



**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)**  
**Supervisory Geneticist**

**Application Period:** 6.17.2024 – 7.1.2024

**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 Geneticist

**Series:** 0440, Geneticist

**Location(s):** Remote

**Salary:** Starting at \$139,395

**Work Schedule:** Full Time

**Title 21 Pay Table & Band:** Table 1, 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.

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), and the 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 the analysis of next-generation DNA sequence data and bioinformatic expertise with special emphasis on bacterial foodborne pathogens and complex computational workflows and analysis of regulatory and applied research data across the Center (including food additives and dietary supplements, microbiological, and method development and validation).

## Duties/Responsibilities

- Serves as a national and international expert and authority on the analysis of microbial next-generation DNA sequence data as applied to the analysis of foods, food additives, , and pathogens.
- Serves as the Office, Center, and Agency spokesperson and an authoritative source of information and advice on bioinformatics used both internally and externally, including reviews of next-generation DNA sequencing analyses and reports and appropriate analysis of whole-genome shotgun sequence data, metagenomics sequence data, and targeted amplicon sequence data.
- Provides expert guidance on bioinformatics and interpretation of bioinformatic 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 bioinformatic models.
- Establishes and manages a research and consulting program within the Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Staff, OAO, focused on microbial genomics, bioinformatics, computational workflow 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 genomics and bioinformatics and experimental design and approaches.
- Provides scientific expertise to highly trained and skilled multidisciplinary staff of geneticists, biologists, computer scientists, and data scientists that will establish and enhance overall bioinformatic literacy and appropriate application of bioinformatics to decision making.
- Serves as the resident expert on bioinformatics and genetics and first line supervisor of the Analytics Team within the Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Staff.
- Plans, initiates, coordinates, and effectively manages the research and consulting program, and provides supervision, direction, and guidance to development and/or

evaluation of bioinformatic methods, microbial genomics, and analysis.

- Provides scientific, technical, leadership and guidance, in review of bioinformatic and microbial genomic methods and models applied to regulations and guidance in programs with strategic initiatives and related to food and dietary supplements. Reviews highly complex genetic and bioinformatic 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 genetics and bioinformatic methodologies to the Office, Center and Agency leadership, and external constituencies (e.g., Congress, consumers, industry) on matters pertaining to the analysis of next-generation DNA sequence data and applications.
- Participates in strategic and operational planning of scientific and technical programs and collaborates with OAO/CFSAN managers in the presentation and defense of the bioinformatic and next-generation DNA sequence analysis methods and conclusions in such plans to senior CFSAN managers. The supervisor is responsible for recognizing potential inadequacies in the genomic data as it relates to problems of FDA concern and for ensuring that researchers and policy analysts reach 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., bioinformatics, genomics, and data science). The supervisor organizes and leads workgroups to address scientific and regulatory issues related to bioinformatics and foodborne pathogen genomics both nationally and internationally.

#### Supervisory Responsibilities:

Supervisor provides occupational specific technical and administrative direction 25 percent or more of the time to three or more subordinate employees performing the work and functions of the organization. \* Obtains resources and identifies strategic objectives for the organization. \* Defines jobs, selects employees, and assigns work; defines technical work requirements and milestones; evaluates the organization and employee accomplishments by accepting or rejecting work products; and presents and defends organization and employees work to senior management and other offices. \* Recommends employee promotions and recognition; approves leave; implements performance modifications and takes corrective actions as appropriate. \* Provides equal opportunity in all Federal human capital and employment programs regardless of race, color, gender, national origin, religion, age, disability, genetic information, sexual orientation, affiliation or non-affiliation with a labor organization, political affiliation, status as a parent or gender identity. \* Provides employees resources and information that insures a safe and healthy work environment.

Performs other duties as assigned.

## 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:**

**Degree:** genetics; or one of the basic biological sciences that included at least 9 semester hours in genetics

### **Position's Desired Skills, Experience, or Education:**

Our ideal candidate will possess,

- Experience in genomics, genetics, and bioinformatics including a publication proven research program.
- Experience incorporating and evaluating novel and emerging bioinformatic methods including those related to long-read sequencing, machine-learning, and metagenomics.
- Experience that demonstrates sound judgment, strong leadership abilities in a scientific or public health environment;
- Leadership experience that includes:
  - 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 action. 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

### Reasonable Accommodation Policy

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

How to Apply: Submit resume or curriculum vitae, cover letter, and copy of all college

transcripts and/or foreign education evaluation by the closing date as identified above to [CFSAN-CURES@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:CFSAN-CURES@fda.hhs.gov) and include the job reference ID: OAO Supervisory Geneticist. Candidate resumes may be shared with hiring official within the CFSAN with a similar job vacancy. Candidates can opt out of this process by annotating resume with “do not share”. For questions, please contact [CFSAN-CURES@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:CFSAN-CURES@fda.hhs.gov) and include the job reference ID: “**OAO Supervisory Geneticist**”

## Announcement Contact

For questions regarding this Cures position, please contact [CFSAN-CURES@fda.hhs.gov](mailto: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.*

