert panel to review and make recommendations about Assistive technology devices to the Social Security Administration, coordinated by the Institute of Medicine.
- 2015 Member of the strategic planning process for the Interagency Committee on Disability Research (ICDR), Administration for Community Living and NIDILRR
- 2000 – Present Member of the Division 22 Rehabilitation Psychology of the APA.
- 2003 – Present Member National Rehabilitation Counseling Association
- 2000 – Present Member National Rehabilitation Association
- 1986 - Present Member, American Psychological Association (APA)
- 1986 - Present Member of the Society for Community Research and Action, Division 27 of the APA.

Honors

- 2015 **UIC Recognition Award, 25 years of service**, Presented at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Nov 10th
- 2015 **Outstanding Service and Leadership Award**, Presented by the Society for Community Research and Action, Division 27 of the American Psychological Association, Lowell MA, June 27th.
- 2015 **Excalibur Award** for Excellence in Teaching, College of Applied Health Sciences, UIC.
- 2012 **Professor of the Year Award**, College of Applied Health Sciences, University of Illinois, Chicago, IL.
- 2012 - 2015 **President**, Society for Community Research and Action, Division 27 of the American Psychological Association
- 2006 - 2012 **Treasurer** of the Society for Community Research and Action (APA, Division, 27)
- 2010 **Fellow**, Midwestern Psychological Association
- 2009 **Commendation Award**, National Association of Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers, Washington DC.
- 1999 **Fellow**, Society for Community Research and Action, Division 27, APA
- 1999 **Fellow**, American Psychological Association.
- 1995 **1994 Research Award** from the American Rehabilitation Counseling Association conferred at the Annual Meeting of the American Counseling Association in Denver Colorado, for research entitled: The empowerment process in four advocacy organizations of people with disabilities.

C. Contribution to Science

1. *Employment of People with Disabilities*. This area of research evolved as part of a grant from the US Department of Labor designed to explore effective interventions to promote employment and/or entrepreneurship among individuals with disabilities and contracts with the IL Division of Rehabilitation Services to examine their caseload database. Here are some of the publications in this area:

Langi, F.L.F.G & Balcazar, F.E. (2016). Risk Factors for Failure of Individuals with Disabilities to Enter Vocational Rehabilitation Services. *Journal of Disability and Rehabilitation*, (November 2016 [E-pub ahead of print])

Oberoi, A., Balcazar, F.E., Suarez-Balcazar, Y., Langi, F.G., & Lukyanova, V (2015) Employment outcomes among African American/Black and White Women with Disabilities: Examining the Inequalities. *Journal of Women, Gender, & Families of Color*, 3(2), 144-164.

Lukyanova, V., Balcazar, F.E., Oberoi, A., & Suarez-Balcazar, Y. (2014). Employment Outcomes among African Americans and Whites with Mental illness. *Work* 48(3), 3219-328.

Balcazar, F.E., Kuchak, J., Dimpfl, S., Saripella, V., & Alvarado, F. (2014). An Empowerment Model of Entrepreneurship for People with Disabilities in the United States. *Psychosocial Intervention* 23, 145-450

Suarez-Balcazar, Y., Lukyanova, V., Balcazar, F.E., Ali, A., Morton, D., & Alvarado, F., (2013). An evaluation of Employment Outcomes of Community Rehabilitation Providers. *Journal of Rehabilitation*, 79, 11-18.

Balcazar, F. E. & Taylor-Ritzler, T. (2009). Perspectives of Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors on the Factors Related to Employment Outcomes of Racial and Ethnic Minorities with Disabilities *Journal of Social Work in Disability and Rehabilitation*, 8:1-16

Hernandez, B., Keys, C. B., Balcazar, F. E., (2000). Employer attitudes toward workers with disabilities and their ADA employment rights: A literature review. *Journal of Rehabilitation*, 66(4), 4-16.

2. *Transition of youth with disabilities.* This area of research involves the analysis of transition data from vocational rehabilitation programs and the evaluation of intervention designed to improve transition outcomes among youth with disabilities, particularly low-income minorities. These studies started with support from the US Department of Education and have had an impact on transition practices in the state of Illinois, through a technical assistance contract with the IL Division of Rehabilitation Services in collaboration with the Chicago Public Schools. Here are some of the publications in this area:

Langi, F.L.F.G, Oberoi. A. K., Balcazar, F. E., & Awsumb, J. (2016). Vocational Rehabilitation of Transition-Age Youth with Disabilities: A Propensity-Score Matched Study. *Journal of Occupational Rehabilitation*, 25(4), 5.

Awsumb, J. M., Balcazar, F. E., & Alvarado, F. (2016). Vocational rehabilitation transition outcomes of youth with disabilities from a Midwestern state. *Rehabilitation Research, Policy, and Education*, 30(1), 48-64

Balcazar, F.E., Oberoi, A., & Keel, J.M (2013). Predictors of Employment and College Attendance Outcomes for Youth in Transition: Implications for Policy and Practice. *Journal of Applied Rehabilitation Counseling*, 44(1), 38-45.

