

# 2018 ASPPH/CDC Public Health Fellowship Program Announcement



ASPPH Graduate Training Programs  
**EXPERIENCE** Public Health

**ASPPH** ASSOCIATION OF  
SCHOOLS & PROGRAMS  
OF PUBLIC HEALTH



## 2018 Fellowship Opportunities ASPPH/CDC Public Health Fellowship Program

### Program Announcement

The *ASPPH/CDC Public Health Fellowship Program* is a collaborative effort between the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). One of the primary purposes of this effort is to “identify new approaches and opportunities for field experience in which graduate candidates and early career professionals with graduate degrees can practice applying skills and knowledge learned in the classroom and field.”

The Program's purpose is to enable early career professionals with graduate degrees in public health (Masters and Doctoral level) an opportunity to round out their academic training and gain practical public health experience. Fellows will benefit from: exposure to state-of-the-art technology and databases; acquisition of skills and knowledge to enhance their careers; and interaction with technical experts in their chosen fields.

Upon completion of the Program, fellows will have made useful contributions to projects of national public health importance that are related to the mission of the CDC.

#### 1. Eligibility

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To be eligible for this program, applicants must have received their Masters or Doctorate degree prior to the beginning of the fellowship (no later than June 2018) or within the last five years (no earlier than June 2013). Graduate degrees must come from an ASPPH member graduate school or program of public health, accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). (For a list of ASPPH members, see [www.aspph.org](http://www.aspph.org).) All applicants must be U.S. citizens or hold a visa permitting permanent residence (“Green Card”) in the U.S. to be eligible for the fellowship program.

#### 2. Period of Performance

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Fellowship positions are full-time opportunities for the duration of **one year** beginning in July 2018. Positions may possibly be extended for up to two additional years, pending availability of funds and satisfactory performance by the fellow.

#### 3. Location

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Fellowship opportunities will be located in Atlanta, Georgia, Morgantown, West Virginia, or Washington, DC. Locations are specified in the project descriptions. Selected fellows are required to relocate to the fellowship location; **relocation expenses will not be reimbursed.**

#### 4. Funds Available

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The annual training stipend for the fellowship positions is \$47,265 for Masters level candidates, and \$52,204 for Doctoral level candidates (MD, PhD, ScD, or DrPH). The fellowship stipend is intended to assist with personal living expenses.

In addition to the fellowship stipend, fellows will have access to a \$4,000 health allowance that is intended to help offset the costs of health/dental/vision insurance premiums during the one year fellowship period. In addition, some positions may offer a “travel/training allowance” that may be used to cover project-related travel, tuition, journal subscriptions, association dues, etc. Not all positions will receive a travel/training allowance. The need for a travel/training allowance is determined by each individual host-office, not by ASPPH.

#### 5. Fellowship Opportunities Available

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There are currently **nine (9)** fellowship positions available for the 2018 ASPPH/CDC Public Health Fellowship Program.

**The following is a breakdown of fellowship opportunities at each Center/Institute/Program Office (C/I/O) at the CDC:**

C/I/O	Number of Positions
DHHS/Office of Global Affairs (DHHS/OGA)	1
National Center for Chronic Disease prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP)	1
National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP)	1
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC)	2
National Center for Immunizations and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD)	2
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)	1
Office of the Associate Director for Communication (OADC)	1

*To read full project descriptions for these positions, please see Section 11, and/or visit the ASPPH Training Programs Online Application System, as noted below.*

#### 6. Application Procedure

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Each applicant may apply for up to three (3) fellowship positions. Applications are to be completed online through the ASPPH Training Programs Online Application System at <https://fellowships-internships.aspph.org/>. Incomplete applications, and those that have not been submitted by the deadline, will not be accepted. Please see Section 9 for detailed application instructions.

**Friday, February 2, 2018**

## 7. Evaluation Criteria

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The following criteria will be used to assess the applicant's ability to participate in the fellowship program.

<u>Evaluation Criteria</u>	<u>Maximum Points</u>
Quality of Essay	40
Strength of Credentials	25
Previous Experience	25
Recommendations	10

## 8. Review & Final Selection

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By early-March an Objective Review Committee will complete the review of the applications based on the criteria described above. Candidates receiving a high score in Objective Review will advance to Technical Review at CDC. Applicants may be contacted by CDC staff and/or ASPPH staff for a telephone interview, additional information, and/or clarification of information relevant to the application. All final selections will be made by early May. Those applicants chosen will be immediately notified by phone and email. All other applicants will be notified by email.


