



Title 21 Vacancy Announcement
Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM)
Office of Applied Science (OAS)

Application Period: 5/31/2023 – 6/13/2023

Area of Consideration: Government Wide

United States Citizenship is required. You must be a U.S. Citizen or U.S. National. Foreign nationals or legal permanent residents are not eligible for consideration.

Position: Division Director for Division of Emerging Technologies

Series: 0401, 0403, 0440

Location(s): Laurel, MD

Salary: Starting at \$155,700 - \$219,523

Work Schedule: Full Time

Cures Band(s): Band E

Full Performance Band Level: Band E

Travel Requirements: 25% or less

Bargaining Unit: 8888

Relocation Expenses Reimbursement: Relocation expenses will not be paid

This position is being filled under a stream-lined hiring authority, Title 21, Section 3072 of the 21st Century Cures Act. The candidate selected for this position will serve under a career or career-conditional appointment and be paid under the provisions of this authority.

Additional information on 21st Century Cures Act can be found here:

[21st Century Cures Act Information](#)

Introduction

The Food and Drug Administration is the regulatory, scientific, public health, and consumer protection agency responsible for ensuring that all human and animal drugs, and medical devices are safe and effective, that cosmetics, foods, food additives, drugs and medicated feeds for food producing animals, and radiation emitting devices are safe, and that all such products marketed in the United States are adequately, truthfully and informatively labeled and safely and properly stored, transported, manufactured packaged and regulated. FDA's programs are national in scope and effect, and the agency's activities have a direct and significant impact on multi-billion-dollar industries, in addition to protecting the health and safety of American Consumers. The work of the Agency is carried out by a staff of more than 18,000 scientists, physicians, regulatory and other personnel stationed throughout the United States.

The mission of the Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) is to protect the public health of the nation, as it may be impaired by veterinary drugs, feed additives, and animal devices. CVM's regulatory functions are geared to ensure that veterinary drugs, feed additives and animal devices are safe and effective, honestly and informatively labeled and packaged.

The Office of Applied Science (OAS) provides a focal point for all research activities in the Center and serves as the liaison for intramural and extramural research. OAS evaluates and interprets results of scientific research, initiating and recommending action as appropriate to implement policy changes.

The Division of Emerging Technology (DET) supports medical product review by providing important data on the bacterial virulence and mechanisms of action related to the effectiveness of antimicrobials in animal foods and food animal products regulated by CVM. The Division also supports food safety by developing and validating new methods to detect microbial pathogens contaminating foods and evaluating mitigation strategies for the reduction of these pathogens in animal food

Duties/Responsibilities:

The Division Director, Division of Emerging Technologies is the principal advisor to the Office Director, Office of Applied Science (OAS), providing expert-level administrative, scientific, and regulatory authority for OAS on program matters under purview of the Division while maintaining an internationally recognized research program with a focus on analytical evaluation and applied and basic research.

- Supervises a Division of highly expert scientists who's mission is to make microbiological and bioinformatical innovations that advance public health safety related to the effects of drugs in human foods derived from animals, research techniques to reduce the number of animals used in research, and the understanding of bacterial interaction with drugs, including antimicrobial drugs. Specific projects include but are not limited to: replacing animal models with microfluidic chips, metagenomic techniques, quasimetagenomics techniques, and shotgun metagenomic techniques.
- Oversight includes one Microbiology Branch and one Branch of Computational Biology Branch.
- Is responsible for oversight of collaborations with FDA OIMT for High Powered Computing in support of computational biology. Is responsible for coordinating with interagency community for development of ontological library that supports developing metagenomics work throughout the world
- Is responsible for development of innovative techniques to support National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System which works to understand the spread of antimicrobial resistance throughout the nation, the results of which are supplied to CDC and USDA for a unified government picture of antimicrobial resistance.
- Plans, designs, and implements Division work programs, policies, and procedures. Makes critical decisions and provides expert advice and counsel concerning approaches and

options that are sound and feasible in relation to Office and Center goals and objectives while considering Federal budgetary and economic realities.