Balcazar, F.E., Taylor-Ritzler, T., Dimpfl, S., Portillo-Peña, N., Guzman, A., Schiff, R., Murvay, M. (2012). Improving the transition outcomes of low-income minority youth with disabilities. *Exceptionality*, 20(2), Apr, 114-132.

Garcia-Iriarte, E., Balcazar, F. E., & Taylor-Ritzler, T. (2007). Analysis of case managers' support of youth with disabilities transitioning from school to work. *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*, 26, 129-140.

Taylor-Ritzler, T., Balcazar, F. E., Keys, C. B., Hayes, E., Garate-Serafini, T., & Ryerson-Espino, S. (2001). Promoting attainment of transition-related goals among low-income ethnic minority students with disabilities. *Career Development for Exceptional Individuals*, 24(2), 147- 167

3. *Participatory Action Research.* This area of research reflect a methodological approach that includes research participants in the process of designing and implementing critical components of research studies, including actions intended to address identified needs. This area of research started through my affiliation with the University on Kansas and the methodology known as the "Concerns Report Method." The PAR studies have contributed to the advance of participatory research in the field of disability. Here are some of the publications in this area:

Arellano R., Balcazar, F.E., Alvarado F., Suarez S. (in press). A Participatory Action Research Intervention in a Rural Community of Mexico. *Universitas Psychologica*.

Suarez-Balcazar, Y & Balcazar, F.E. (2016). Functional Analysis of Community Concerns as a Participatory Action Research Approach. In L. A. Jason & D. S. Glenwick (Eds). *Handbook of methodological approaches to community-based research: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods*. New York, N.Y.: Oxford University Press, p. 315-323.

Balcazar, F. E., García-Iriarte, E., & Suarez-Balcazar, Y. (2009). Participatory Action Research with Colombian Immigrants. *Hispanic Journal of Behavioral Sciences*, 31(1), 112-127.

Balcazar, F.E., Garate-Serafini, T., & Keys, C.B. (2004). The need for action when conducting intervention research: The multiple roles of community psychologist. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 33, 243-252.

Balcazar, F. E., Keys, C. B., Kaplan, D., & Suárez-Balcazar, Y. (1998). Participatory action research and people with disabilities: Principles and challenges. *Canadian Journal of Rehabilitation, 12*, 105-112.

4. *Cultural Competence in Service Delivery*. This area of research was developed as a result of a Center Grant from the US Department of Education establishing the Center on Capacity Building for Minorities with Disabilities Research. There were multiple research projects that were implemented under this grant. Here are some of the publications in this area:

Suarez-Balcazar, Y., Balcazar, F., Taylor-Ritzler, T., Portillo, N. & Rodawoski, J., Garcia-Ramirez, M. & Willis, C. (2011). Development and Validation of a Cultural Competence Assessment Instrument: A Factorial Analysis. *Journal of Rehabilitation, 77*, 14-23,

Balcazar, F. E., Suarez-Balcazar, Y., Keys, C. B. & Taylor-Ritzler, T. (2010) *Race, culture and disability: Rehabilitation science and practice*. Boston, MA: Jones and Barlett.

Suarez-Balcazar, Y., Radakowski, J., Balcazar, F., Ritzler, T., Portillo, N., & Willis, C. (2009). Perceived levels of cultural competence among Occupational therapists. *American Journal of Occupational Therapy, 63*(4), 496-503.

Balcazar, F., Suarez-Balcazar, Y., & Taylor, Ritzler, T. (2009). Cultural competence: Development of a conceptual framework. *Disability and Rehabilitation, 31*(14): 1153–1160

Taylor-Ritzler, T., Balcazar, F. E., Dimpfl, S., Suarez-Balcazar, Y., Willis, C. & Schiff, R. (2008). Cultural Competence Training with Organizations Serving People with Disabilities from Diverse Cultural Backgrounds. *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation, 29*, 77-91.

McDonald, K. E., Keys, C. B., & Balcazar, F. E. (2007). Disability, race/ethnicity and gender: Themes of cultural oppression, acts of individual resistance. *American Journal of Community Psychology, 39*, 145-161.

5. *Mentoring individuals with disabilities*. This area of research includes peer-mentoring strategies that have been implemented with spinal cord injury patients in rehabilitation hospitals and mentoring programs implemented in school settings. This research was also supported by grants from the US Department of Education. Here are some of the publications in this area:

Balcazar, F. E., & Keys, C.B. (2013). Goals in Mentoring Relationships. In D. L. Dubois & M. J. Karcher (Eds). *Handbook of Youth Mentoring (2nd Ed.)*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publication

Balcazar, F.B., Hayes-Kelly, E., Keys, C.B., Balfanz-Vertiz, K. (2011). Using Peer Mentoring to Support the Rehabilitation of Individuals with Violently Acquired Spinal Cord Injuries. *Journal of Applied Rehabilitation Counseling, 42*, 3-11.

