



Title 21 Vacancy Announcement
Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN)
Office of Analytics and Outreach (OAO)
Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Staff (BBS)
Supervisory Mathematical Statistician

Application Period: August 17, 2023 – September 7, 2023

Area of Consideration: 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: Supervisory Mathematical Statistician

Series: 1529, (Mathematical Statistics)

Location(s): Remote

Salary: Starting at \$132,368

Work Schedule: Full Time

Cures Band(s): Band D

Full Performance Band Level: Band D

Travel Requirements: up to 25%

Bargaining Unit: 8888, Non-Bargaining Unit

Relocation Expenses Reimbursement: You may qualify for reimbursement of relocation expenses in accordance with agency policy.

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 (FDA or Agency) is the regulatory, scientific, public health and consumer protection agency responsible for ensuring all human and animal drugs, medical devices, cosmetics, foods, food additives, drugs and medicated feeds for food producing animals, tobacco and radiation emitting devices safe, and effective.

The mission of the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition is to plan, develop, and administer policies and programs for protecting and promoting the public health by ensuring

that the nation's food supply is safe, secure, sanitary, wholesome, and truthfully and otherwise properly labeled, and that cosmetics products are safe and truthfully and otherwise properly labeled.

Duties/Responsibilities

This position is located in the Department of Health and Human Services, Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN), Office of Analytics and Outreach (OAO), Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Staff. The primary mission of the OAO is to provide Center and Agency leadership in key research areas including mathematical statistics and biostatistics with special emphasis on sampling recommendations and complex experimental design and analysis of regulatory and applied research data across the Center (including food additives and dietary supplements, microbiological and chemical, toxicological, and method development and validation). The incumbent will perform the following duties:

- Serves as a national and international expert and authority on mathematical statistics applied to the analysis of foods, food additives, cosmetics, toxic elements, pathogens, and dietary supplements.
- Serves as the Office, Center, and Agency spokesperson and an authoritative source of information and advice on statistical methods used both internally and externally, including reviews of Qualified Health Claims, estimates of prevalence of foodborne pathogens within specific commodities, appropriate analysis of toxicological and chemical data.
- Provides expert guidance on sampling recommendations and interpretation of statistical approaches and analyses, on a regular basis, to the senior leaders and key decision makers of CFSAN program offices, counterparts and leaders in other FDA Centers (such as ORA, NCTR, and CVM) and counterparts outside FDA (IEH, EPA, FSIS) to ensure program stakeholders are kept aware of emerging methodologies and statistical models.
- Establishes and manages a research and consulting program within the Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Staff, OAO, focused on the statistical analysis, biostatistics, experimental design, data science, and interrogation and aggregation of data.
- Identifies and develops strategies and applications to assist in research objectives to address gaps in knowledge and understanding of microbial and chemical prevalence, toxicity, and experimental design and approaches.
- Provides scientific expertise to highly trained and skilled multidisciplinary staff of mathematical-statisticians and statisticians that will establish and enhance overall statistical literacy and appropriate application of statistics to decision making.
- Serves as the resident expert on biostatistics and experimental design and first line supervisor of the Biostatistics Team within the Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Staff which includes a range of mathematical statisticians.
- Plans, initiates, coordinates, and effectively manages the research and consulting program, and provides supervision, direction, and guidance to development and/or

evaluation of statistical methods and analysis.

- Serves as the resident expert on biostatistics and experimental design and first line supervisor of the Biostatistics Team within the Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Staff which includes a range of mathematical statisticians.
- Provides scientific, technical, leadership and guidance, in review of statistical methods and models applied to regulations and guidance in programs with strategic initiatives and related to food, cosmetics, and dietary supplements. Reviews highly complex statistical analyses and results related to areas under the purview of the Center that might impact consumers, industry, or other stakeholders. The supervisor also serves as an expert consultant on statistical methodologies to the Office, Center and Agency leadership, and external constituencies (e.g., Congress, consumers, industry) on matters pertaining to the analysis of experimental and sampling efforts.
- Participates in strategic and operational planning of scientific and technical programs and collaborates with OAO/CFSAN managers in the presentation and defense of the statistical methods and conclusions in such plans to senior CFSAN managers. The supervisor is responsible for recognizing potential inadequacies in the statistical analysis of data as it relates to problems of FDA concern and for ensuring that researchers and policy analysts reach statistically justified conclusions and have the necessary information and tools to perform appropriately designed research.
- Maintains effective relationships with the CFSAN Offices and in the scientific community. Sustains an expert working knowledge of new scientific advancements having impact upon scientific issues (e.g., statistical models and data science). The supervisor organizes and leads workgroups to address scientific and regulatory issues related to statistics both nationally and internationally.

Supervisory responsibilities:

The supervisor is responsible for supervising the biostatistics program and building an efficient statistics team that can effectively and continuously address the Agency's scientific goals as they are assigned to the Branch, including the following duties: 1) technical consultation; 2) long term planning; 3) ensuring consulting and research reports are completed and documented in a timely and regular way; and 4) ensuring adherence to CFSAN, OAO, and international biostatistical and statistical methodologies and standards of analysis, modeling, and design. The supervisor is responsible for managing human resources within the Branch, ensuring quality of work-life issues are addressed in a timely and effective manner for all Branch employees, meeting employee needs to ensure a productive, positive work environment, and addressing and adjudicating interpersonal conflicts in a fair and judicious way.

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:

- A. Degree: that included 24 semester hours of mathematics and statistics, of which at least 12 semester hours were in mathematics and 6 semester hours were in statistics; *OR*
- B. Combination of education and experience -- at least 24 semester hours of mathematics and statistics, including at least 12 hours in mathematics and 6 hours in statistics, as shown in A above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

For more information please see: [OPM Occupational Series Qualification Requirements](#)

Desired Professional Experience:

Our ideal candidate will possess,

- Expert level understanding of mathematical statistics including a publication proven research program.
- Ability to incorporate and evaluate novel and emerging statistical methods including those related to artificial intelligence, machine-learning, and primary mathematical statistics.
- Expert level experience that demonstrates sound judgment, strong leadership abilities in a scientific or public health environment;
- Demonstrate leadership to:
 - develop complex and basic program goals, and assure that agency goals and priorities are considered in carrying out and completing OAO/BBS's responsibilities;
 - direct and guide projects, including long-term and short-range planning;
 - establish objectives and priorities;
 - conduct periodic program assessments;
 - plan and direct the work of a multidisciplinary scientific staff;
- Experience communicating and effectively interacting with high level government officials, the scientific/academic communities, medical or health related organizations, members of congress or top-level representatives of counterpart Federal agencies, foreign government, officials, CEO level and senior representatives from regulated industry, other research stakeholders, consumer organizations, and the general public.

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 Requirements: All employees must pass a security investigation. Failing to pass the background check may be grounds for removal or legal actions. If hired, you may be subject to additional investigations at a later time.

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

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.

[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 (E-Verify). E-Verify helps employers determine employment eligibility of new hires and the validity of their Social Security numbers.

How to Apply

Submit resume or curriculum vitae with cover letter and a copy of transcripts (with foreign credentials evaluation, if applicable) by the closing date as identified above to CFSAN-Cures@fda.hhs.gov. Candidates can opt out of this process by annotating resume with “do not share”. Please reference Job Reference ID: **“OAO Supervisory Mathematical Statistician”**

Announcement Contact

For questions regarding this Cures position, please contact CFSAN-CURES@fda.hhs.gov.

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

FDA is an equal opportunity employer.

