

**Opportunity Title:** Applying Large Language Models (LLM) in Drug Safety

Reviews Fellowship

**Opportunity Reference Code:** FDA-CDER-2024-1430

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

**Reference Code** FDA-CDER-2024-1430

**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.

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

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If you have questions, send an email to [ORISE.FDA.CDER@oraui.org](mailto:ORISE.FDA.CDER@oraui.org). Please include the reference code for this opportunity in your email.

**Application Deadline** 9/30/2024 3:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

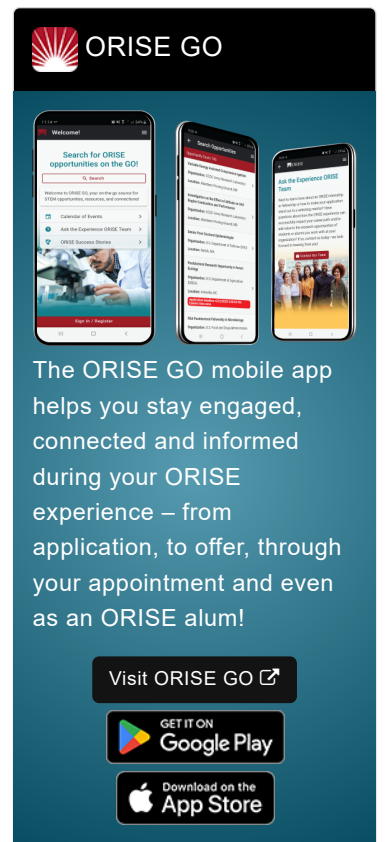
**Description** \*Applications will be reviewed on a rolling-basis.

**FDA Office and Location:** A research opportunity is available within the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in The Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER), located at Silver Spring, Maryland.

The Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER) performs an essential public health task by making sure that safe and effective drugs are available to improve the health of people in the United States. As part of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), CDER regulates over-the-counter and prescription drugs, including biological therapeutics and generic drugs. This work covers more than just medicines.


**Research Project:** This project is in the Office of Pharmacovigilance and Epidemiology (OPE), Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology (OSE). This project will evaluate the performance of LLMs in selected literature review tasks (i.e., literature screening, information extraction). The selected participant will collect sample literature reviews completed by DEPI reviewers and summarize these reviews to generate testing datasets for LLM evaluation. Additionally the participant will research the prompt engineering techniques and LLM performance metrics. The performance of LLMs will be analyzed against the gold standards generated by FDA reviewers. This project will be conducted in collaboration with AI subject matter experts at NCTR/FDA.


**Learning Objectives:** Under the guidance of the mentor, the participant will gain in-depth knowledge about the pharmacoepidemiology literature review




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for drug safety evaluation, with a focus on literature screening and information extraction. The participant will learn how to apply the state-of-the-art LLMs (e.g., GPT, Llama 2) in selected tasks of literature review, and will receive hands-on experience of evaluating the performance of LLMs in these tasks. This is a unique opportunity for candidates to gain first-hand knowledge and experience of using LLMs for enhanced drug safety review.

**Appointment Length:** The appointment will initially be for one year, but may be renewed upon recommendation of FDA 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, Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR), and foreign nationals. Non-U.S. citizen applicants should refer to the [Guidelines for Non-U.S. Citizens Details page](#) of the program website for information about the valid immigration statuses that are acceptable for program participation.

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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 participant will receive a monthly stipend commensurate with educational level and experience. Proof of health insurance is required for participation in this program. 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 the past five years.

#### **FDA Ethics Requirements**

If an ORISE Fellow, to include their spouse and minor children, reports what is identified as a Significantly Regulated Organization (SRO) or prohibited investment fund financial interest in any amount, or a relationship with an SRO, except for spousal employment with an SRO, and the individual will not voluntarily divest the financial interest or terminate the relationship, then the individual is not placed at FDA. For additional requirements, see [FDA Ethics for Nonemployee Scientists](#).

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;

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- 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 the one of the relevant field. Degree must have been received within the past five years, or to be received by August 30, 2024.

**Preferred skills:**

- Profound knowledge of epidemiological principles and hands-on experience of medical literature review is highly desirable.
- General knowledge about LLMs and prompt design is preferred.
- Knowledge about the architecture of LLMs and experience of running LLMs in a local environment or through an API is a plus.

**Eligibility Requirements**

- **Degree:** Master's Degree or Doctoral Degree received within the last 60 months or anticipated to be received by 8/30/2024 12:00:00 AM.
- **Discipline(s):**
  - **Computer, Information, and Data Sciences** (6 👁)
  - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** (3 👁)
  - **Mathematics and Statistics** (4 👁)

**Affirmation** I have lived in the United States for at least 36 out of the past 60 months. (36 months do not have to be consecutive.)  
and  
I have read the FDA Ethics Requirements.