## 9. Application Instructions

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The [ASPPH Fellowship Online Application System](#) is a centralized application service offering a secure, easy and convenient way for students/graduates of ASPPH member schools and programs of public health to apply to all ASPPH Fellowships and Internships. The online application is also accessible through the ASPPH website at [www.aspph.org](http://www.aspph.org).

<https://fellowships-internships.aspph.org/>

To begin your online application, please click the "Sign Up" button, below the Login button, to create a password protected account. Signing up is free and easy. If you already have an account, you can log in on this page as well.

Each applicant may apply for up to three fellowship positions, as described in Section 6. Please carefully read the instructions that appear throughout the online application system. After submission, applicants may edit applications by clicking on the pencil icon (  ) in the "My Status" section at any time prior to the application deadline. The application may be edited as necessary at any time prior to the application deadline. **If you edit your application, you must resubmit it before the deadline or it will not be reviewed.** Applications are reviewed only after the online application deadline has passed. Incomplete applications, and those that have not been submitted by the deadline, will not be accepted.

To complete the online application, you will need to provide the following information and documentation:

- Degree and expected graduation date
- Name, email address, and phone number of your faculty advisor if you are a current student.  
Your faculty advisor will be asked to confirm your expected graduation date.
- Resume/CV (saved as a PDF File)
- Graduate transcript from an ASPPH-member school or program of public health  
The transcript may be official or unofficial. If you are selected for a fellowship position, you will be required to provide an official transcript.
- Name, email address, and phone number of two recommenders.  
Your recommenders will be asked to provide letters of recommendation for you. The recommenders will be emailed directly from the application system, but only after you submit your application for the first time. **Do not submit your application for the first time on the due date; your recommenders will not have time to submit their letters. If you plan to submit your final application on the due date, you should enter your recommenders' information before then, submit the application in order to prompt the emails to your recommenders to be sent, and then click the edit button to continue working on your application. Remember to resubmit by the deadline.**
- One essay per position (1500 word max saved as a PDF File)  
You must submit a separate essay for each position to which you are applying explaining your interests, strengths, and qualifications for that particular position, as well as how it will benefit your long-term career plans in the field of public health.

**Applications must be submitted electronically, through the Online Application System, by**

**11:59 PM Eastern Time on **Friday, February 2, 2018.****

*Incomplete applications will not be accepted. Unsubmitted applications will not be reviewed.*

## 10. Questions and Contacts

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All questions regarding the application process should be sent to [TrainingPrograms@aspvh.org](mailto:TrainingPrograms@aspvh.org)

## 11. Fellowship Project Descriptions for 2018

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***NOTE: All positions are for a one-year period beginning July 9, 2018***

❖ **Position #Y1-18-HHS-01**

**Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Secretary, Office of Global Affairs (DHHS/OGA)  
Washington, DC**

**Fellowship Title:**

Global Influenza Vaccine Sustainability and Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response Fellowship

**Office Background and Objectives:**

The Office of Global Affairs (OGA) supports and helps guide the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in international matters. OGA supports the Secretary and HHS leadership by providing direction across the Department's three strategic goals in global health: protecting and promoting the health of Americans; providing leadership and technical expertise; and advancing U.S. interests in diplomacy, development, and security. Within HHS, we coordinate international health and human services policy, research, and global health diplomacy for the benefit of Americans. OGA cooperates with other U.S. Government agencies on global health and human services issues, identifies and analyzes HHS global health and human services initiatives, and makes recommendations to the Secretary on these issues. OGA represents the Department to international health organizations, agencies, and representatives of foreign governments. It has a staff of public health professionals and support staff within its immediate office and on detail to other U.S. or international agencies, including U.S. Embassies and Missions overseas.

**Project Description:**

Project 1a: Since 2014, OGA and WHO have led, with WHO, six in-country assessments to build pandemic influenza preparedness in countries supported by the WHO Global Action Plan for Influenza Vaccines (GAP): Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Morocco, South Africa, and Vietnam. Thailand will be the seventh country to conduct an assessment. The WHO GAP aims to increase seasonal vaccine use, increase global vaccine production capacity, and stimulate research and development for better influenza vaccines. HHS (CDC, NIH, FDA, BARDA, OGA, OASH) has been a longstanding partner (financial and technical) in this global effort. These assessments also ensure the HHS investments made by BARDA, CDC, FDA, OGA, OASH and NIH are sustainable and yield tangible results. OGA's Role: OGA leads U.S. government coordination for this assessment, including participation by CDC, USAID, Department of State staff in-country, and leads the review of the assessment with WHO. The Fellow will synthesize the data and work with WHO officials in developing tangible recommendations that allow each country to reach sustainable influenza vaccine production.