Balcazar, F.E., Davies, G.L., Viggers, D., Tranter D., (2006). Goal attainments scaling as an effective strategy to assess the outcomes of mentoring programs for troubled youth. *International Journal of School Disaffection, 4*(1), p 43-52

Britner, P.A., Balcazar, F.E, Blechman, E.A., Blinn-Pike, L., & Larose, S. (2006). Mentoring special populations. *Journal of Community Psychology, 34*(6), 747-763.

Hernández, B., Hayes, E., Balcazar, F. E., & Keys, C. B. (2001). Responding to the needs of the underserved: A peer-mentor approach. *Spinal Cord Injury Psychosocial Process, 14*(3), 142-149.

Balcazar, F. E., Keys, C. B., & Garate, J. (1995). Learning to recruit assistance to attain transition goals: A program for adjudicated youths with disabilities. *Remedial and Special Education, 16*, 237-246.

6. *Advocacy and Empowerment of individuals with Disabilities*. This area of research started at the University of Kansas Research and Training Center on Independent Living where we developed the first set of training guides for individuals with disabilities and has continued with multiple intervention projects nationally and internationally. Here are some of the publications in this area:

Balcazar, F.E. & Suarez-Balcazar, Y. (2016). Promoting Empowerment among Individuals with Disabilities. In Meg A. Bond, Christopher B. Keys & Irma Serrano-García (Eds.) *APA Handbook of Community Psychology (Vol. 2)*. Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association. (p. 571-585).

Balcazar, F.E., Suarez-Balcazar, Y., Adames, S.B., Keys, C.B., Garcia-Ramirez, M., Paloma, V. (2012). A Case Study of Liberation among Latino Immigrant Families with Children with Disabilities, *American Journal of Community Psychology, 49*, 283-293.

Suarez-Balcazar, Y. & Balcazar, F.E. (2007). Empowerment approaches to identifying and addressing health issues in minorities with disabilities. In C. Dumont & G. Kielhofner (Eds). *Positive Approaches to Health*. Canada: Nova Science Publishers (chap. 7)

Garcia-Ramirez, M., Martínez, M.F., Balcazar, F. E., Suarez-Balcazar, Y., Albar, J., Domínguez, E., & Santolaya, F. (2005). Psychosocial empowerment and social support factors associated with the employment status of immigrant welfare recipients. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 33(5), 1-19.

Balcazar, F. E., Keys, C. B., & Suarez-Balcazar, Y. (2001). Empowering Latinos with disabilities to address issues of independent living and disability rights: A capacity-building approach. *Journal of Prevention and Intervention in the Community*, 21(2) 53-70.

Block-Lourie, P., Balcazar, F. E., & Keys, C. B. (2001). From pathology to power rethinking race, poverty, and disability. *Journal of Disability Policy Studies*, 12(1), 18-27, 39.

Balcazar, F. E., Mathews, R. M., Francisco, V. T., & Fawcett, S. B. (1994). The empowerment process in four advocacy organizations of people with disabilities. *Rehabilitation Psychology*, 39(3), 191-206.

D. Additional Information: Research Support and/or Scholastic Performance

List both selected ongoing and completed research projects for the past three years (Federal or non-Federally-supported). Begin with the projects that are most relevant to the research proposed in the application. Briefly indicate the overall goals of the projects and responsibilities of the key person identified on the Biographical Sketch. Do not include number of person months or direct costs.

Ongoing Research Support

2015 -2016 Principal Investigator: Jobs for youth: A partnership to promote employment of inner-city youth with disabilities. Office of Disability Employment Programs, US Department of Labor (**\$329,999**)

Completed Research Support

2011 -2015 Principal Investigator: Jobs for youth: a partnership to promote employment of inner-city youth with disabilities. Office of Disability Employment Programs, US Department of Labor (**\$1,209,999**)

2012 -2015 Principal Investigator: Quality Assurance Improvement Project. State of Illinois, Department of Human Services, Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) (**\$505,760**)
Goal: To conduct extensive analyses of the case data from DRS customer and make recommendations about best practices and areas for services improvements

2012 - 2015 Principal Investigator: Pilot implementation of a Transition Model for delivering Transition services to youth with disabilities. State of Illinois, Department of Human Services, Division of Rehabilitation Services (**\$524,677**).

Goal: To assist DRS in implementing state-of-the art transition services to youth with disabilities graduating from the Chicago Public Schools

2012 – 2015 Co-Principal Investigator. Asians with Disabilities Outreach Project (ADOPT). State of Illinois, Department of Human Services, Division of Rehabilitation Services (**\$577,896**)

Goal: To improve services and outreach to Asians with disabilities from the Chicago area

2011 - 2012 Principal Investigator: A Capacity Building Approach to Evaluating VR Outcomes and Enhancing Services to People with Disabilities. State of Illinois, Department of Human Services, Division of Rehabilitation Services (**\$177,198**)