2020 ASPPH/CDC Public Health Fellowship

Program Announcement

ASPPH Graduate Training Programs
EXPERIENCE Public Health

ASPPH ASSOCIATION OF
SCHOOLS & PROGRAMS
OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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1900 M Street NW, Suite 710, Washington, DC 20036 | Tel: (202) 296-1099 | Fax: (202) 296-1252 | Email: info@aspph.org | www.aspph.org

2020 Fellowship Opportunities
ASPPH/CDC Public Health Fellowship Program

Program Announcement

The **ASPPH/CDC Public Health Fellowship Program** is a collaborative effort between the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). As part of the Academic Partners to Improve Health (APIH) alliance, the fellowship program strives to "identify new approaches and opportunities for field experience in which graduate candidates and early career professionals with graduate degrees can practice applying skills and knowledge learned in the classroom and field."

The Program's purpose is to enable early career professionals with graduate degrees in public health (Masters and Doctoral level) an opportunity to round out their academic training and gain practical public health experience. Fellows will benefit from: exposure to state-of-the-art technology and databases; acquisition of skills and knowledge to enhance their careers; and interaction with technical experts in their chosen fields.

The fellowship program includes a special component for all Atlanta-based fellows, the Community Learning and Social Medicine (CLSM) Program. The CLSM program is a community site experience, through the CDC and APIH fellowship programs, that provides an opportunity for fellows to be immersed in a community setting and serve as a part of a multi-disciplinary team of learners and professionals who are exploring and identifying ways to address the needs of the community. The goals of the CLSM program are to: improve the health of greater Atlanta residents through community engagement; gain an understanding of the benefits of interdisciplinary learning; develop initiatives with fellow learners from a clinical discipline; and refine communication skills to effectively address target populations and other health professionals. Beginning in August of each year and ending the following June, the CLSM experience combines experiential learning with classroom work to help fellows gain, enhance, and exercise important skills essential for future public health leaders.

Ultimately, upon completion of the **ASPPH/CDC Public Health Fellowship Program**, fellows will have made useful contributions to projects of national public health importance that are related to the mission of the CDC.

1.   Eligibility

To be eligible for this program, applicants must have received their Masters or Doctorate degree prior to the beginning of the fellowship (no later than June 2020) or within the last five years (no earlier than June 2015). Graduate degrees must come from an ASPPH member

graduate school or program of public health, accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). (For a list of ASPPH members, see www.aspph.org.) All applicants must be U.S. citizens or hold a visa permitting permanent residence ("Green Card") in the U.S. to be eligible for the fellowship program. CPH preferred.

2. Period of Performance

Fellowship positions are full-time training opportunities for the duration of **one year** beginning on **July 8, 2020**. Positions may possibly be extended for up to two additional years, pending availability of funds and satisfactory progress by the fellow.

3. Location

Fellowship opportunities will be located in Atlanta, Georgia. Selected fellows are required to relocate to the fellowship location; *relocation expenses will **not** be reimbursed*.

4. Funds Available

The annual training stipend for the fellowship positions is $48,109 for Masters level candidates, and $53,137 for Doctoral level candidates (MD, PhD, ScD, or DrPH). The fellowship stipend is intended to assist with personal living expenses.

In addition to the fellowship stipend, fellows will have access to a $4,000 health allowance that is intended to help offset the costs of health/dental/vision insurance premiums during the one year fellowship period. In addition, some positions may offer a "travel/training allowance" that may be used to cover project-related travel, tuition, journal subscriptions, association dues, etc. Not all positions will receive a travel/training allowance. The need for a travel/training allowance is determined by each individual host-office, not by ASPPH.

5. Fellowship Opportunities Available

There are currently **five (5)** fellowship positions available for the 2020 ASPPH/CDC Public Health Fellowship Program.

