Opportunity Title: CDC Analysis of Volatile Organic Compounds Fellowship
Opportunity Reference Code: CDC-2026-0110

Organization Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Reference Code CDC-2026-0110

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
- 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.

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Application Deadline 1/29/2027 11:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

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

CDC Office and Location: A research opportunity is available in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH), Division of Laboratory Sciences (DLS), Tobacco and Volatiles Branch (TVB) in Atlanta, Georgia. TVB develops methods, analyzes samples, and measures toxic and addictive substances in tobacco products, tobacco smoke, other emissions, and biological or product matrices.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is one of the major operation components of the Department of Health and Human Services. CDC protects 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. CDC increases the health security of our nation. As the nation's health protection agency, CDC saves lives and protects people from health threats. To accomplish its mission, CDC conducts important science and provides health information that protects our nation against expensive and dangerous health threats, and responds when these arise.

Research Project: This fellowship opportunity is in the Tobacco and Volatiles Branch (TVB) of the DLS and supports CDC's biomonitoring and exposure assessment initiatives to improve detection, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of diseases by providing accurate measurement and interpretation of exposure to addictive and hazardous substances from a broad range of environmental sources such as tobacco smoke.

This specific training opportunity is centered on the analysis of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in blood and other matrices using equilibrium headspace gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC/MS).

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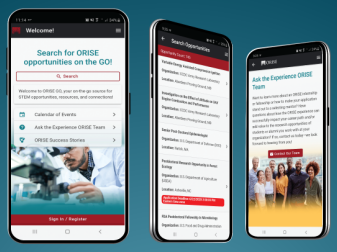
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Learning Objectives: Training will include:

- Learn to develop, implement, and troubleshoot comprehensive quantitative chemical and sample-analysis strategies for measurements at low parts-per-trillion concentrations using gas chromatography–mass spectrometry (GC/MS) and automated approaches.
- Gain experience identifying hazardous volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in product materials, including compound identification and structural elucidation in complex matrices.
- Build proficiency interpreting analytical data using SAS/JMP statistical approaches and laboratory information management system (LIMS) reporting tools.
- Maintain quality-control and quality-assurance practices in compliance with applicable Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) requirements.
- Strengthen data-analytics and scientific communication skills by developing effective visualizations and presentations of analytical findings.

Please learn more about the ORISE training opportunity, *here*

Mentor(s): The mentor for this opportunity is Lanqing Wang (LFW3@cdc.gov). If you have questions about the nature of the research please contact the mentor(s).

Anticipated Appointment Start Date: October 15, 2026. Start date is flexible and will depend on a variety of factors.

Appointment Length: The appointment will initially be for one year 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.

Participant Stipend: Stipend rates may vary based on numerous factors, including opportunity, location, education, and experience. If you are interviewed, you can inquire about the exact stipend rate at that time and if selected, your appointment offer will include the monthly stipend rate.

Citizenship Requirements: This opportunity is available to U.S. citizens only.

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.

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

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Qualifications

The qualified candidate should have received a bachelor's degree in one of the relevant fields (chemistry or relevant STEM field). Degree must have been received within the past five years.

Preferred skills:

- Strong interest in analytical chemistry laboratory research
- A minimum commitment of at least 2 years is desirable

Point of Contact

Rachel

Eligibility Requirements

- **Citizenship:** U.S. Citizen Only
- **Degree:** Bachelor's Degree received within the last 60 month(s).
- **Minimum Overall GPA:** 3.30
- **Discipline(s):**
  - **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** (2 👁)

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.)