

Opportunity Title: Challenges in Maintaining Professional and Personal Boundaries Online or in Person with Others

Opportunity Reference Code: ICPD-2025-23

Organization Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI)

Reference Code ICPD-2025-23

How to Apply **Create and release your Profile on Zintellect** – Postdoctoral applicants must create an account and complete a profile in the on-line application system. **Please note: your resume/CV may not exceed 3 pages.**

Complete your application – Enter the rest of the information required for the IC Postdoc Program Research Opportunity. The application itself contains detailed instructions for each one of these components: availability, citizenship, transcripts, dissertation abstract, publication and presentation plan, and information about your Research Advisor co-applicant.

Additional information about the IC Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Program is available on the program website located at: <https://orise.orau.gov/icpostdoc/index.html>.

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

Application Deadline 2/28/2025 6:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

Description **Research Topic Description, including Problem Statement:**

The National Intelligence Community (NIC) experiences challenges in maintaining professional and personal boundaries, online or in person, with others who have potential adversarial intent.

There is a growing need to minimize the psychological impact on individuals that are required to manage different personas.

- How do we minimize potential negative psychological impact of maintaining personas that are incongruent to themselves?
- How can persona maintenance be optimized to enhance credibility and effectiveness?

Example Approaches:

Possible approaches are:

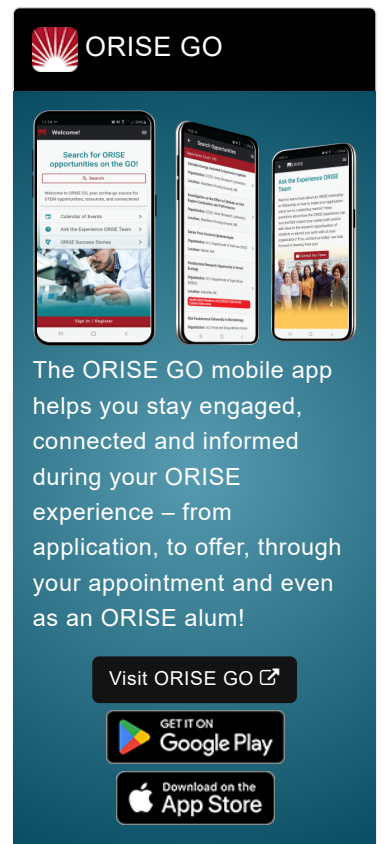
- behavioral measurements of people maintaining a persona while working in different environments
- determining best practice for establishing and maintaining boundaries online and in person, to enhance credibility and effectiveness while reducing personal impact.

Relevance to the Intelligence Community:

Understanding the psychological impact of online personas, how this can be minimized to reduce mental burden and how this can be optimized to increase credibility.

References:

- Bedrov, A., & Gable, S. L., (2023), 'How Much Is It Weighing on You? Development and Validation of the Secrecy Burden Scale', Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, 0(0).



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<https://doi.org/10.1177/01461672231172387>.

Key Words: Behavioral psychology, occupational psychology, occupational safety.

Qualifications **Postdoc Eligibility**

- U.S. citizens only
- Ph.D. in a relevant field must be completed before beginning the appointment and within five years of the appointment start date
- Proposal must be associated with an accredited U.S. university, college, or U.S. government laboratory
- Eligible candidates may only receive one award from the IC Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Program

Research Advisor Eligibility

- Must be an employee of an accredited U.S. university, college or U.S. government laboratory
- Are not required to be U.S. citizens

Point of Contact [Keri Tarwater](#)

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

Requirements • **Degree:** Doctoral Degree.

- **Discipline(s):**
 - **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** ([12](#))
 - **Communications and Graphics Design** ([3](#))
 - **Computer, Information, and Data Sciences** ([17](#))
 - **Earth and Geosciences** ([21](#))
 - **Engineering** ([27](#))
 - **Environmental and Marine Sciences** ([14](#))
 - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([45](#))
 - **Mathematics and Statistics** ([11](#))
 - **Other Non-Science & Engineering** ([2](#))
 - **Physics** ([16](#))
 - **Science & Engineering-related** ([1](#))
 - **Social and Behavioral Sciences** ([30](#))