Project 2b: Contribution to Department-wide, which is inclusive of CDC, policy as it relates to pandemic influenza program and policy coordination.

**Travel:**

The office has committed to providing substantial travel funds for this position.

**Required and/or Desired Skills and Knowledge:**

The individual will be responsible for coordinating and implementing policy and projects related to Influenza Vaccine Sustainability and Pandemic Influenza Policy and Program coordination; working in close collaboration with all relevant HHS operating and staff divisions.

Specific responsibilities include:

- Collaborating with WHO on sustainability of influenza vaccine manufacturing (and assessment)
- Preparing issue papers, memoranda, analyses, briefing documents, program proposals, position papers, and other documents;
- Providing logistical, administrative, and technical assistance to the Director and OGA senior staff on issues related to pandemic influenza preparedness and response;
- Establishing and maintaining effective working relationships within HHS, USG inter agency, U.S. Embassies, and other relevant organizations to promote HHS's mission and objectives.

Candidates must possess strong policy writing, oral, and analytical skills. Skills in monitoring and evaluation are also helpful. Candidates must possess the ability to translate scientific/technical writing in order to inform and engage diverse internal and external stakeholders. Candidates must be comfortable working in a fast-paced and high-visibility setting.

**Expected Benefits:**

The fellow will be located in DC and help to formulate and contribute to Department-wide policy as it relates to our affairs with other Ministries of Health and other U.S. Government Departments and agencies within the issue area of pandemics and emerging threats, specifically to pandemic influenza but may also work on other emerging infectious disease issues.

The fellow will work in a fast paced environment with direct engagement with Senior level political appointees within the Department of Health and Human Services and with the U.S. government interagency.

The fellow would support United States public health work as part of global preparedness. The fellow would be contributing in two main ways (1) advance our program partnership with WHO in implementing our influenza vaccine sustainability assessments and (2) contribute directly to national policy setting by contributing to HHS policy, which is inclusive of CDC policy.

- ❖ **Position #Y1-18-CCD-01**  
**National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP)**  
**Atlanta, GA**

**Fellowship Title:**

Global Chronic Disease Prevention Fellowship

**Office Background and Objectives:**

Chronic diseases are common, costly, and debilitating, and they can often be prevented. By choosing healthy behaviors - like avoiding tobacco, eating and drinking healthy foods and beverages, and getting regular physical activity and enough sleep - people can reduce their chances of getting a chronic disease or improve their health and quality of life if they already have a chronic disease.

CDC's National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP) works to prevent chronic diseases and reduce their health and financial costs with an approach that brings together monitoring to understand the problems, communities to work toward solutions and support healthy behaviors, and health care systems to detect problems early and help reduce or eliminate unhealthy behaviors.

The NCCDPHP's Office of Planning, Evaluation, and Legislation promotes the Center's priorities through the analysis of policies and programs; coordinating meetings, briefings, clearances, document review and development; developing messages, publications, reports, and strategic and budget plans and responding to time sensitive political issues or special assignments originating from CDC's Office of the Director, the Department of Health and Human Services, Congress, external stakeholders, and internal entities such as other centers and divisions.

**Project Description:**

Global activities offer an opportunity for CDC to extend the reach and impact of interventions focused on reducing the burden of chronic diseases and their associated risk factors. The primary focus of NCCDPHP's global activities is to disseminate best practices and to implement and assess the impact of program strategies on population groups or sub-groups that could inform domestic program investments. The Global Chronic Disease Prevention Fellow will serve as NCCDPHP's primary point of contact with CDC's Center for Global Health.

The fellow will coordinate global requests and activities for NCCDPHP. She or he will use an established SharePoint request tracker system to coordinate center wide global requests. The Global Chronic Disease Prevention Fellow will work collaboratively with divisions and programs across NCCDPHP, will help strategize about global chronic disease prevention, will ensure appropriate responses to global requests, and will regularly update NCCDPHP leadership on global chronic disease prevention work in NCCDPHP and across the agency.