The following is a breakdown of fellowship opportunities at each Center/Institute/Program Office (C/I/O) at the CDC:

C/I/O	Number of Positions
Center for Surveillance, Epidemiology and Laboratory Sciences (CSELS)	3
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health	2

To read full project descriptions for these positions, please see Section 11, and/or visit the ASPPH Training Programs Online Application System, as noted below.

6.   Application Procedure

Each applicant may apply for up to three (3) fellowship positions. Applications are to be completed online through the ASPPH Training Programs Online Application System at https://fellowships-internships.aspph.org/. Incomplete applications, and those that have not been submitted by the deadline, will not be accepted. Please see Section 9 for detailed application instructions. **Application deadline is Monday, January 27, 2020**.

7.   Evaluation Criteria

The following criteria will be used to assess the applicant's ability to participate in the fellowship program.

Evaluation Criteria	Maximum Points
Quality of Essay	40
Strength of Credentials	25
Previous Experience	25
Recommendations	10

8.   Review & Final Selection

By early-March an Objective Review Committee will complete the review of the applications based on the criteria described above. Candidates receiving a high score in Objective Review will advance to Technical Review at CDC. Mid-March through mid-April, applicants may be contacted by CDC staff and/or ASPPH staff for a telephone interview, additional information, and/or clarification of information relevant to the application. All final selections will be made by mid-May. Those applicants chosen will be immediately notified by phone and email. All other applicants will be notified by email.

9.   Application Instructions

The ASPPH Fellowship Online Application System is a centralized application service offering a secure, easy and convenient way for students/graduates of ASPPH member schools and programs of public health to apply to all ASPPH Fellowships and Internships. The online application is also accessible through the ASPPH website at www.aspph.org.

https://fellowships-internships.aspph.org/

To begin your online application, please click the "Sign Up" button, below the Login button, to create a password protected account. Signing up is free and easy. If you already have an account, you can log in on this page as well.

Each applicant may apply for up to three fellowship positions, as described in Section 6. Please carefully read the instructions that appear throughout the online application system.

After submission, applicants may edit applications by clicking on the pencil icon ( ) in the "My Status" section at any time prior to the application deadline. The application may be edited as necessary at any time prior to the application deadline. **If you edit your application, you must resubmit it before the deadline or it will not be reviewed.** Applications are reviewed only after the online application deadline has passed. Incomplete applications, and those that have not been submitted by the deadline, will not be accepted.

To complete the online application, you will need to provide the following information and documentation:

- ❑ Degree and expected graduation date
- ❑ Name, email address, and phone number of your faculty advisor if you are a current student.

    Your faculty advisor will be asked to confirm your expected graduation date.
- ❑ Resume/CV (saved as a PDF File)
- ❑ Graduate transcript from an ASPPH-member school or program of public health

    The transcript may be official or unofficial. If you are selected for a fellowship position, you will be required to provide an official transcript.
- ❑ Name, email address, and phone number of two recommenders.

    Your recommenders will be asked to provide letters of recommendation for you. The recommenders will be emailed directly from the application system, but only <u>after</u> you submit your application for the first time. **Do not submit your application for the first time on the due date; your recommenders will not have time to submit their letters. If you plan to submit your final application on the due date, you should enter your recommenders' information before then, submit the application in order to prompt the emails to your recommenders to be sent, and then click the edit button to continue working on your application. Remember to resubmit by the deadline.**
- ❑ One essay per position (1500 word max saved as a PDF File)

    You must submit a separate essay for each position to which you are applying explaining your interests, strengths, and qualifications for that particular position, as well as how it will benefit your long-term career plans in the field of public health.

Applications must be submitted electronically, through the Online Application System,

by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on Monday, January 27, 2020.

Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Unsubmitted applications will not be reviewed.

