



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 Applied Research and Safety Assessment (OARSA)
Toxicologist

Application Period: 8/18/2023 – 09/01/2023

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: Toxicologist

Series: 0415 (Toxicology)

Location(s): Laurel, MD

Salary: Starting at \$112,015

Work Schedule: Full Time

Full Performance Band Level: Band C

Cures Band(s): Band C

Travel Requirements: Up to 25%

Bargaining Unit: 3591 Bargaining, National Treasury Employee Union

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.

CFSAN is responsible for planning, developing, and administering 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 cosmetic products are safe and truthfully and otherwise properly labeled.

Duties/Responsibilities

This position is located in the Division of Toxicology (DT) within the Office of Applied Research and Safety Assessment. The Division is responsible for conducting basic and applied research designed to identify toxicity and the underlying mechanisms and/or modes of action of toxic compounds that are in foods, food additives, dietary supplements and other contaminants that inadvertently or intentionally enter the food supply. The incumbent will be responsible for the following:

- Develop and implement a developmental neuro-toxicology (DNT) laboratory.
- Utilize the newly developed and validated DNT methods to evaluate chemicals important to the FDA Foods program.
- Develop predictive *in vitro* and alternative animal approaches to evaluate the safety of chemicals in foods and dietary supplements.
- Develop a testing battery for DNT that includes assays at many different levels including *in silico*, *in vitro*, and alternative animal assays.
- Implement toxicology research activities supporting implementation of the Agency's initiatives as well as CFSAN and DT's Strategic Research Plan and Research Outcomes.
- Develop, validate, and utilize *In Vitro*, Alternative and Refined Animal Models for Toxicity Testing, specifically in the area of developmental neurotoxicity.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Supervisory Responsibilities: This is not a supervisory role.

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 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:

Toxicology Series, 0415:

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. [OPM Occupational Series Qualification Requirements](#)

Professional Experience: Expertise in developmental neurotoxicity.

Desired Professional Experience:

- Experience in developmental neurotoxicology for transforming 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. This could include toxicogenomic-based technologies.
- Experience communicating technical information in a clear way and work with staff at all levels of the organization and varying levels of domain expertise; excellent listening skills and a commitment to communicate in a timely manner.
- Experience working independently and also as a contributing, collaborative team member.
- Demonstrated experience utilizing good time management and organizational skills to effectively determine priorities and move work forward.

- Demonstrated experience developing networks and build alliances; collaborates across boundaries to build strategic relationships and achieve common goals.

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: Background Investigation/Security Clearance Requirements: A background investigation is required. All employees must pass a security background 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. Please refer to the Ethics Clearance Requirements section. 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>.

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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 (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: “**OARSA Toxicologist**” when applying.

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.

