



Title 21 Detail Announcement
Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
Office of Commissioner

Application Period: August 7, 2024 - August 21, 2024

Area of Consideration: HHS-wide detail opportunity. This detail is reimbursable. 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: Chief Scientist

Series: AD-0601

This announcement is for a 120-day detail as the Chief Scientist for Office of Commissioner.

Salary: \$259,391 - \$373,165

Location(s): Silver Spring, MD

Work Schedule: Full Time

Title 21 Band: Pay Table 4, Band H

Travel Requirements: Up to 25% travel

Bargaining Unit: This is a non-bargaining unit position.

This Detail/Temporary Promotion is being filled under a stream-lined hiring authority, Title 21, Section 3072 of the 21st Century Title 21 Act.

Detail

- a. Details from a Title 21 position to another Title 21 position are permitted.
- b. Details from a non-Title 21 position to a Title 21 position are permitted except for: Title 42 (g) employees that are Visiting Associates and Visiting Scientists, 42 U.S.C. § 217 (a) Advisory Committee Members (and Consultants).

Temporary Promotion

- a. A temporary promotion may be offered.
- b. The salary of an employee temporarily promoted to such positions of higher responsibility will revert to their permanent salary upon return to their permanent position of record.
- c. The selected candidate will be given advance written notice (i.e., a Memorandum of Understanding) of the conditions associated with the time-limited promotion.

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 are safe, and effective.

FDA's Chief Scientist provides strategic leadership, coordination, and expertise on scientific matters in order to support scientific excellence, innovation and capacity to achieve FDA's public health mission. Incumbent serves as the Chief Scientist and is responsible for facilitating coordination between multiple programs; oversight of research; approval and disapproval of subject matter expert (SME) designation; and oversight for the activities related to policy, guidance, and process improvement development within the super office to enhance efficiency and ensure expeditious communication of decisions/actions across the Office, Agency and other external stakeholders, as appropriate. This position is located in the Office of the Office of the Commissioner, Office of the Chief Scientist.

Duties/Responsibilities:

- Provides executive and scientific leadership for FDA's cross-cutting scientific research and related policies, programs, and initiatives;
- Participates a senior science advisor to the Commissioner on FDA science, innovation, and capacity in research to meet FDA's regulatory mission and public health needs;
- As designated by the Commissioner, represents the Agency in meetings and conferences with officials/representatives of higher departmental echelons, counterpart government departments and agencies, national and international organizations and groups, the scientific and academic communities, and other stakeholders concerning the Agency scientific programs and activities. The incumbent is authorized to speak for the Commissioner and advocate for his/her and the Administration's priorities and initiatives.
- Facilitates scientific communication and cooperation at all levels, including among Centers and Offices, and nurtures interaction with the external scientific community to ensure the optimal use of available resources and tools to advance FDA's mission;
- Supports the Centers in creating nimble, responsive, high quality scientific research organizations that consistently bring the best science to bear on FDA decision- making;
- Provides oversight of the development and implementation of strategies, plans, policies, and budgets to build and improve FDA's regulatory and scientific capacities, systems, and programs, including:
 - Developing the FDA Science and Research Plan for determining, prioritizing, and accomplishing the research needs of FDA;
 - Developing and advocating for a budget to support intramural research;
 - Tracking and, as appropriate, coordinating intramural research awards made by each center or science- based office within the Office of the Commissioner;
- Providing executive and scientific leadership in the development of agency fellowship programs;
- Facilitating and supporting training and skills improvement of the existing scientific workforce at FDA;
- Building capacity and expertise in the quantitative disciplines (e.g., data science, biostatistics, informatics) and other scientific disciplines across FDA;
- Developing and managing cross-cutting workgroups and develops cross-cutting

- extramural programs to advance FDA's science agenda and knowledge base; and
- Facilitating and supporting efforts for the modernization of cosmetics implementation
- Ensuring that there is no duplication of research efforts supported by the Reagan- Udall Foundation for the FDA;

Supervisory Responsibilities:

- Manages one or more portfolios and provides leadership and direction for multiple, smaller program offices.
- The incumbent Acts on behalf of the Commissioner to provide executive leadership, guidance, and oversight of assigned programs, including direct line authority over the National Center for Toxicological Research (NCTR); the Office of Counterterrorism and Emerging Threats; the Office of Regulatory Science and Innovation; the Office of Scientific Integrity; the Office of Scientific Professional Development; and the Office of Laboratory Safety;
- Provides management and support services to the Science Board to the FDA, including convening the Science Board to provide advice to the Commissioner and other appropriate officials as circumstances warrant; and
- Implements initiatives, management and operational systems, concepts, techniques, and policies for improving and increasing contact, communication, and responsiveness on FDA, Departmental, Administration, and Presidential initiatives.

