Opportunity Title: CDC Training Fellowship in Prion and Related Disease Epidemiology & Surveillance Activities
Opportunity Reference Code: CDC-2026-0152

Organization Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Reference Code CDC-2026-0152

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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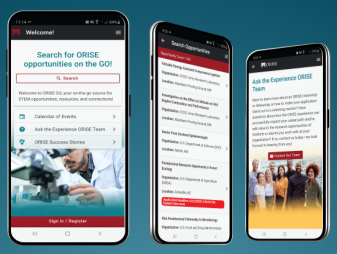
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Application Deadline 1/8/2027 3:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

Description ***Applications are reviewed on a rolling-basis and applications may close before the deadline.**

CDC Office and Location: An opportunity is available within the Prion and Public Health Office (PPHO), Division of High-Consequence Pathogens and Pathology (DHCPP), National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID), at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) located in Atlanta, Georgia.

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: You will engage in a learning opportunity within a small team of public health professionals, including epidemiologists and statisticians. The project provides learning experiences related to national surveillance for human prion diseases such as Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) and studies investigating the risk to humans, if any, from exposure to the animal prion disease, chronic wasting disease (CWD). You will study the epidemiology of human prion diseases and learn how national surveillance is conducted through collaboration among partners

including federal, state, and local officials as well as specialized laboratories, medical facilities, and patient support organizations. You may have opportunities to learn about activities related to surveillance for Kawasaki disease or other public health projects that complement the learning goals of the appointment. Learning experiences may be refined throughout the appointment to support your educational development and research interests. The experience will increase understanding of public health surveillance and the collaborative processes used to investigate important public health concerns.

Learning Objectives: Under the guidance of a mentor, you will connect academic knowledge in epidemiology and statistics to real-world public health surveillance and studies. You will gain experience obtaining, analyzing, and interpreting epidemiologic data, as well as conducting literature reviews and learning about Institutional Review Board (IRB) processes when applicable.

Opportunities will be provided to strengthen scientific communication skills through the preparation of written materials and presentations for internal and external audiences. You will enhance critical thinking, problem-solving, collaboration, and communication skills by interacting with public health professionals and participating in research and learning activities.

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

Anticipated Appointment Start Date: January 25, 2027. 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.

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.

Qualifications The qualified candidate should have received or be be currently pursuing a

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master's degree in the one of the relevant fields. Degree must have been received within the past five years or is anticipated to be received by 12/31/2026.

Preferred skills:

- Strong data analysis skills (SAS, R) from public health surveillance systems or other epidemiologic data sources
- Excellent oral and written communication skills; experience with communicating findings through written and oral formats
- Excellent team and partner communications skills
- Familiarity with zoonoses or One Health; general knowledge of prion disease helpful

Stipend $5,439.00 – $7,888.00 Monthly

Point of Contact Rachel

Eligibility Requirements

- **Citizenship:** U.S. Citizen Only
- **Degree:** Master's Degree received within the last 60 months or anticipated to be received by 12/31/2026 12:00:00 AM.
- **Discipline(s):**
  - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** (4 👁)
  - **Mathematics and Statistics** (1 👁)

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.)