

Opportunity Title: CDC NCIRD and NCEZID Public Health Internship Program – Health Communication for Dengue Fellowship

Opportunity Reference Code: CDC-NCIRD-2023-0255

Organization Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

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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.

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

Application Deadline 3/24/2024 11:59:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

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

CDC Office and Location: A fellowship opportunity is available with the [Division of Vector-Borne Diseases \(DVBD\)](#) in the [National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases \(NCEZID\)](#) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia. **This opportunity is full-time and is eligible for 100% telework from Atlanta, GA or San Juan, PR.**

The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) is one of the major operations components of the Department of Health and Human Services. CDC works to protect America from health, safety, and security threats, both foreign and in the U.S. Whether diseases start at home or abroad, are chronic or acute, curable or preventable, human error or deliberate attack, CDC fights disease and supports communities and citizens to do the same.

The [National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases \(NCEZID\)](#) works to protect people at home and around the world from emerging and zoonotic infections ranging from A to Z—anthrax to Zika. CDC's [Division of Vector-Borne Diseases \(DVBD\)](#) mission is to reduce illness and death from vector-borne diseases. Within DVBD is the Dengue Branch (DB) which focuses on the four dengue viruses spread by mosquitoes.

Research Project: Dengue is a mosquito-borne, acute febrile illness that is a major public health problem in the tropics and subtropics worldwide. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), dengue is now endemic in over 100 countries. As many as 3.6 billion people, or 40% of the world's population, reside in dengue-endemic areas. Each year, an



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estimated 400 million people are infected with dengue virus, 100 million become ill with dengue, and 21,000 deaths are attributed to dengue.

Dengue is the primary cause as shown in studies of acute febrile illness in US travelers returning from South-central and Southeast Asia, South America, Mexico, and the Caribbean due to increases in international travel and the popularity of dengue-endemic areas as travel destinations. Consequently, dengue-related hospitalizations are on the rise in the United States.

The Dengue Branch (DB) is seeking a qualified and motivated candidate to apply health communications, health education, and public health skills to assist with planning, developing, implementing, and evaluating health education and health communication projects for dengue and its prevention. The individual will collaborate with Dengue Branch communications staff and scientists as well as division, center, and agency communication employees.

Learning Objectives: The activities listed below represent the minimum training opportunities that the fellow may complete:

- Learn principles of health communication science and practice that will be useful in positions involving the communication of health topics to the public.
- Learn arboviral and mosquito-borne diseases principles, plain language, and risk communication.
- Draft content for division web features, social media, and digital press kits as directed by the branch communication lead.
- Analyze and review content on branch and division websites, identifying outdated, duplicative, or inconsistent content, and making recommendations for change.
- Assist in the evaluation of communications materials used for a dengue vaccination campaign.
- Support the DB and DVBD communicators and scientists in updating and developing new content and implementing a strategy to best share information.
- Support implementation of Dengue Vaccine work in Puerto Rico.
- Assist the communication staff in developing or reviewing communication plans based on sound communication science and theory, including channel selection.
- Maintain the organized and updated DB communications materials and folders, monitor media inquiries, and enter cleared key messages into the key message bank.
- Gain experience collaborating with scientists and subject matter experts.
- Learn about administrative processes for the clearance and distribution of materials.

Mentor(s): The mentor for this opportunity is **Claudia**

Colon (ouh3@cdc.gov). If you have questions about the nature of the research, please contact the mentor(s).

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Anticipated Appointment Start Date: June 3, 2024. Start date is flexible and will depend on a variety of factors.

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

Level of Participation: The appointment is full-time, or part-time, and is negotiable.

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 CDC. Participants do not become employees of CDC, 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 ORISE.CDC.NCIRD@orau.org and include the reference code for this opportunity.

Qualifications The qualified candidate should be a current University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences student pursuing a master's, doctoral, or medical degree in Biomedical Sciences, Health Sciences, Medicine, Public Health, or other related disciplines. Recent graduates from UPR will also be considered, and a degree must have been received within the past five years.

Preferred skills:

- Applied public health practice
- Communication skills (oral/written)
- Community dimensions of practice skills

Eligibility • **Degree:** Bachelor's Degree, Master's Degree, or Doctoral Degree

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Requirements received within the last 60 months or currently pursuing.

- **Discipline(s):**

- **Business** ([11](#) )
- **Communications and Graphics Design** ([6](#) )
- **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([51](#) )
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences** ([30](#) )

Affirmation I certify that I have not previously been employed by CDC or by a contractor working directly for CDC. I understand that CDC does not permit individuals with a prior employment relationship with CDC or its contractors to participate as trainees in the ORISE program. (Exceptions may be granted for individuals who, since the previous CDC employment, have obtained a new STEM degree which necessitates training in a new field.)