Opportunity Title: Research Chemist - FDA CFSAN
Opportunity Reference Code: FDA-CFSAN-2019-0001

Organization U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Reference Code FDA-CFSAN-2019-0001

How to 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 references

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

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

Description An opportunity is available at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN) in Bedford Park, Illinois.

This research and training program will primarily develop model systems designed to evaluate relationships between the morphology and composition of nanocomposites and their likelihood to be released from PNCs into food simulants and other aqueous media under intended conditions of use. Throughout the course of the proposed research, the trainee will learn synthesis of nanoparticles, fabrication of PNCs using DFPST processing equipment, characterization of nanoparticle dispersions, and perform migration tests according to established protocols. The applicant may also participate in other analytical chemistry related projects, as needed.

The participant will learn how to perform lab tests and analyses in accordance with required specifications and established procedures. He or she will train in a chemistry laboratory in a research project associated with safety of novel nanotechnology-enabled polymer composites, and will be trained in how to plan and execute laboratory activities independently to achieve project goals, including data management and report writing.

In addition to core research training and responsibilities, additional activities include:

- Providing technical assistance in the area of candidate specialization to support FDA/IFSH partnership initiatives, safety, and quality control
- Learning how to manage lab processes, supplies, instruments, and equipment as necessary to accomplish research goals
- Training in writing reports and manuscripts and keeping accurate records of research activities
- Presenting research results to stakeholders and at scientific meetings

This program, administered by ORAU through its contract with the U.S. Department of Energy to manage the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, was established through an interagency agreement between DOE and FDA. The initial appointment is for eight months, but may be renewed upon recommendation of FDA contingent on the availability of funds. The participant will receive a monthly stipend commensurate with educational level and experience. Proof of health insurance is required for participation in this program. The appointment is full-time at FDA in the Bedford Park, Illinois, area. Participants do not become employees of FDA, DOE or the program administrator, and there are no employment-related benefits.

The Homeland Security Presidential Directive-12 (HSPD-12) mandates a background check be

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completed for both U.S. Citizens and foreign nationals. Foreign nationals must have resided in the U.S. for at least three (3) of the past five (5) years in order for FDA to be able to complete a background check.

Qualifications

The qualified candidate must have received a master's or doctoral degree in chemistry, polymer science, materials science, nanoscience, or a related field. Degree must have been received within five years of the appointment start date.

Preferred skills:

- Experience in materials science and analytical chemistry
- Specialization in one or more of the following sub-disciplines: spectroscopy, materials characterization, nanoscience (including particle synthesis and characterization techniques), or polymer science
- Familiarity with one or more of the following skills: thermal (DSC, TGA), mechanical (Instron), or optical (FTIR-ATR, UV-Vis, fluorescence, TEM/SEM, DLS) characterization of materials; melt compounding, thin film extrusion, and injection molding of polymers; and the use of analytical chemical techniques such as ICP-MS and LC/MS
- Demonstrated independent research ability with capability to perform accurately and efficiently with a minimal level of supervision
- Excellent technical writing skills and the ability to produce clear, accurate reports and scientific manuscripts
- Good interpersonal communication skills, both written and verbal

Eligibility Requirements

- **Degree:** Master's Degree or Doctoral Degree received within the last 60 month(s).
- **Discipline(s):**
  - **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** (3 👁)
  - **Science & Engineering-related** (1 👁)