

Opportunity Title: CDC HIV Cluster Detection and Response Fellowship

Opportunity Reference Code: CDC-NCHHSTP-2024-0251

Organization Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Reference Code CDC-NCHHSTP-2024-0251

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

CDC Office and Location: A fellowship opportunity is currently available with the Detection and Response Branch (DRB), in the Division of HIV Prevention (DHP) of the National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP), at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia. **Successful applicants will be required to relocate to Atlanta, GA for the fellowship.**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is one of the major operation components of the Department of Health and Human Services. CDC works to protect 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.

DRB leads national efforts to identify HIV clusters and outbreaks and support timely and tailored responses. Clusters and outbreaks of HIV infection have traditionally been difficult to detect, and most went unrecognized. In 2016, CDC began implementing cutting-edge epidemiology methods using HIV sequencing data and HIV diagnosis data to identify clusters of rapid HIV transmission. When clusters and outbreaks are identified, DRB works closely with state and local public health partners to support investigation and response in order to interrupt ongoing transmission.

Research Project: This fellowship offers the opportunity to receive training on high-priority, high-impact issues in domestic HIV prevention. DRB leads national implementation of cluster detection and response, which is a

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required activity in all 50 U.S. states as a component of CDC's flagship \$400 million/year HIV surveillance and prevention funding program. Additionally, DRB leads enhanced implementation of this activity as one of four pillars of the federal Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S. initiative (<https://www.cdc.gov/endinghiv/index.html>). Within the branch, the Cluster Detection and Molecular Epidemiology Team guides and advances the use of data for timely detection and response to HIV clusters and outbreaks through molecular epidemiology, bioinformatics, and data systems and tools.

DRB is recruiting candidates that are interested in building skills while supporting the functions of our teams and branch. Projects may include developing data visualizations and dashboards to support epidemiologic assessment of HIV clusters, developing REDCap data collection tools and other analytic tools to support cluster and outbreak reporting, and supporting state and local health departments for outbreak response.

Learning Objectives:

- Receive training in HIV cluster detection and response and related fields, including surveillance, molecular epidemiology, implementation, monitoring, and public health response.
- Gain experience developing and implementing data tools and systems to support public health activities.
- Have opportunities to analyze data and present and publish the findings of those analyses.
- Have potential opportunities to be involved in special studies and outbreak response activities.
- Gain valuable training experience at CDC.

Mentor(s): The mentor for this opportunity is Laurie Linley (LXL9@cdc.gov). If you have questions about the nature of the research please contact the mentor(s).

Anticipated Appointment Start Date: **January 6, 2025.** 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.

Participant Stipend: Stipend rates may vary based on numerous factors, including opportunity, location, education, and experience. If you are interviewed, you can inquire about the exact stipend rate at that time and if selected, your appointment offer will include the monthly stipend rate.

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

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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, including but not limited to, COVID-19 requirements (e.g. facial covering, physical distancing, testing, vaccination).

Questions: Please visit our [Program Website](#). After reading, if you have additional questions about the application process please email ORISE.CDC.NCHHSTP@orau.org and include the reference code for this opportunity.

Qualifications The qualified candidate should have received a PhD or master's degree in one of the relevant fields (Life Health and Medical Sciences or Social and Behavioral Sciences) or be currently pursuing the degree with completion by January 31, 2025. Degree must have been received within the past five years or be currently pursuing.

Preferred skills:

- Strong writing and communication skills, including experience in scientific writing
- Experience with data collection and analysis
- Experience with complex projects
- Some background in epidemiology and/or surveillance

Point of Contact [Gina Wampler](#)

Eligibility • **Citizenship:** U.S. Citizen Only

Requirements • **Degree:** Master's Degree or Doctoral Degree received within the last 60 months or anticipated to be received by 1/31/2025 11:59:00 PM.

- **Discipline(s):**
 - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([34](#) 👁)
 - **Social and Behavioral Sciences** ([19](#) 👁)

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.)