10.   Questions and Contacts

All questions regarding the application process should be sent to
TrainingPrograms@aspph.org

11.   Fellowship Project Descriptions for 2020

NOTE: All positions are for a one-year period beginning July 8, 2020

❖ Position #Y4-20-SEL-01

CIO and Location:

Center for Surveillance, Epidemiology and Laboratory Sciences (CSELS); Division of Scientific Education and Professional Development; Epidemiology Workforce Branch (DSEPD)

Atlanta, GA

Fellowship Title:

Promoting Interprofessional Learning and Population Health in Academic Programs

Purpose and Mission of Sponsoring CIO/program:

The DSEPD works to improve health outcomes through a competent, sustainable, and empowered public health workforce. We envision a public health workforce prepared to meet emerging and future challenges. CSELS/DSEPD has a number of fellowships and training programs designed to provide mostly new graduates in various disciplines the opportunity to work and learn in public health programs both at CDC and in health agencies across the country and abroad. Fellows receive competency-based training, hands-on experience, and high-quality mentoring.

Project Description:

The fellow will work closely with their mentors and staff in the branch to conduct the following:

- Assist with the development, coordination and execution of the fellowship fall course and branch-wide trainings.

- Assiss with the preparation of training contracts and co-operative agreements.

- Develop and maintain program-related spreadsheets, databases, and records.

- Assist in the development and updating of various training program, policy and procedure documents.

- Review annual program evaluation and other data trends from multiple data sources and present to program leadership.

The fellow will also participate in select curriculum committee meetings, fall course planning meetings, and webinars and trainings offered by the Education and Training Services Branch and will have the opportunity to attend the SOPHE conference.

Expected Benefits

The fellow will build their skills and knowledge of educational program design, instructional design, program development, management, and evaluation.

Required and/or Desired Skills and Knowledge:

- A Masters degree, or higher, from an ASPPH-member school or program of public health.

- Ability to effectively multi-task and prioritize.

- Ability to work on projects independently and as a team player.

- Good analytical and technical writing skills.

- Effective oral and written communication skills.

- Demonstrated problem-solving ability, ability to listen, recieve guidance and complete project tasks within deadlines.

- Knowledge and some experience in the coordination of training and development for adult learners is preferred.

❖ Position #Y4-20-SEL-02

CIO and Location:

Center for Surveillance, Epidemiology and Laboratory Sciences (CSELS); Division of Scientific Education and Professional Development; Epidemiology Workforce Branch (DSEPD)

Atlanta, GA

Fellowship Title:

Future Leaders in Infections and Global Health Threats (FLIGHT) - Training Program Development and Assessment

Purpose and Mission of Sponsoring CIO/program:

The DSEPD works to improve health outcomes through a competent, sustainable, and empowered public health workforce. We envision a public health workforce prepared to meet emerging and future challenges. CSELS/DSEPD has a number of fellowships and training programs designed to provide mostly new graduates in various disciplines the opportunity to work and learn in public health programs both at CDC and in health agencies across the country and abroad. Fellows receive competency-based training, hands-on experience, and high-quality mentoring.

Project Description:

The selected fellow will have the opportunity to participate in various training and didactic learning activities within the FLIGHT program, and particiate in the following activities:

- Develop, maintain and coordinate the FLIGHT program strategic planning, timeline, and task tracker to ensure all necessary tasks needed to implement the program are achieved successfully and on time.

- Collaborate with mentor and other program staff to assist with the planning, logistics and execution for all FLIGHT program activities, including selection, orientation, training, and graduation.

- Provide logistical support to fellows, speakers, vendors, and the FLIGHT program.

- Review annual FLIGHT program data trends from multiple data sources, summarize with input from program staff, and present to program leadership each year.

- Assist program staff with entering provided FLIGHT program data into spreadsheets or systems for analysis, pulling reports from data systems, and managing this data.

- Develop and maintain a FLIGHT program data collection and management plan in conjunction with subject matter experts and program staff that aligns with FLIGHT program logic models and indicators to demonstrate the impact and value of FLIGHT programs and services.

- Consult with mentor to coordinate and implement curricular training, including but not limited to; FLIGHT orientation sessions, professional development sessions, didactic trainings, and workshops.

