

Opportunity Title: Drinking Water Policy and Data Analysis

Opportunity Reference Code: EPA-Water-2019-0035



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Organization U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Reference Code EPA-Water-2019-0035

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 recommendations

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

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

Application Deadline 7/9/2019 3:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

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

A postgraduate research opportunity is currently available at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Water (OW). This appointment will be served with the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (OGWDW) in the Standards and Risk Management Division (SRMD) located in Washington, DC.

The SRMD is the focal point at EPA for developing national policy in support of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). SRMD's goal is to protect public health by ensuring safe drinking water through executing the regulatory process for drinking water contaminants. This process includes monitoring the extent of non-regulated contaminants in drinking water systems, establishing new standards for drinking water constituents, reviewing existing drinking water regulations, developing technical information to support drinking water standards and providing technical assistance on drinking water issues.

The participant will have the opportunity to gain experience on a project that is part of an overall strategy to protect our nation's drinking water. This is an exciting opportunity to gain hands-on experience on SDWA topics and the process for developing new and evaluating existing drinking water policies and supporting science. The participant will have the opportunity to learn about many different topics including health effects, treatment technologies, economic impact and geographic scope of high profile emerging drinking water contaminant topics such as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), cyanotoxins, disinfection by-products, microbes, chemicals and pathogens (including opportunistic pathogens such as Legionella). The participant will have the opportunity to be trained with a dynamic, results-driven multi-disciplinary team that includes staff with expertise in microbiology, toxicology, chemistry, engineering, economics, ecology, statistics, health science and drinking water policy.

The participant will have the opportunity to be involved and trained in the following team activities:

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- scientific analyses, regulatory policy evaluations and economic analysis as interest allows
- developing documents/reports/papers on drinking water topics of national significance
- executing parts of EPA's drinking water regulatory development and review process including problem identification, health risk/exposure analysis and assessing risk mitigation approaches

The participant will gain experience in technical writing, risk analysis, communication, strategic planning and project management. They will learn aspects of the Safe Drinking Water Act, EPA's drinking water regulatory process and develop a deeper understanding of the issues that face drinking water systems; and how to coordinate outreach efforts and to share pertinent information with external stakeholders.

Anticipated Appointment Start Date: August 1, 2019

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. 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. The participant will receive a monthly stipend commensurate with educational level and experience. The annual stipend rate will be as follows based on educational level: \$47,016 (Bachelors), \$57,510 (Masters), \$69,581 (PhD). Proof of health insurance is required for participation in this program. The appointment is full-time at EPA in the Washington, DC area. Participants do not become employees of EPA, DOE or the program administrator, and there are no employment-related benefits.



Qualifications

The qualified candidate should have received a bachelor's, master's or doctoral degree in one of the relevant fields, or be currently pursuing one of the degrees and will reach completion by the start date of the appointment. Degree must have been received within five years of the appointment start date.

Preferred skills:








- Experience analyzing data or policies related to drinking water, health and/or public health, or evaluating chemical and/or microbial contaminants (ex. per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), Legionella and lead and copper)
- Background in engineering, economics, and/or evaluating regulatory policies
- Strong analytical skills for analyzing complex data sets or interpreting regulatory policies
- Strong critical thinking skills and demonstrated ability to communicate effectively through presentations, papers, or manuscripts

Eligibility Requirements

- **Citizenship:** U.S. Citizen Only
- **Degree:** Bachelor's Degree, Master's Degree, or Doctoral Degree received within the last 60 months or anticipated to be received by 8/1/2019 12:00:00 AM.
- **Discipline(s):**
 - **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** (12 )
 - **Communications and Graphics Design** (2 )

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- **Earth and Geosciences** (6 )
- **Engineering** (7 )
- **Environmental and Marine Sciences** (14 )
- **Life Health and Medical Sciences** (45 )
- **Mathematics and Statistics** (1 )
- **Other Non-Science & Engineering** (1 )
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences** (6 )