

Opportunity Title: HHS Program Evaluation and Data Policy Fellowship

Opportunity Reference Code: HHS-ASPE-2022-0079

Organization U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

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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. Your application will be considered incomplete, and will not be reviewed until one recommendation is submitted.

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

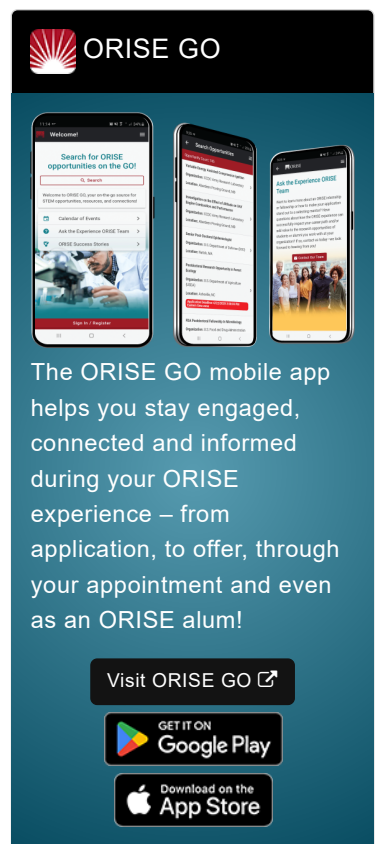
Application Deadline 3/16/2022 3:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

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

HHS Office and Location: A fellowship opportunity is currently available with the Division of Evidence, Evaluation and Data Policy (DEEDP), Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) located in Washington, DC.

Given the COVID-19 pandemic and pending the status of federal telework at the time of appointment, the fellow may be onboarded and participate remotely for a period of time.

Research Project: HHS agencies conduct a broad array of activities and provide a wide set of programs and services. Evidence, in the form of performance measures and evaluation, is collected for many individual programs. But there is a need to better understand how these programs and activities, when taken together, enhance the health and well-being of people and communities. Program evaluation provides a systematic method for examining how and to what extent a set of activities contribute to a common purpose. The fellow will directly support the design and implementation of cross agency evaluations to show HHS' progress towards its priority goals in areas such as improving capabilities to predict, prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters, public health and medical emergencies, and threats; strengthening social well-being, equity, and economic resilience; and improving data collection, use, and evaluation, to increase evidence-based knowledge that leads to better health outcomes, reduced health disparities, and improved social well-being, equity, and economic resilience. The fellow will participate in a suite of activities supporting the design of a cross Department evaluation. Potential topics include 1) the use of technology to improve access to and quality of health care and 2) reducing barriers to healthcare access through advancing health equity and reducing disparities. There



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may also be an opportunity to examine the effects of large funding streams such as the funding provided through COVID-19 supplemental funding acts (e.g., Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act and American Rescue Plan Act).

Learning Objectives: There will be learning opportunities related to implementation of the Evidence Act of 2019. Each priority topic is discussed briefly and arranged with its respective priority questions and possible data sources. Many HHS components provide funding, services, research, programs, or other activities in support of these areas. In some cases, all parts of HHS have activities supporting these areas. Because HHS has such a breadth and depth of mission, and given that the plan encompasses a four-year period, these questions are high-level in nature, and many will take several years and various approaches, methods, and data sources to examine them. Upon final plan approval, the next steps involve transforming the high level priority questions into measurable items and building a plan for assessing the extent to which HHS is answering the identified priority questions. This will involve reviewing the evidence-building plan and supporting materials, drafting an approach to gathering information from the HHS components regarding each priority question and related data sources, creating a scale or approach for measuring progress towards answering the priority questions, drafting a report summarizing the progress to date, and documenting recommended revisions to the evidence building plan based on that progress.

Through involvement in a range of cross-Department activities the fellow will meet with, gather data from, and partner with a range of public health partners including the Centers for Disease Control, the Indian Health Service, and the National Institutes of Health. The fellow will substantively contribute to evaluation and data policy development, data quality and suitability reviews, reports and presentations, and evidence building efforts, and data syntheses. The fellow will have opportunities for innovative and creative thinking regarding the application of analytic approaches; leadership of people and activities through the cross cutting evaluation, working group activities, and evidence building tasks; and building communication and presentation skills. The fellow will also co-lead committees and working groups on topics related to program evaluation and data policy including contributing to committee priorities and developing deliverables such as white papers, guidelines, case studies, and model approaches; and presenting and discussing evaluation and related capacity building findings with responsible officials identifying weaknesses, analyzing alternatives, and outlining conclusions to make specific recommendations for resolution of problem areas.

Mentor(s): The mentor for this opportunity is Susan Jenkins (susan.jenkins@hhs.gov). If you have questions about the nature of the research please contact the mentor(s).

Anticipated Appointment Start Date: As soon as a qualified candidate is identified. Start date is flexible and will depend on a variety of factors.

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Appointment Length: The appointment will initially be for one year, but may be renewed upon recommendation of HHS and is contingent on the availability of funds.

Level of Participation: The appointment is full-time.

Participant Stipend: The participant will receive a monthly stipend commensurate with educational level and experience.

Citizenship Requirements: This opportunity is available to U.S. citizens, Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR), and foreign nationals. Non-U.S. citizen applicants should refer to the [Guidelines for Non-U.S. Citizens Details page](#) of the program website for information about the valid immigration statuses that are acceptable for program participation.

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 HHS. Participants do not become employees of HHS, 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.

The successful applicant(s) will be required to comply with Environmental, Safety and Health (ES&H) requirements of the hosting facility, including but not limited to, COVID-19 requirements (e.g. facial covering, physical distancing, testing, vaccination).

Questions: Please visit our [Program Website](#). After reading, if you have additional questions about the application process please email HHSrpp@orau.org and include the reference code for this opportunity.

Qualifications The qualified candidate should be currently pursuing or have received a master's or doctoral degree in one of the relevant fields. Degree must have been received within five years of the appointment start date.

Preferred skills:

- Qualitative and quantitative data analysis
- Ability to aggregate disparate information to identify trends and knowledge gaps
- Knowledge of social science research methodology
- Written and oral communication

Eligibility Requirements

- **Degree:** Master's Degree or Doctoral Degree received within the last 60 months or currently pursuing.
- **Academic Level(s):** Graduate Students, Postdoctoral, or Post-Master's.
- **Discipline(s):**
 - **Computer, Information, and Data Sciences** ([4](#) )

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- **Mathematics and Statistics** ([2](#) 👁)
- **Other Non-Science & Engineering** ([2](#) 👁)
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences** ([29](#) 👁)