- Develop content and produce the FLIGHT program newsletter.

Expected Benefits

This fellowship will provide the opportunity for the candidate to utilize their academic training and gain practical public health experience. Candidates will also have the ability to train under subject matter experts to develop program evaluation skills, public health management, data analysis, and understand CDC processes and mechanisms.

Required and/or Desired Skills and Knowledge:

- A doctoral degree is preferred, but strong masters candidates will be considered. Degrees must come from an ASPPH-member school or program of public health.

- Must have proficiency in a variety of computer software applications in word processing, spreadsheets, database, (MSWord, Excel, Access, PowerPoint), and Outlook.

- Ability to effectively multi-task and prioritize.

- Ability to work on projects independently and as a team player.

- Strong analytical and technical writing skills.

- Effective oral and written communication skills

- Ability to use basic math to report percentages and trends of data.

- Demonstrated problem-solving ability, ability to listen, and ability to work under deadlines.

- Knowledge and experience in the coordination of training and development for adult learners is preferred.

❖ **Position #Y4-20-SEL-03**

CIO and Location:

Center for Surveillance, Epidemiology and Laboratory Sciences (CSELS); Division of Scientific Education and Professional Development; Epidemiology Workforce Branch (DSEPD)

Atlanta, GA

Fellowship Title:

Enhancing the Public Health Informatics Workforce

Purpose and Mission of Sponsoring CIO/program:

The DSEPD works to improve health outcomes through a competent, sustainable, and empowered public health workforce. We envision a public health workforce prepared to meet emerging and future challenges. CSELS/DSEPD has a number of fellowships and training programs designed to provide mostly new graduates in various disciplines the opportunity to work and learn in public health programs both at CDC and in health agencies across the country and abroad. Fellows receive competency-based training, hands-on experience, and high-quality mentoring. This position will be training under the Informatics Workforce Development Team (IWDT), within CSELS/DSEPD.

Project Description:

This fellowship position will provide an opportunity for the ASPPH fellow to strengthen program management skills while contributing to CDC/CSELS efforts toward administration and evaluation of the CDC Public Health Informatics Fellowship Program (PHIFP). This will include working with their CDC mentor to coordinate and manage fellowship placements at state and local health departments and international public health agencies for the PHIFP.

The PHIFP has drafted a program evaluation plan along with indicators and data sources. The next step of this project is to implement the program evaluation including data collection, analysis, and reporting. The ASPPH fellow is expected to lead this effort and provide the following deliverables as part of their ASPPH fellowship project:

- Develop an implementation plan for the PHIFP program evaluation.

- Develop a data management plan for the PHIFP program evaluation.

- Develop standard reports and data visualizations to disseminate data from the PHIFP program evaluation.

The ASPPH fellow will also build skills and learn the essentials of program management in the government. Working with their mentor, the ASPPH fellow will:

- Coordinate with the Branch program support team and affiliated support staff to manage logistics for procurement, travel processing, and all administrative functions.

- Support, monitor, and coordinate on-boarding of PHIFP fellows in conjunction with program support staff.

- Coordinate essential processes for successful program management such as: PHIFP recruitment and selection efforts, maintenance of PHIFP database and program records, and procurement of PHIFP training software.

- Coordinate with the Department of Labor and other external partners as required for documentation and record keeping.

- Assist with planning and implementation of the PHIFP orientation and portfolio reviews.

- Learn about and contribute to preparation of contracts and cooperative agreements.

- Support the development and updating of various PHIFP programmatic policy and procedure documents.

Expected Benefits

CDC/PHIFP staff will provide the ASPPH fellow with the required informatics training, specifically data management training and mentorship for the fellow to work on the described project. MOOC licenses (Coursera and EdX) will be provided, as well as support to attend the

Data Viz Day, Evaluation Day, and CDC's project symposium. Also, there is the possibility of attending the Summer Evaluation Institute (depending on funding and fellow's interests.)