- Plans, manages, organizes, and directs all scientific operations, program segment(s), functions, and activities of the Division as carried out by subordinate supervisors (Branch Chiefs) and a highly trained and skilled staff (microbiologists, epidemiologists, mathematical statisticians, computational biologists and biologists) who are organized into either formal or informal subordinate organizations responsible for program segment(s) of the Division.
- Provides scientific, regulatory, and technical direction to subordinate staff engaged in the analytical evaluation of antimicrobial resistance and genomic information for bacteria and other pathogens which pose a potential health risk if found to be less susceptible to antimicrobials. Oversees staff working on applied and basic research involving the isolation, identification, and characterization of microorganisms potentially harmful to animals and computational biology as it pertains to pathogenic microorganisms.

Supervisory Responsibilities: Manages a Division. Supervises and evaluates staff of Branch Chiefs who serve as experts in their field.

Program Management: Runs a functional activity. Oversees multiple projects. Identifies inputs and outputs needed to perform functional activities.

Resource Management: Consolidates and balances resource needs of multiple projects in a functional activity or Division.

Personnel Performance Management: Counsels and rates immediate subordinates.

Human Capital Management: Identifies ways to meet employee competency goals.

Desired Education – One of the following:

Biologist Series 0401- Degree: 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, as shown in A above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

Microbiology Series 0403- Degree: microbiology; or biology, chemistry, or basic medical science that included at least 20 semester hours in microbiology and other subjects related to the study of microorganisms, and 20 semester hours in the physical and mathematical sciences combining course work in organic chemistry or biochemistry, physics, and college algebra, or their equivalent.

OR

Combination of education and experience: courses equivalent to a major in microbiology, biology, chemistry, or basic medical science that included courses as shown in A above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

Graduate Education: Microbiology, or specific area of study such as bacteriology, virology, mycology, algology, protozoology, parasitology, immunology, serology, microbial genetics, or soil microbiology; or specific applied

fields of microbiology such as clinical and public health microbiology, food technology, production processes, industrial fermentation, pollution, etc. Graduate study in related fields such as experimental pathology, infectious diseases, epidemiology, biochemistry, animal or plant physiology, genetics, plant pathology, and insect disease control, may also be pertinent, provided it has direct application to microbiological work.

Genetics Series 0440- Degree: genetics; or one of the basic biological sciences that included at least 9 semester hours in genetics.

Graduate Education: Genetics, or a curriculum or pattern of training that placed major emphasis on genetics. Graduate study in related fields such as agronomy, horticulture, animal, dairy, or poultry husbandry, entomology, microbiology, plant pathology, chemistry, molecular and cellular biology, and physiology that involved cross-training in genetics is qualifying, provided it placed sufficient emphasis on genetics.

Professional Experience

Qualified candidates will have:

- Knowledge of and experience working with research programs, specializing in innovative techniques.
- Demonstrated experience driving multiple stakeholders' input to scientific vision.
- Demonstrated experience achieving accountability to organizational strategic and tactical plans.
- Significant experience leading employees and functioning at the managerial level. Experience overseeing a diverse scientific staff (microbiologists, epidemiologists, and/or computational researchers) desired.
- Knowledge and ability to develop and execute a research plan and budget.
- Demonstrated ability to develop networks and build alliances; collaborates across boundaries to build strategic relationships and achieve common goals. Priority will be placed on candidates with experience leading both internal and external scientific collaborations (e.g., university researchers, industry groups, public health laboratories and agricultural laboratories).
- Expert communicator who can drive collaboration, empower staff, and is committed to the Public Health mission.

Conditions of Employment

- U.S. Citizenship requirement or proof of being a U.S. National must be met by closing date.
- Employment is subject to the successful completion of a background investigation, verification of qualifications, completion of onboarding forms, submission of required documents, and any other job-related requirement before or after appointment.
- Applicants must meet all qualification requirements by the closing date of this announcement.
- Direct Deposit: You will be required to have all federal salary payments electronically deposited into a bank account with a financial institution of your choice.
- FDA participates in e-Verify: All new hires must complete the I-9 form; this information will be processed through e-Verify to determine your employment eligibility. If a discrepancy arises, you must take affirmative steps to resolve the matter.
- Males born after December 31, 1959, must be registered with the Selective Service.

- One-year supervisory probationary period may be required.
- Financial Disclosure may be required.
- Ethics Clearance may be required.
- Background Investigation/Security Clearance is required. All employees must pass a security investigation. Failing to pass the background check may be grounds for removal or legal action. If hired, you may be subject to additional investigations at a later time.