The fellow will also participate in weekly meetings with his or her supervisor/mentor and with staff in NCCDPHP's small policy office. The fellow will participate in monthly meetings with all NCCDPHP division policy leads and in ad hoc meetings about global health, chronic disease prevention, request tracking, or other topics. The fellow will be encouraged to participate in CDC lectures and workshops that relate to the assignment and/or are of interest to the fellow.

**Travel:**

The office has committed to providing a travel/training allowance for this position.

**Required and/or Desired Skills and Knowledge:**

The fellow must have a strong public health background with excellent analytical, organizational, written and verbal communication skills. Experience and interest in global health, chronic disease prevention, and global chronic disease prevention in particular is preferred. Experience using Microsoft Excel and SharePoint is preferred.

**Expected Benefits:**

The fellow will gain experience working with a small center-level policy team at CDC and leading a portion of the policy team's work. The fellow will learn about all of the chronic disease efforts at CDC



and interact with all NCCDPHP divisions at CDC. The fellow will gain experience serving as the primary point of contact with the global health unit at CDC and have opportunities to interact with NCCDPHP leadership.

- ❖ **Position #Y1-18-STP-01**  
**National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP)**  
**Atlanta, GA**

**Fellowship Title:**

Public Health Analysis: A fellowship focused on strengthening prevention and control of HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STDs, TB, and protecting adolescent health

**Office Background and Objectives:**

CDC's National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP) is committed to our vision of a future free of HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis, STDs, and tuberculosis (TB). As one of the largest Centers within CDC, NCHHSTP prioritizes cost-effective, scalable programs, policies, and research to achieve the greatest impact on reducing the incidence of HIV, viral hepatitis, STDs, and TB and preventing related illness and death. These infections result in high personal, societal, and economic costs, both in the United States and around the world. NCHHSTP's Office for Policy, Planning and Partnerships (proposed OP PP) provides leadership in policy analysis, legislative affairs, partnership development, and budget formulation and translates science into practical information for decision makers.

**Project Description:**

The ASPPH Fellow will contribute to the development and sustainability of policy initiatives to advance NCHHSTP's mission, including policy research and analysis, strategy development, and partnership engagement. The Fellow will participate in projects and analyses that educate and inform internal and external stakeholders about the vision, mission, and critical activities of NCHHSTP, and that advance program and policy strategy in the areas of HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STDs, TB prevention and control, as well as adolescent health. This will include conducting analysis of legislation, policy implementation, and federal agency directives and regulatory guidance and synthesizing analysis into briefing documents, position papers, correspondence, presentations, policy briefs, and other policy and program materials. The Fellow will be encouraged to identify public health policy needs and coordinate the preparation of information and materials in response to those needs to promote CDC's public health goals. The Fellow will work across organization units to facilitate communication about and coordination of Center policy activities. NCHHSTP's Fellow will develop and draft materials to support responses to Congressional and Executive Branch inquiries and correspondence requesting information regarding CDC's prevention strategies, programs, and responses to health problems, data, and general information requested about public health issues, particularly requests related to HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STDs, TB and adolescent health.

**Travel:**

The office has committed to providing a travel/training allowance for this position.

**Required and/or Desired Skills and Knowledge:**

- Knowledge of or interest in HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis, STDs, TB or adolescent health.

- Strong written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to work within tight deadlines to formulate responses that are technically correct and easily understood by outside audiences.
- Knowledge of policy analysis, partnership engagement, and strategic planning processes.
- Demonstrated ability to collaborate across organizational units and levels.
- Strong interpersonal skills.
- Demonstrated ability to collaborate with diverse colleagues, for example leadership, science, and program staff.

**Expected Benefits:**

NCHHSTP’s Fellow will gain a greater general understanding of Federal efforts to prevent and control HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis, STDs, and TB, as well as a specific knowledge and skills in policy, legislative affairs, and partner engagement. The Fellow will also have the opportunity to better develop policy analysis skills and a deeper knowledge of public health programs and practice.

- ❖ **Position #Y1-18-IPC-01**  
**National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC)**  
**Atlanta, GA**

**Fellowship Title:**

Suicide Prevention Fellowship: Contributing to Research, Scholarship, and Practice

**Office Background and Objectives:**

CDC’s National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC), Division of Violence Prevention (DVP) works with national organizations, state and local health agencies, and other partners to develop, implement, and promote effective violence prevention and control practices. This position is in the Research and Evaluation Branch (REB) in DVP. REB plans, directs, and conducts etiologic studies, effectiveness research, dissemination/implementation research, and program evaluations focusing on the prevention of violence, including, but not limited to, youth violence, intimate partner violence, sexual violence, suicide, child maltreatment, and elder abuse.