In addition, this fellowship will provide the opportunity for the candidate to utilize their academic training and gain practical public health project management and leadership experience. Candidates will also have the ability to train under subject matter experts to strengthen program evaluation and public heatlh management skills, and to develop an understanding of CDC processes and mechanisms.

Required and/or Desired Skills and Knowledge:

- A Masters degree, or higher, from an ASPPH-member school or program of public health.

- Strong time-management and organizational skills.

- Strong interpersonal, verbal, and written communication skills.

- Ability to problem solve, anticipate and diagnose critical operational issues.

- Excellent organizational skills and attention to detail.

- Ability to work well in a team environment.

- Working knowledge of Excel, SharePoint, and administrative systems

❖ Position #Y4-20-OSH-01

CIO and Location:

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Spokane Mining Research Division

Spokane, WA

Fellowship Title:

Building an Evidence-based Framework to Improve Workers' Health

Purpose and Mission of Sponsoring CIO/program:

NIOSH provides national and world leadership to prevent work-related illness, injury, disability, and death by gathering information, conducting scientific research, and translating the knowledge gained into products and services. The mission of NIOSH is to generate new knowledge in the field of occupational safety and health and to transfer that knowledge into practice for the betterment of workers.

The NIOSH Mining Program's mission is to eliminate mining fatalities, injuries, and illnesses

through relevant research and impactful solutions. We value relevance, impact, excellence, integrity, innovation, and collaboration as we join our stakeholders in fostering an industry of safe mines and healthy workers.

Project Description:

The selected fellow will join the SMRD Health, Exposure Assessment and Monitoring (HEAM) team. The team is multi-disciplinary, including several epidemiologists, a behavioral scientist, a physician and an industrial hygienist. You will be mentored by NIOSH colleagues about aspects of occupational health surveillance and research, and will have the opportunity to build skills in surveillance, data analysis, research, use of CDC's primary population health surveys (BRFSS, NHIS), and scientific writing.

The fellow will join the "Building an Evidence-Based Framework for Improving Miners' Health" project team. This multi-year project relies primarily on existing data sources, including population-based health survey data (BRFSS and NHIS), health survey data linked to other data sources, clinical data, vital records, and available hazard exposure data (MSHA). The project focus is to improve the availability and use of illness and hazard exposure data to characterize the burden in the mining industry, benchmark the health of U.S. miners compared to other workers, and guide the NIOSH Mining Program research portfolio.

Lastly, the participant will gain experience in evaluation, analysis and management of large datasets. You will have access to the project's primary public and non-public data sources, which include CDC population health surveys, workplace health inspection, and clinical data. Tasks that you may be exposed to include reviewing the literature on an occupational health topic, data evaluation, developing a study topic, developing a specific data analysis plan, analyzing data using descriptive and analytical statistics, interpretation of analysis findings, authoring a paper for a peer-reviewed journal, and preparing messages for social media.

Expected Benefits

- Train under epidemiology and health surveillance subject matter experts.

- Contribute to and be a part of a multi-disciplinary research team.

- Gain experience in applying public health science, biostatistics and epidemiology.

- Help NIOSH make better use of data to understand miners' total health.

- Opportunity to develop a topic, analyze data and write a paper for publication.

- Gain experience in scientific and general writing.

Required and/or Desired Skills and Knowledge:

- A Masters degree, or higher, from an ASPPH-member school or program of public health.

- Demonstrated knowledge of epidemiology or biostatistics.

- Ability to manage and analyze large datasets using SAS, STATA, or like software.

- Data analysis skills, including descriptive and analytic (multivariable) statistics.

- Ability to effectively communicate with both scientific and plain language writing.

❖ **Position #Y4-20-OSH-02**

CIO and Location:

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Respiratory Health Division

Morgantown, WV

Fellowship Title:

Characterizing the Spectrum of Coal Mine Dust Lung Disease Among U.S. Coal Miners

Purpose and Mission of Sponsoring CIO/program:

NIOSH provides national and world leadership to prevent work-related illness, injury, disability, and death by gathering information, conducting scientific research, and translating the knowledge gained into products and services. The mission of NIOSH is to generate new knowledge in the field of occupational safety and health and to transfer that knowledge into practice for the betterment of workers.

