Opportunity Title: EPA Human Health Water Research
Opportunity Reference Code: EPA-OW-OST-2021-02

Organization U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Reference Code EPA-OW-OST-2021-02

How to Apply ***Connect with ORISE...on the GO!*** Download the new ORISE GO mobile app in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store to help you stay engaged, connected, and informed during your ORISE experience and beyond!

A complete application consists of:

- An application
- Transcript(s) – For this opportunity, an unofficial transcript or copy of the student academic records printed by the applicant or by academic advisors from internal institution systems may be submitted. All transcripts must be in English or include an official English translation. Click here for detailed information about acceptable transcripts.
- A current resume/CV, including academic history, employment history, relevant experiences, and publication list
- Two educational or professional recommendations. Click here for detailed information about recommendations.

All documents must be in English or include an official English translation.

Application Deadline 5/19/2021 4:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

Description ***Applications may be reviewed on a rolling-basis and this posting could close before the deadline.** Click **here** for information about the selection process.

EPA Office/Lab and Location: Multiple postgraduate research opportunities are available at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Water (OW). The appointment will be served with the Human Health Risk Assessment Branch (HRAB) in the Health and Ecological Criteria Division (HECD) of the Office of Science and Technology (OST) located in Washington, DC.

The Office of Water (OW) ensures drinking water is safe, and restores and maintains oceans, watersheds, and their aquatic ecosystems to protect human health, support economic and recreational activities, and provide healthy habitats for fish, plants and wildlife. Among other activities, OW is responsible for implementing the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act. OST provides ecological and human health science support for decisions and policies that implement the Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, and a variety of other water related statutory programs that protect water quality, aquatic life and human health.

Research Project: The goal of this research project is to assist in the development of human health ambient water quality criteria (https://www.epa.gov/wqc/national-recommended-water-quality-criteria-human-health-criteria-table) and drinking water health advisories for contaminants in water (https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/drinking-water-contaminant-human-health-effects-information#dw-standards). Additionally, the participant will utilize elements of the risk assessment paradigm for both chemical and microbial contaminants including systematic review of

literature, hazard identification, dose response assessment, and the use of high throughput assay data for screening and prioritization.

Learning Objectives: With guidance from the mentor, the research participant may be involved the following training activities:

- Analyzing health effects data to support Safe Drinking Water Act and Clean Water Act activities
- Collaborating with scientific experts in the Office of Water and across EPA
- Communicating complex scientific information to a non-technical audience
- Designing and implementing workshops, webinars, meetings, and outreach both internally to EPA and with federal partners
- Other science and science policy projects related to water quality science

The participant will learn to synthesize and clearly communicate science issues; negotiate competing interests; conduct effective and efficient meetings, workshops, and briefings; and will have opportunities to improve oral and written communication skills. This project will provide excellent exposure to a broad range of science, research, and science-based policy issues, resource and program decision-making.

Mentor(s)/Coordinator: The mentor for this opportunity is Gregory Miller (miller.gregory@epa.gov) and the Program Coordinator is Octavia Dixon (Dixon.octavia@epa.gov). If you have questions about the nature of the research please contact the mentor(s).

Anticipated Appointment Start Date: June 2021. All start dates are flexible and vary depending on numerous factors. Click **here** for detailed information about start dates.

Appointment Length: The appointment will initially be for one year and may be renewed up to three additional years upon EPA recommendation and subject to availability of funding.

Level of Participation: The appointment is full-time.

Participant Stipend: The participant will receive a monthly stipend commensurate with educational level and experience. At this time, master's degree stipends are ~$60,000 per year and doctoral degree's stipends are ~$72,000 per year. Click **here** for detailed information about full-time stipends.

EPA Security Clearance: Completion of a successful background investigation by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is required for an applicant to be on-boarded at EPA.

ORISE Information: This program, administered by ORAU through its contract with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to manage the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE), was established through an interagency agreement between DOE and EPA. Participants do

not become employees of EPA, DOE or the program administrator, and there are no employment-related benefits. Proof of health insurance is required for participation in this program. Health insurance can be obtained through ORISE.

Questions: Please see the FAQ section of our website. After reading, if you have additional questions about the application process please email ORISE.EPA.OW@orau.org and include the reference code for this opportunity.

Qualifications

The qualified candidate should have received a master's or doctoral degree in one of the relevant fields, or be currently pursuing one of the degrees and will reach completion by the anticipated start date. Degree must have been received within the past five years.

Preferred skills:

- Knowledge of Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act or other environmental statutes
- Experience in risk assessment methods and tools, including computational toxicology and new approach methods
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Ability to conduct assignments on multiple projects under tight deadlines
- Experience with MS Office

Eligibility Requirements

- **Citizenship:** LPR or U.S. Citizen
- **Degree:** Master's Degree or Doctoral Degree received within the last 60 months or anticipated to be received by 5/31/2021 11:59:00 PM.
- **Discipline(s):**
  - **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** (12)
  - **Earth and Geosciences** (1)
  - **Environmental and Marine Sciences** (14)
  - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** (46)
  - **Other Non-Science & Engineering** (1)
  - **Social and Behavioral Sciences** (1)
- **Veteran Status:** Veterans Preference, degree received within the last 120 month(s).