VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, NATIONAL CENTER FOR TOXICOLOGICAL RESEARCH

Position Title: Interdisciplinary Research Staff Fellow / Visiting Scientist

Series: This position will be filled in an appropriate occupational series (e.g., biology, microbiology, toxicology, chemistry, health sciences, or related fields) under Title 42 U.S.C. 209(g). An official transcript or an original foreign education credential will be required upon selection for the position. A course-by-course foreign education credential may be required depending on the occupational series selected. A copy of the foreign education credential is acceptable for application purposes.

Location: Jefferson, AR. Position is Telework Eligible, as determined by agency policy.

Opening Date: Monday, December 16, 2024

Closing Date: Sunday, January 5, 2025

Salary Range: Salary is commensurate with education and experience.

Area of Consideration: All U.S. Citizens or all eligible foreign nationals. Foreign nationals must have resided in the U.S., three (3) out of the last five (5) years.

Special Notes: This position will be filled as a Title 42 209 (g) appointment. This is an Excepted Service position under Title 42. This appointment does not confer any entitlement to a position in the competitive service. This position is covered by the HHS and NTEU Consolidated Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). We may make additional selections for similar positions from this vacancy announcement.

Introduction:
This position is located in the Division of Genetic & Molecular Toxicology, Office of Research, National Center for Toxicological Research (NCTR), U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The FDA is responsible for protecting the public health by assuring the safety, efficacy and security of human and veterinary drugs, biological products, medical devices, our nation's food supply, cosmetics, and products that emit radiation.

NCTR is a multi-disciplinary research center. NCTR's primary mission is to conduct peer-reviewed research and develop new scientific tools for the FDA to improve public health. This research produces new data and innovative tools to solve complex health issues and anticipated toxicological problems, thus enhancing FDA regulatory decision making. NCTR provides

multidisciplinary training and fosters national and international collaborations with scientists from government, academia, and industry.

The mission of the Division of Genetic and Molecular Toxicology includes developing methodology for detecting the genetic toxicity of chemical agents in a manner consistent with predicting genetic risk to humans, determining the mechanisms involved in chemically induced genetic toxicity, and incorporating the new molecular biology technologies for the development of biomarkers and conducting hazard assessments, specifically cancer hazard assessments, that are used in FDA regulatory decisions.

Duties/Responsibilities:
NCTR is seeking a highly qualified scientist who will provide technical and scientific support in implementing research projects defining the toxicity and genetic toxicity of smoke and aerosols generated from tobacco products.

Specific duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Works as part of a research team that develops, designs, and conducts innovative studies evaluating the toxicity and genetic toxicity of inhaled substances related to the use of tobacco products.
- Participates in all phases of research of a limited scope as assigned. When directed, performs assigned experiments in an independent manner and utilizes expertise in designing and conducting laboratory studies for assessing test substance toxicity and genetic toxicity.
- Prepares standard operating procedures for the methods; collects and analyzes raw data.
- To accomplish research, utilizes various experimental techniques such as cell culture, smoking/vaping robot exposures, toxicity and mutational analysis.
- Maintains equipment associated with the research, including smoking/vaping robots and exposure chambers, a cigarette conditioning chamber.
- Maintains stocks of supplies necessary for conducting the research studies.
- Conducts data analysis, such as statistical assessments of significance and computational analysis of relative dose response induction (e.g., benchmark dose response analysis).
- Works effectively in a multi-disciplinary team of regulatory scientists and research scientists to enhance FDA's regulatory mission.
- Communicates well with team members, stakeholders, and supervisors.

- Interacts with colleagues throughout the Agency in support of FDA research and missions.

- Writes or assists in writing manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed journals, which may include preparing and reviewing technical reports and scientific papers from within and outside NCTR.

- Presents or assists in presenting research in scientific journals and at professional conferences.

Educational Requirements:

- Candidates must have a doctoral-level degree from an accredited institution of higher learning, including: Ph.D. or equivalent degree in the biological, microbiological, toxicological, chemical, health sciences, or a related field. Some exceptions may be made depending on the candidate's qualifications.

- Candidates must meet the minimum qualification requirements and possess one year of experience comparable in scope and responsibility to the GS-9 grade level in the Federal Service.

Desired Qualifications:
Our ideal candidate will possess at least one year of experience conducting research studies that broadly relate to toxicology and genetic toxicology using in vitro experimental models (e.g., bacterial or mammalian cell cultures). Beside experience conducting experimental studies in the laboratory, our ideal candidate will have experience with data analysis relating to the quantitative assessment of toxicological dose-response findings, e.g., Benchmark Dose analysis relative potency assessment.

Conditions of Employment:

Ethics Requirements: This position is subject to strict prohibited financial interest regulations which could restrict the type of financial interest (stock holdings) for the employee, the spouse, and minor children of the employee. Selectee for this position will be required to file a Confidential Disclosure Report (OGE 450) and may require the selectee to obtain clearance from the FDA Division of Ethics and Integrity before a final offer can be made. For additional information on the prohibited financial interests, please visit the FDA Ethics and Integrity Office website at https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/jobs-and-training-fda/ethics.

Security and Background Requirements: If not previously completed, a background security investigation will be required for all appointees. Appointment will be subject to the applicant's successful completion of a background security investigation and favorable adjudication. Failure to successfully meet these requirements may be grounds for appropriate personnel action. In

addition, if hired, a background security investigation or supplemental investigation may be required at a later time. Applicants are also advised that all information concerning qualification is subject to investigation. False representation may be grounds for non-selection and/or appropriate disciplinary action.

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.

Certification of Accuracy: All information concerning eligibility and qualification is subject to investigation and verification. False representation may be grounds for non-consideration, non-selection, or appropriate legal action.

Selective Service Registration: All applicants born male, on (or after) 12/31/1959, must be registered with the Selective Service System OR have an approved exemption. Visit www.SSS.gov for more info.

Application Procedures:

Candidates must submit a CV and brief statement of interest to:

Robert H. Heflich, Ph.D.
Division Director, Division of Genetic and Molecular Toxicology
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
National Center for Toxicological Research
Building 14/HFT-120
3900 NCTR Rd., Jefferson, AR 72079

Email: robert.heflich@fda.hhs.gov

Additional Announcement Information:

The FDA will provide reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities who are not able to apply by sending a letter or email to the hiring manager, upon request.

Benefits: The Federal Government offers a comprehensive benefits package. Explore the major benefits offered to most Federal employees at https://help.usajobs.gov/working-in-government/benefits.

Incentives may be authorized; however, this is contingent upon funds availability. If authorized, certain incentives will require you to sign a service agreement to remain in the Federal

government for a period of up to 3 years. **Note: This statement does not imply nor guarantee an incentive will be offered and paid.** Incentives include the following: moving expenses, recruitment or relocation incentive; student loan repayment, superior qualifications appointment, creditable service for annual leave for prior non-federal work experience or prior uniformed military service, etc.