The mission of Respiratory Health Division (RHD) https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/contact/im-drds.html is to advance protection against work-related hazards and exposures that cause or contribute to respiratory illness, injury, and death and to promote workplace-based interventions that improve respiratory health. The Surveillance Branch (SB) within RHD collects, analyzes and disseminates health and hazard information related to occupational respiratory diseases. SB works to establish health surveillance systems in order to summarize information relating to overall incidence, prevalence, and mortality of occupational respiratory diseases, and defines the occurrence of specific diseases related to occupation, industry, geography, and demographic characteristics. The SB's Coal Workers' Health Surveillance Program provides U.S. coal miners with the opportunity to undergo health screening for respiratory disease with respiratory symptom questionnaires, chest radiography, and spirometry.

Project Description:

The objective of the fellowship project is to provide a public health graduate and early career professional the opportunity to gain hands-on public health and prevention experience. Occupational respiratory disease impose a large public health burden in the United States. The objectives of this assignment are 1) to create a single database by linking respiratory health surveillance data and work history information from NIOSH's Coal Workers' Health Surveillance Program (CWHSP) with Federal Black Lung Program claims data on

approximately 31,000 former miners from the Department of Labor Office of Workers' Compensation (OWCP), Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation (OWCP/DCMWC), Federal Black Lung Program, and mortality information from the National Death Index maintained by the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics on miners who have been evaluated in both the CWHSP and Federal Black Lung Program and are deceased; 2) to characterize the pattern and severity of coal mine dust lung diseases and, if deceased, causes of death, among miners participating in the CWHSP and Federal Black Lung Program. This will allow for a more accurate estimate of the lifetime burden of coal mine dust lung diseases from the time a worker begins his/her employment, throughout their career to the compensation process following employment, and causes of death; 3) to produce a more complete description of coal mine dust lung diseases in this population; 4) to characterize miners not participating in the CWHSP or Federal Black Lung Program to improve program participation rates.

Working with mentors, the selected fellow will be responsible for developing a database, preparing a plan for analyses, conducting data analyses, interpreting results, and formulating recommendations. The fellow will be expected to prepare an internal report outlining findings and an abstract for presentation at a national scientific conference. The fellow will also have an opportunity to write a report for publication in the CDC's MMWR and/or a peer-reviewed journal.

Lastly, the fellow will be expected to draft and submit at least one abstract for consideration for presentation at a national meeting, and will have the opportunity to attend internal presentations and training sessions and participate in activities offered by CDC (webinars).

Expected Benefits

The selected fellow will:

- Gain an understanding of how respiratory surveillance and work history data were collected, their appropriate uses, and their limitations.

- Learn about power of public health surveillance.

- Learn to work with a variety of professionals including computer programmers, epidemiologists, statisticians, and industrial hygienists.

- Improve analytical skills and master SAS (SAS Institute Inc., Cary, NC) and Joinpoint Regression Program (National Cancer Institute) software.

- Through discussions and interpretation of the existing data, make recommendations concerning our understanding of the spectrum and characteristics of coal mine dust lung diseases.

- With technical support from CDC/NIOSH staff, will improve presentation and writing skills by attending an national meeting, and serving as a co-author on scientific publication outlining the study results.

Required and/or Desired Skills and Knowledge:

- A doctoral degree is preferred, but strong masters candidates will be considered. Degrees must come from an ASPPH-member school or program of public health.

- Demonstrated knowledge of epidemiology or biostatistics.

- Ability to manage and analyze large datasets using SAS, STATA, or like software.

- Data analysis skills, including descriptive and analytic (multivariable) statistics.

- Ability to effectively communicate with both scientific and plain language writing.