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Opportunity Title: FDA Research Fellowship in Cyanotoxins
Opportunity Reference Code: FDA-CFSAN-2021-0018

Organization U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Reference Code FDA-CFSAN-2021-0018

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
- Transcripts – Click here for detailed information about acceptable transcripts
- A current resume/CV, including academic history, employment history, relevant experiences, and publication list
- One educational or professional recommendation

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

If you have questions, send an email to ORISE.FDA.CFSAN@orau.org. Please include the reference code for this opportunity in your email.

Application Deadline 6/2/2021 3:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

Description ***Applications will be reviewed on a rolling-basis.**

A research opportunity is currently available at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN), Office of Regulatory Science (ORS) located in College Park, Maryland.

The selected participant will receive training in and will focus on: the risks from cyanotoxins in FDA-regulated products. Activities will include method development and validation, as well as the measurement of cyanotoxins in a range of FDA-regulated products that either include cyanobacteria directly, contain extracts from cyanobacteria, or are produced with or exposed to water contaminated with cyanobacteria and cyanotoxins. Depending on the background of the participant, the research may also involve the study of the relative potency of various cyanotoxin congeners to determine their risk in FDA-regulated products.

Learning objectives for the participant:

- Apply biological, chemical, and/or toxicological knowledge and experience to the assessment of food, dietary supplements, or other applicable FDA-regulated products for potential contamination with cyanotoxins
- Serve as a resource to staff and stakeholders regarding biology, chemistry, and/or toxicology of cyanobacteria and cyanotoxins.
- Gain a comprehensive understanding of, and stay current with, issues associated with cyanobacteria and cyanotoxins in FDA-regulated products by participating in training/development opportunities, reviewing the scientific literature, and attending conferences
- Collaborate closely with other subject matter experts in the field to identify and close technical knowledge gaps
- Lead the preparation and presentation of scientific findings related to the risks of cyanotoxin contamination in FDA-regulated products at

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meetings/conferences
- Publish findings in the scientific literature

Anticipated Appointment Start Date: September 1, 2021 (start date is flexible)

This program, administered by ORAU through its contract with the U.S. Department of Energy to manage the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, was established through an interagency agreement between DOE and FDA. The initial appointment is for one year, but may be renewed upon recommendation of FDA contingent on the availability of funds. The participant will receive a monthly stipend commensurate with educational level and experience. **Annual stipend amount is $86,000 plus additional stipend for training/travel and potential for relocation assistance.** Proof of health insurance is required for participation in this program. The appointment is full-time at FDA in the College Park, Maryland, area. Participants do not become employees of FDA, DOE or the program administrator, and there are no employment-related benefits.

Completion of a successful background investigation by the Office of Personnel Management is required for an applicant to be on-boarded at FDA. OPM can complete a background investigation only for individuals, including non-US Citizens, who have resided in the US for a total of three of the past five years.

FDA requires ORISE participants to read and sign their FDA Education and Training Agreement within 30 days of his/her start date, setting forth the conditions and expectations for his/her educational appointment at the agency. This agreement covers such topics as the following:

- Non-employee nature of the ORISE appointment;
- Prohibition on ORISE Fellows performing inherently governmental functions;
- Obligation of ORISE Fellows to convey all necessary rights to the FDA regarding intellectual property conceived or first reduced to practice during their fellowship;
- The fact that research materials and laboratory notebooks are the property of the FDA;
- ORISE fellow's obligation to protect and not to further disclose or use non-public information.

Qualifications

The qualified candidate should be currently pursuing or have received a doctoral degree in one of the relevant fields. Degree must have been received within the past five years.

Preferred skills:

- Possess a working knowledge of harmful cyanobacteria and cyanotoxins
- Hands on experience with the detection of cyanotoxins, mainly microcystins but also potentially cylindrospermopsins, anatoxins, etc., in one or more of the following matrices: natural source water samples, dietary supplements, seafood, produce; using one or more of the following methods: LC-MS/MS, HRMS, ELISA, or in-vitro assays such as cytotoxicity or protein phosphatase inhibition
- Experience or knowledge of the principles of method development and validation
- Strong written and oral communication skills

Eligibility Requirements

- **Degree:** Doctoral Degree received within the last 60 months or currently pursuing.
- **Academic Level(s):** Graduate Students or Postdoctoral.
- **Discipline(s):**

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- **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** (4 👁)
- **Environmental and Marine Sciences** (8 👁)
- **Life Health and Medical Sciences** (10 👁)
- **Other Non-Science & Engineering** (1 👁)