DVP is committed to stopping violence before it begins (i.e., primary prevention). The division’s work uses a public health approach to prevention, including:

- Monitoring violence-related injuries (including suicide)
- Conducting research on the factors that put people at risk or protect them from violence
- Creating and evaluating the effectiveness of violence prevention programs
- Helping state and local partners plan, implement, and evaluate prevention programs
- Conducting research on the effective adoption and dissemination of prevention

**Project Description:**

Suicide is a growing public health problem across the United States in every age group with rates increasing by 28% since 2000. Suicide is a complex problem with multiple risk factors across multiple levels contributing to it. CDC uses a public health approach to prevention which seeks to stop risk before it occurs and which looks beyond a singular focus on mental health or treatment-oriented approach to prevention.

Specific projects include providing scientific support on two cooperative agreements currently being

conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of novel suicide prevention interventions for middle aged males, a group with some of the largest increases in suicide rates over time and the greatest burden of suicide. A second project involves leading an effort to review and summarize state suicide prevention plans. This work is instrumental to establishing the baseline for an environmental scan designed to understand state suicide prevention activities across the nation. This work involves interaction with CDC scientists, contractors, and national experts. Other opportunities include finalizing fact sheets for death scene investigators (i.e. law enforcement, medical examiners, and coroners), working with mentors to complete a manuscript on Federal activities in suicide prevention, and contribution to new and ongoing manuscript development.

**Travel:**

The office has committed to providing a travel/training allowance for this position.

**Required and/or Desired Skills and Knowledge:**

Candidates should possess a *PhD* or other terminal degree in psychology, sociology, criminology, public health, epidemiology, or related field. Highly qualified candidates would possess:

- Experience or knowledge regarding evaluation research;
- Experience or knowledge of suicide research and prevention;
- Experience or knowledge related to public health research;
- A track record of scientific productivity exemplified by scientific publications and other evidence of effective written communication skills; and
- Ability to collaborate with other scientific and professional staff on behavioral research.

**Expected Benefits:**

NCIPC recently named suicide prevention as one of three priority areas of focus (along with child maltreatment and opioids). To this end, the Fellow will benefit from the opportunity to help elevate CDC's work in suicide prevention both within CDC and in the field, more generally. The Fellow will have access to senior level suicide prevention experts in the field, will take part in high profile projects (including assisting in a 50-state environmental scan of suicide prevention activities, evaluation of prevention interventions for middle aged males, etc.), and will educate the field on the importance of death scene investigations to suicide surveillance.

- ❖ **Position #Y1-18-IPC-02**  
**National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC)**  
**Atlanta, GA**

**Fellowship Title:**

A Public Health Approach to Social Norms Change: A Promising Approach to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect and Sexual Violence

**Office Background and Objectives:**

CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC), Division of Violence Prevention (DVP) is seeking candidates for an ASPPH fellowship. DVP supports extramural and intramural violence prevention research projects. Efforts include the prevention of youth violence, child maltreatment, sexual violence, intimate partner violence, and suicide. DVP is committed to stopping violence before it begins (i.e., primary prevention). The division's work involves:

- Monitoring violence-related injuries
- Conducting research on the factors that put people at risk or protect them from violence
- Creating and evaluating the effectiveness of violence prevention programs
- Helping state and local partners plan, implement, and evaluate prevention programs
- Conducting research on the effective adoption and dissemination of prevention strategies

The objective of the fellowship program is to provide public health graduate and post-doctoral students, and early career professionals the opportunity to gain hands-on public health and prevention experience in the area of violence prevention. The Fellow will assist with research, analyses, and programmatic activities as they relate to violence prevention work in DVP's Research and Evaluation Branch (REB), and more specifically, those activities that pertain to the sexual violence and child maltreatment team.

