October 23, 2019

FDA Public Health Policy and Regulatory Research Fellowship

The Public Health Strategy and Analysis staff (PHSA) at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is searching for a qualified and motivated professional to join its Public Health Policy and Regulatory Research fellowship program. The program goals are to work on projects of public health importance and advance both the fellow’s skill set and the FDA mission.

About the FDA and PHSA: FDA is responsible for protecting and promoting public health through regulation of a wide range of products including medical products, food and tobacco. PHSA is located in the Office of Policy, Legislation, and International Affairs, in the Office of the Commissioner. PHSA serves the Agency via quantitative and qualitative research on emerging and priority public health issues such as opioids, drug pricing and competition, and transparency.

About the Fellowship: Under the guidance of a mentor, the fellow may be responsible for two to four primary projects related to public health policy and research. Potential projects include research and analysis of: 1) FDA approved first generic drugs; 2) the synthetic opioid epidemic; 3) data from National Poison Control Centers; and 4) FDA’s contributions to US President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). The fellow will be the primary person responsible for the project(s) and will be expected to meet agreed upon deadlines and communicate with FDA mentors/advisors.

While at the FDA, the fellow will have additional learning opportunities such as attending high-level policy meetings with the director, staff, and FDA senior leadership as well as the opportunity to learn from other PHSA work, and to explore other parts of FDA.

Minimum education and experience requirements:

1. A public health related degree from an accredited institution (or expected within a year): Such as RN, PA, MD, PharmD, PhD, MPH or other similar disciplines.
2. Individuals who have completed or are currently enrolled in a clinical residency program are encouraged to apply.
3. Experience in quantitative research (primary data collection, secondary analysis, mathematical modeling, etc.) is highly desired.
4. Demonstrated ability to work independently.

Selection process:

1. The application packet will include the following:
   a. Resume or CV with maximum one-page cover letter highlighting candidate’s interests in the fellowship and relevant experiences, with start date.
   b. Two writing samples – technical, research, and/or policy oriented.
   c. Two letters of recommendation.
   d. Transcripts of qualifying degree(s) (unofficial transcripts acceptable).
2. An interview with OPHSA staff, to be held via phone or in-person (if the applicant is in Washington, DC area).
3. Deadline for application is March 31, 2020 but the applications will be reviewed on a rolling-basis. Early submission is strongly encouraged. A selection may be made at any time during the review process.
Logistics:

1. This is a 12-month fellowship program. The fellowship starts on or after January 1st, 2020. Extensions are not guaranteed and may only be considered depending on funding availability.
2. The position is located on FDA’s main campus in Silver Spring, MD.
3. Any fellowship offer is contingent on successful completion of FDA’s required security clearance (fingerprints and background check) and satisfactory assessment for conflicts of interest.

Stipend: A competitive stipend, based on FDA criteria for post-doctoral stipends, is provided and may include funding for health insurance. FDA cannot provide moving or other travel-related expenses.

Other: PHSA does not sponsor visas for international students or visiting scientists as part of this fellowship program. This fellowship is offered through the ORISE program, which may be able to sponsor visas for eligible candidates; please check with ORISE for requirements.

The Homeland Security Presidential Directive-12 (HSPD-12) mandates a background check be completed for both U.S. Citizens and foreign nationals. Foreign nationals must have resided in the U.S. for at least three of the past five years for FDA to be able to complete a background check.

Inquiries, application submission and deadline: Please submit inquiries and application materials to Harinder Chahal at OPHSAFellows@fda.hhs.gov. Cover letter, resume/CV, transcripts, references, and writing samples must be submitted in a single email, in .doc or .pdf format. The letters of recommendation may be submitted by the candidate as a part of the application package or directly by the reference.