

**REIMBURSABLE DETAIL  
Center for Tobacco Products**

The Center for Tobacco Products (CTP), Office of Science (OS), Division of Population Health Science (DPHS) Social Science Branch 2 is offering a Detail opportunity for an Unclassified Duties (Lead Social Scientist), GS 0101-14. Current employees at the GS-14 level are encouraged to apply. The Detail is available immediately for a period of 120 days. PHS Commissioned Corps Officers may apply.

**Bargaining Unit Status:** Bargaining Unit Position

**Position:** Unclassified Duties

**Office Location:** FDA  
Center for Tobacco Products  
Office of Science  
Beltsville, MD

**Opening Date:** **February 3, 2020**

**Closing Date:** **February 14, 2020**

**Area of Consideration:** **FDA-Wide**

The CTP, OS, DPHS offers a fast-paced, dynamic environment and an opportunity to work with dedicated, energetic people who want to make a difference to improve public health. The position is ideal for someone who wishes to play a critical role in the organization and would enjoy the challenge of handling a variety of fast-paced and high-impact assignments.

**Duties Include:**

As a team leader and expert in the behavioral and social sciences, the incumbent performs a number of duties as described in the following:

- Provides authoritative and professional expertise in dealing with the behavioral and social science aspects of public health issues related to supporting the Center for Tobacco Products (CTP), including issues related to the premarket tobacco product application (PMTA) and substantial equivalence (SE) application review pathways, with respect to tobacco products.
- Evaluates, leads and directs social science consumer perception studies to support CTP, related to the behavioral and social science aspects of public health issues with tobacco products. Documents accomplishments and recommends changes in policy, program operations, and resource levels to improve effectiveness of social science support for CTP regulatory actions.

- Plans consumer perception studies, and other appropriate social science work, for the support of Social Science Branch 2 priorities, to be accomplished by subordinates; sets and adjusts short-term priorities; and prepares schedules for completion of work, when necessary. Assigns work to subordinates based on priorities, considering difficulty and requirements of assignments, as well as the capabilities of employees. Gives advice, counsel, or instruction to employees on social science work for Social Science Branch 2.
  
- Designs research to address gaps in scientific knowledge needed for effective regulation of tobacco products and scientific support of consumer perception studies and the review of studies submitted to support regulation through the various application review pathways. Leads the design and conduct of studies to support CTP regulation related to tobacco products, including consumer perception studies.
  
- Compiles and analyzes research data to prepare reports, presentations, and briefing documents related to scientific support for regulation of tobacco products.
  
- Collaborates closely with staff from other disciplines in DPHS, OS and other CTP Offices, as appropriate, to lead and support the design, implementation, and evaluation of social science research to support and inform regulation of tobacco products for Social Science Branch 2.

**Desired Knowledge and Skills:**

- Knowledge and previous experience leading social science research and applying the principles of social and behavioral science to provide scientific support for regulatory actions, including the design, conduct, and review of consumer perception studies to support regulation of modified risk tobacco products.
  
- Analytical ability sufficient to identify and assess behavioral and social science issues related to social science research and the ability to analyze data, produce reports, presentations, and briefing documents to support CTP regulatory actions.
  
- Expert knowledge of a wide range of scientific and public health principles applied to support CTP regulation of tobacco products, including qualitative and/or quantitative research methods, practices, techniques, and analyses.
  
- Strong collaboration skills and previous experience working closely with social science work to support CTP regulatory actions.

- Excellent oral and written communication skills.

**Application Procedure:**

Supervisory concurrence should be obtained before you apply to this Detail. The Detail opportunity is open to all qualified candidates at the GS-14 grade level or Commissioned Corps Officers (O5/O6).

Interested applicants should submit a copy of their resume, most recent copy of SF-50, and statement of interest via email to:

Alicia Harper  
Program Analyst  
Office of Management, Center for Tobacco Products, FDA  
[Alicia.harper@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Alicia.harper@fda.hhs.gov)

If you are not a current Social Scientist, please submit a copy of your Transcripts with your application.

Detail is reimbursable.  
Travel Expenses will not be paid.

**Candidates must express interest by February 14, 2020.**

**\*This is not an official vacancy announcement under the Merit Promotion System**