

Opportunity Title: EPA Fellowship for Assessing the Metabolomic Perturbations of

Pesticides and High Priority Contaminants in Various Species Opportunity Reference Code: EPA-ORD-CEMM-EPD-2024-01

**Organization** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

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How to Apply To submit your application, scroll to the bottom of this opportunity and click APPLY.

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.
- Two educational or professional recommendations. Click here for detailed information about recommendations.

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

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Application Deadline 1/3/2025 3:00:00 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: A research opportunity is available at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Research and Development (ORD), Center for Environmental Measurement & Modeling (CEMM), Ecosystems Processes Division (EPD) located in Athens, Georgia.

Research Project: The EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) Chemical Processes and Systems Branch (CPSB) in Athens, GA develops and applies analytical methods to characterize environmental exposures of contaminants such as pesticides, antibiotics, pharmaceutical and personal care products, and perfluorinated chemicals. Currently, members of CPSB's Biomarker Analysis Laboratory investigate the impact of these exposures to fish, amphibians, and several pollinator species. Aligned with these efforts, researchers frequently develop laboratory methodologies to extract and analyze these and other xenobiotics from environmental and animal matrices as well as use advanced analytical techniques to identify the biological response of exposure in various organisms (i.e. with metabolomic profiling). The CPSB in Athens, GA is seeking a qualified candidate for a full-time position to support the Agency in these efforts. The candidate will serve as a team member in the laboratory, providing analytical method development, scientific writing, statistical analysis, and data management skills.

Under the guidance of a mentor, the research participant will participate in some or all of the following training activities:



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- · Preparing and analyzing environmental samples, including soil, sediments, water and biota.
- Developing and validating LC-MS/MS and GC/MS methods for detection of both exogenous and endogenous small molecules to meet needs of the analytical laboratory.
- Drafting of technical communication documents including but not limited to protocols, proposals, project updates, and analytical procedure documents.
- Maintaining instruments, including LC and GC mass spectrometers, and keeping logs detailing the performance and function of such instruments.
- Providing technical findings in their area of research and sharing this experience with both internal EPA and external partners as required.

**Learning Objectives:** Through regular interactions with the research team, the research participant will have the opportunity to gain valuable skills from a multi-disciplinary team of scientists on laboratory processes to characterize environmental samples. They will learn quality assurance and maintaining careful and accurate records needed to generate high-quality chemical data and may have the opportunity to communicate their findings through publication of manuscript or presentations at national meetings.

<u>Mentor(s)</u>: The mentor for this opportunity is Matthew Henderson (<a href="henderson.matt@epa.gov">henderson.matt@epa.gov</a>). If you have questions about the nature of the research please contact the mentor(s).

<u>Anticipated Appointment Start Date</u>: November 1, 2024. All start dates are flexible and vary depending on numerous factors. Click <u>here</u> for detailed information about start dates.

<u>Appointment Length</u>: 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 or part-time.

<u>Participant Stipend</u>: The participant will receive a monthly stipend commensurate with educational level and experience. Click <u>here</u> 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.

**QRISE 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.

ORISE offers all ORISE EPA graduate students and Postdocs a free 5 year membership to the National Postdoctoral Association (NPA).

The successful applicant(s) will be required to comply with Environmental, Safety and Health (ES&H) requirements of the hosting facility, including but

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> not limited to, COVID-19 requirements (e.g. facial covering, physical distancing, testing, vaccination).

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

Qualifications The qualified candidate should have received a bachelor's, master's or doctoral degree in one of the relevant fields (e.g. Chemistry, Environmental Science, Biology,

> Toxicology) or currently pursuing?. Degree must have been received within five years of the appointment start date.

## Preferred skills:

- Background or coursework in analytical chemistry/biochemistry.
- · Basic laboratory experience equivalent to the educational backgrounds targeted in the current solicitation.
- Ideally, but not required, experience in preparing analytical samples from complex environmental matrices for analysis on liquid and/or gas chromatography mass spectrometry.
- Ability to work cooperatively within a team of interdisciplinary scientists and ability to communicate their findings clearly with good verbal and written skills.

## Eligibility Requirements

- Citizenship: U.S. Citizen Only
- Degree: Bachelor's Degree, Master's Degree, or Doctoral Degree received within the last 60 months or currently pursuing.
- Discipline(s):
  - Chemistry and Materials Sciences (<u>3</u>.
  - Engineering (2\_③)
  - Environmental and Marine Sciences (6. )
  - Life Health and Medical Sciences (11.

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