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 verification of qualifications, completion and 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.
- 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 later. This position requires the incumbent to have access to highly classified data, documents, facilities and/or materials related to national security, thus demanding a high degree of public trust, and requiring the incumbent to possess or obtain and maintain a Top-Secret Security clearance.
- Position requires eligibility for access to Sensitive Compartmented Information (SCI), other intelligence-related Special Sensitive information, or involvement in Top Secret Special Access Programs (SAP).
- Applicants must submit to and successfully pass a urinalysis drug screening prior to appointment and are subject to unannounced random drug testing for the duration of their time in this position.
- This position is designated as an SES Equivalent position.

Qualifications

To be placed into a Title 21 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 Title 21 appointments. The FDA OTS will use the basic requirements defined in the Title 21 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.

To qualify for this Title 21 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:

General Medical and Healthcare Series, 0601

Candidates must have the following:

Degree - a doctoral-level degree from an accredited institution of higher learning, such as: Ph.D., M.D., D.V.M., D.D.S., D.N.D., Sc.D., or degree with major study in an academic field related to the medical field, health sciences or allied sciences appropriate to the work of the position equivalent to a Ph.D.;

AND

Professional Experience:

- A minimum of **at least fifteen years related experience** in the scientific, clinical, and/or public health research fields.
- A strong record of peer-reviewed original and applied research.
- Strong interest in the breadth of science applicable to FDA regulatory programs.
- In-depth knowledge of the Agency’s policies, and scientific and regulatory programs as they relate to medical products.
- Talent for building partnerships and coalitions with stakeholders in public and private arenas.

Mandatory Managerial/Executive Qualifications:

Candidates must have the ability to bring about strategic change, both within and outside the organization, to meet organizational goals; the ability to lead people toward meeting the organization’s vision, mission, and goals:

- Ability to meet customer expectations;
- Ability to manage human, financial, and information resources strategically;
- Ability to build coalitions internally and with other Federal agencies, State and local

governments, nonprofit and private sector organizations, foreign governments, or international organizations to achieve common goals.

Desired Qualifications:

Candidates should have:

- Executive level administrative or managerial experience that demonstrates sound judgment, strong leadership abilities in a scientific or public health environment;
- Demonstrate leadership competence and abilities to:
- develop complex and basic program goals, and assure that agency goals and priorities are considered in carrying out and completing 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 large scientific research staff;
- Experience indicating the ability to communicate and effectively interact with the scientific/academic and public health communities; medical and other health-related organizations; high level government officials, including members of Congress, principal representatives of counterpart Federal agencies, foreign government officials; CEO-level and other senior representatives from regulated industry; and other research stakeholders.
- Experience leading a significant scientific organization within government, industry, or academia;
- Extensive knowledge in the development and manufacturing of drugs, devices, biologics, food, veterinary products, cosmetics, and/or tobacco products;
- Familiarity with the application of FDA laws and regulations;
- Training, professional development, and outside activities that provide evidence of initiative, resourcefulness, and potential for effective job performance, such as invitations, presentations, and international activities;
- Receipt of honors, awards, or other recognition for performance or contributions based on managerial
- excellence.
- Receipt of honors, awards, or other recognition for performance or contributions based on scientific excellence.
- Broad familiarity with diverse, cutting-edge scientific technologies used in FDA regulatory science labs.

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: Top-Secret.

The position requires a Top-Secret/Sensitive Compartmented Information (TS/SCI) security clearance, and the incumbent has access to documents and facilities related to national security. Drug usage could impair the reliability, stability, and judgment of the incumbent which could undermine public confidence in the agency. Drug dependency would create the possibility of coercion and irresponsible actions leading to the disclosure of highly sensitive, top-secret information. Therefore, this is a Testing Designated Position, and the incumbent is subject to testing for drug usage.

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](#).

How to Apply

Applications will be accepted by all qualified applicants. Please send letter of interest addressing your experience in the major duties and responsibilities of the position and detailed current resume to CuresExecutives@fda.hhs.gov. Please reference Job Reference ID in subject line of email: OC-OCS-2024-03. Applications will be accepted through **August 21, 2024**.

Announcement Contact

For questions, please contact CuresExecutives@fda.hhs.gov.

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

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