

Opportunity Title: FDA Microbiology Fellowship

Opportunity Reference Code: FDA-CDRH-2022-07

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

Reference Code FDA-CDRH-2022-07

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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

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

If you have questions, send an email to ORISE.FDA.CDRH@oraui.org. Please include the reference code for this opportunity in your email.

Description *Applications will be reviewed on a rolling-basis, and this opportunity could close before the deadline. Mentors are actively reviewing applications as they are submitted.

A research opportunity is available in the Division of Biology, Chemistry, and Materials Science (DBCMS), Office of Science and Engineering Labs (OSEL), Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH), Food and Drug Administration (FDA) located in Silver Spring, Maryland.

The objective of the research project is to develop a test method for evaluating the hierarchy of microbial resistance to chemical sterilants used for sterilization of medical devices. This project will include culturing and experience with multiple types of microorganisms, methods for assessing sensitivity and characterizing chemical resistance. The participant will assist in microbial culturing methods, setting up antimicrobial resistance tests, and data analysis and interpretation of results. The participant will gain experience working with diverse microorganisms and performing standardized test methods

Anticipated Appointment Start Date: May 2022; start date is flexible

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 one year, 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 Silver Spring, Maryland, area. Participants do not become employees of FDA, DOE or the program administrator, and there are no employment-related benefits.

Completion of a successful background investigation by the Office of Personnel Management is required for an applicant to be on-boarded at FDA. OPM can complete a background investigation only for individuals, including non-US Citizens, who have resided in the US for a total of three of



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the past five years.

FDA requires ORISE participants to read and sign their FDA Education and Training Agreement within 30 days of his/her start date, setting forth the conditions and expectations for his/her educational appointment at the agency. This agreement covers such topics as the following:


- Non-employee nature of the ORISE appointment;
- Prohibition on ORISE Fellows performing inherently governmental functions;
- Obligation of ORISE Fellows to convey all necessary rights to the FDA regarding intellectual property conceived or first reduced to practice during their fellowship;
- The fact that research materials and laboratory notebooks are the property of the FDA;
- ORISE fellow's obligation to protect and not to further disclose or use non-public information.

Qualifications The qualified candidate should be currently pursuing or have received a master's or doctoral degree in one of the relevant fields (e.g. microbiology, biochemistry, virology). Degree must have been received within the past five years.

Preferred skills:

- Strong experience in microbiology and antimicrobial resistance methods
- Experience with antimicrobial resistance methods
- Advanced microbiological experience, culturing methods, and experience with many types of microorganisms (e.g., mycobacteria, gram-negative bacteria, gram-positive bacteria, virus, etc.)
- Experience with biofilm culturing methods and bacterial spore production
- Bonus points for background in AOAC Official Methods
- Bonus points for hands-on experience with sterility testing

Eligibility Requirements

- **Degree:** Master's Degree or Doctoral Degree received within the last 60 months or currently pursuing.
- **Discipline(s):**
 - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([4](#) )

Affirmation Have you lived in the United States for at least 36 out of the past 60 months? (36 months do not have to be consecutive.)