Qualifications

To be placed into a Cures position, candidates must meet the following criteria:

1. Scientific, Technical, and Professional Fields
2. Qualified and Outstanding Candidates
 - a. **Qualified** applies to all candidates for Cures appointments. The FDA OTS will use the basic requirements defined in the [OPM Qualification Standards](#) as a baseline for comparing experience levels and other candidate attributes for relevant positions.
 - b. **Outstanding** candidates can be defined by existing outstanding work experience, outstanding performance rating, or both.

In order to qualify for this Title 21 Cures position, the candidate(s) must meet the following **required** qualifications. *Please note: Additional education and experience listed that is not indicated as **required** is preferable and desired. Candidates who do not meet the “desired” criteria will not be excluded from consideration for this position.*

Education Requirement:

Candidates must possess the required individual occupational requirements to qualify for the appropriate series applicable to the position. Please use the following link to determine the series for which you qualify:

<https://www.opm.gov/policydata-oversight/classification-qualifications/general-schedule-qualification-standards/#url=List-by-Occupational-Series>

Education Transcripts

SUBMITTING YOUR TRANSCRIPTS: Positions which are scientific or technical in nature often have very specific educational requirements. A transcript is required to verify educational achievement. Pay careful attention to the Qualifications and Education sections to identify vacancies where a transcript is required. Even if you hold a similar position or are a current FDA employee, you are not exempt from transcript requirements.

FOREIGN EDUCATION: If you are using education completed in foreign colleges or universities to meet the qualification requirements, you must show that the education credentials have been evaluated by a private organization that specializes in interpretation of foreign education programs and such education has been deemed equivalent to that gained in an accredited U.S. education program; or full credit has been given for the courses at a U.S. accredited college or university. For more information about this requirement, please visit the [U.S. Department of Education website for Foreign Education Evaluation](#).

Security Clearance Requirements

Background Investigation/Security Clearance is required. All employees must pass a security investigation. Failing to pass the background check may be grounds for removal or legal action. If hired, you may be subject to additional investigations at a later time.

Vaccination Requirements

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. Therefore, to the extent a Federal job announcement includes the requirement that

applicants must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 pursuant to Executive Order 14043, that requirement does not currently apply. Federal agencies may request information regarding the vaccination status of selected applicants for the purposes of implementing other workplace safety protocols, such as protocols related to masking, physical distancing, testing, travel, and quarantine.

Ethics Clearance Requirements

This position may require financial disclosure reporting and will be subject to FDA's prohibited financial interest regulation. If you are hired, you may be required to divest of certain financial interests. You are advised to seek additional information on this requirement from the hiring official before accepting any job offers. For more information please visit the FDA Ethics web page: <https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/jobs-and-training-fda/ethics>.

Equal Employment Opportunity

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. [Equal Employment Opportunity \(EEO\) for federal employees & job applicants](#)

Reasonable Accommodation

Federal agencies must provide reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. Applicants requiring reasonable accommodation for any part of the application process should follow the instructions in the job opportunity announcement. For any part of the remaining hiring process, applicants should contact the hiring agency directly. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis. A reasonable accommodation is any change to a job, the work environment, or the way things are usually done that enables an individual with a disability to apply for a job, perform job duties or receive equal access to job benefits. Under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, federal agencies must provide reasonable accommodations when: An applicant with a disability needs an accommodation to have an equal opportunity to apply for a job. An employee with a disability needs an accommodation to perform the essential job duties or to gain access to the workplace. An employee with a disability needs an accommodation to receive equal access to benefits, such as details, training, and office-sponsored events. You can request a reasonable accommodation at any time during the application or hiring process or while on the job. Requests are considered on a case by-case basis. Learn more about [disability employment and reasonable accommodations](#) or [how to contact an agency](#).

E-Verify

The Food and Drug Administration participates in the USCIS Electronic Employment Eligibility Verification Program (EVerify). E-Verify helps employers determine employment eligibility of new hires and the validity of their Social Security numbers.

How to Apply

How to Apply: Submit resume or curriculum vitae and letter of interest with **"Cures - Division Director – OAS"** in the subject line to: CVMOpportunities@fda.hhs.gov. Applications will be accepted through 6/13/23.

Announcement Contact

For questions regarding this announcement, please contact CVMOpportunities@fda.hhs.gov using the subject line of **"CURES – Division Director – OAS"**.

The Department of Health and Human Services is an equal opportunity employer with a smoke free environment.

FDA is an equal opportunity employer.

