

# CENTER FOR FOOD SAFETY AND APPLIED NUTRITION

## Staff Fellow (Biologist/Toxicologist) Job Announcement Posting

The Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN) is a national leader in protecting and promoting public health. CFSAN is responsible for promoting and protecting the public's health by ensuring that the nation's food supply is safe, sanitary, wholesome, and honestly labeled, and that cosmetic products are safe and properly labeled. **To learn more about CFSAN please visit:**

**<https://www.youtube.com/embed/olTyHjWe46w>**

Our employees consist of highly specialized experts to support staff that help safeguard more than \$1.5 trillion worth of food, cosmetics, and dietary supplements. CFSAN is filling multiple vacancies through the FDA's Staff Fellowship Program.

CFSAN is seeking qualified candidates through the FDA's Staff Fellowship Program.

The Division of Toxicology (DT), Office of Applied Research and Safety Assessment (OARSA), Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN), conducts applied research designed to identify toxicity and the underlying mechanisms and/or modes of action of toxic compounds that are in foods and dietary supplements. The DT requires specialized expertise for the research program area that is outlined in the *FDA's Predictive Toxicology Roadmap* to "foster the development and evaluation of emerging toxicological methods and new technologies and incorporate them into FDA regulatory review." In support of these toxicology initiatives, DT is developing alternative models for toxicity assessment using various New Approach Methodologies (NAMs) for predictive testing.

### **Title/Series/Grade: Toxicologist - 0415 / Biologist - 0401 – (GS 11 - 13 Equivalent)**

This position is within the Staff Fellowship program. To read more about it please visit: <https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/scientific-internships-fellowships-trainees-and-non-us-citizens/fdas-staff-fellowship-program>

## Open Period

**August 01, 2022-August 12, 2022**

## Location

Laurel, Maryland

## Salary

\$74,950 – \$138,868

## Duties of the Position

The DT has an immediate need to fill a Staff Fellow position in the area of developmental neurotoxicology/developmental neurophysiology, molecular toxicology, toxicogenomics, and transcriptomics to



transform toxicology testing from traditional *in vivo* tests to less expensive and higher throughput *in vitro* methods to prioritize compounds for further study, identify mechanisms of action, and ultimately develop predictive toxicology models for adverse health effects in humans.

The Staff Fellow will participate and contribute in one or more of the following program activities

- Serves as a subject matter expert in the application of developmental neurophysiology/developmental neurotoxicology testing approaches as it applies to regulatory research activities throughout CFSAN.
- Develops new methods and techniques to address unsolved or emerging problems in the area of developmental neurophysiology or developmental neurotoxicology and defines new scientific study ideas and selects specific problems for study.
- The incumbent works effectively with others to successfully advance and complete the scientific study goals of CFSAN as they pertain to developmental neurophysiology or neurotoxicology and transcriptomics of toxic substances in foods and dietary supplements.
- Maintains state-of-the-art knowledge in developmental neurophysiology or developmental neurotoxicology and is up-to-date in relevant research areas within their area of responsibility.
- Drafts and/or collaborates with co-investigators to submit manuscripts for review via scientific journals and other related professional publications.

## Qualifications

To qualify as a Staff Fellow, you must: be a US Citizen, Permanent Resident, or Non-Citizen with residency status in the US, three (3) out of the last five (5) years.; possess a doctoral- level degree from an accredited institution of higher learning, including: Ph.D., M.D., D.V.M., D.D.S., D.M.D., Sc.D., or other research doctoral-degree widely recognized in U.S. academe as equivalent to a Ph.D. (*In limited instances a lower level of education and/or experience may be acceptable*). In addition to the above, applicants must meet one of the following in (A) Basic Qualifications and (B) Experience. (*Candidates who possess a Ph.D. and meet the basic qualifications (A) but do not have experience are still encouraged to apply*).

### Basic Qualifications:

These positions are multidisciplinary, and applicants will be required to meet the specific education qualification requirements of one of the applicable occupational series below (a copy of your transcripts identifying the requirement has been met is required).

**Toxicology, (Series 415): Degree:** toxicology; or an appropriate discipline of the biological, medical, or veterinary sciences that included at least 30 semester hours in chemistry, biochemistry, or physiology, and 12 semester hours in toxicology.

**BIOLOGY, (Series 401):** Degree in biological sciences, agriculture, natural resource management, chemistry, or related disciplines appropriate to the position; OR **Combination of education and experience:** Courses equivalent to a major, plus, appropriate experience or additional education.

## **SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE:**

Candidates must have specialized experience that includes at least one or more of the following. You must possess 1 year of specialized experience that includes:

- The candidate must be able to demonstrate a mastery of the principles and practices of the neurophysiology or neurotoxicology (developmental neurophysiology or developmental neurotoxicology) of the developing central nervous system.
- The candidate should have considerable laboratory research experience in cell culture studies, as well as developing and performing assays to evaluate the neurotoxicity of agents. Preference will be given to individuals with a demonstrated record of relevant accomplishments.
- The incumbent also possesses a level of expertise in specific areas of basic molecular biology and human genetics (e.g., microarray analysis, immunohistochemistry, SNP analysis) such that he/she can be called upon to provide molecular toxicology/biology support for studies conducted within the Division.
- Experience in electrophysiology (Multi Electrode Arrays), cellular imaging and analysis or computational modeling of biological process would be a plus.
- The successful applicant will have experience in a variety of receptor based cellular and cell free assays or human iPSC's/peripheral neurons or rat and/or human primary cortical cells. No in vivo studies will be conducted.
- Excellent scientific writing and communication skills.

## **Application Procedures**

To be considered for this job opportunity, candidates must submit a resume and a copy of their transcripts demonstrating that the education and specialized experience qualifications (as noted above under qualification sections) are met by **11:59 p.m. (EST) on 08/12/2022 to:** [Applytocfsan-oarsa@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Applytocfsan-oarsa@fda.hhs.gov).

## **Reasonable Accommodations**

FDA provides reasonable accommodations to applicants/employees with disabilities. If you need accommodations for any part of the application process, please visit the FDA Reasonable Accommodations & Accessibility page. The decision to grant reasonable accommodations is made on a case-by-case basis. The FDA actively encourages people with disabilities to apply for vacancies/developmental assignments with FDA.

## **Vaccination Information**

To ensure compliance with an applicable preliminary nationwide injunction, which may be supplemented, modified, or vacated, depending on the course of ongoing litigation, the Federal



Government will take no action to implement or enforce the COVID-19 vaccination requirement pursuant to Executive Order 14043 on Requiring Coronavirus Disease 2019 Vaccination for Federal Employees. Safer Federal Workforce Task Force guidance on other Federal agency safety protocols based on vaccination status—including guidance on protocols related to masking, distancing, travel, testing, and quarantine—remains in effect.

## **Expanded/Maximum telework Posture**

Due to COVID-19, the agency is currently in a maximum telework posture. If selected, you may be expected to telework upon your appointment. As employees are permitted to return to the office, you may be required to report to the duty station listed on this announcement within 30 calendar days of receiving notice to do so, even if your home/temporary telework site is located outside the local commuting area. Your position may be eligible for workplace flexibilities which may include remote work or telework options, and/or flexible work scheduling. These flexibilities may be requested in accordance with the HHS Workplace Flexibilities policy.

## **Equal Employment Opportunity Policy**

The United States Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, retaliation, parental status, military service, or other non-merit factor.

To learn more, please consult the following resources:

- [Equal Employment Opportunity \(EEO\) office at OPM](#)
- [Office of Equal Employment Opportunity at FDA](#)