**Project Description:**

NCIPC/DVP is seeking a skilled fellow to assist us with research and evaluation activities related to research on the potential for social norms and messaging to change attitudes and behaviors related to child abuse and neglect and sexual violence. Social norms likely drive attitudes and behaviors related to a host of public health problems including whether parents use corporal punishment to discipline their children and whether bystanders intervene to prevent sexual violence. The Division of Violence Prevention is currently conducting formative research on norms around corporal punishment, bystander behavior, and other promising violence prevention strategies. There is a need for additional staff support to extend REB's current investments in social norms research. Specifically, REB seeks to use a social norms approach to change norms around child abuse and neglect and sexual violence. This includes using descriptive and injunctive norms to influence message development, testing, and selecting messages for use in a social norms approach to promote violence prevention. REB emphasizes shared risk and protective factors for violence prevention, and these must also inform social norms research and messaging.

This fellow will assist in manuscript development that uses the focus group corporal punishment norms research conducted within low-income, ethnically diverse communities. The fellow may also assist in message development, adaptation and testing for promotion of social norms change. The fellow will also assist with some current intramural research on norms related to sexual violence prevention, including existing projects on bystander behavior and potential new projects focused on sexual violence prevention. Sexual violence prevention norms research would focus on youth and young adults.

Duties may include, but are not limited to: (1) reviewing literature and past research on child abuse and neglect and sexual violence especially as it relates to social norms, message development, and communication campaigns and interventions, (2) contributing to current research including extending current research, analyzing past research qualitative and quantitative data, and leading or co-authoring scholarly manuscripts and/or conference submissions, (3) communicating, building, and maintaining relationships with scientists and communication experts within CDC and outside of CDC, and (4) contributing toward recommendations for future work in social norms within DVP.

**Travel:**

The office has committed to providing a travel/training allowance for this position.

### **Required and/or Desired Skills and Knowledge:**

Candidates should have at least a masters in public health (MPH). Highly qualified candidates would possess the following: (1) Experience or knowledge regarding violence research and evaluation, including child maltreatment and sexual violence; (2) Experience or knowledge of communications and social norms approaches to changing behavior; (3) Experience with qualitative and/or quantitative data analysis; (4) A track record of scientific productivity exemplified by scientific publications, presentations and other evidence of effective written and verbal communication skills; (6) Experience using qualitative, quantitative, or social network software; and (7) Ability to work independently and collaborate with interdisciplinary scientific and professional staff on health-related research. Experience in synthesis, translation, and dissemination of prevention information is desired, but not required. Applicants with related areas of expertise will be considered. Careful attention to detail and good organizational skills are a must. Strong communication and inter-personal skills are desirable as this position requires frequent communication regarding highly technical matters with CDC scientists.

### **Expected Benefits:**

The Fellow will gain experience and professional development so that the fields of public health and violence prevention in the U.S. are strengthened. Upon completion of a fellowship, the applicant will have:

- Received training in all aspects of research (e.g. data analyses, scholarly writing) especially related to social norms and evidence-based methods to prevent violence;
- Gained first-hand knowledge of the field of child abuse and neglect and sexual violence prevention;
- Become well-versed in the program and policy issues affecting public health; and
- Personally contributed to research of national importance related to the mission of the CDC and DVP.

Moreover, the fellow will benefit from high quality mentorship from CDC subject matter experts in the field of violence prevention and communication experts resulting in professional connections. The fellow will be encouraged to publish and present scientific findings that could strengthen his/her career opportunities. The research and findings produced from this experience will provide a greater understanding of how we can prevent violence, and mitigate the impact of violence after it has occurred.

❖ **Position #Y1-18-IRD-01**  
**National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD)**  
**Atlanta, GA**

### **Fellowship Title:**

Immunization Policy Fellowship

### **Office Background and Objectives:**

This fellowship opportunity is available with the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), Office of the Director, within the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia.

The ACIP is a group of medical and public health experts that develops recommendations for the use

of vaccines to control diseases in the United States. ACIP develops vaccine recommendations for both children and adults. Before recommending a vaccine the ACIP considers many factors, including the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine. The CDC sets the U.S. childhood and adult immunization schedules based on recommendations from the ACIP.

**Project Description:**

The fellow will help to support the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). Specific activities may include:

- Support the development of immunization recommendations and dissemination of recommendations to providers, public health and provider organization partners, and the public.
- Develop process and procedures for ACIP vaccine-specific and cross-cutting Work Groups. Work Groups are responsible for collection, analysis, and preparation of information for presentation, discussion, deliberation, and vote by the ACIP in an open public forum.
- Develop process and procedures for the ACIP Secretariat's efforts to ensure transparency and consistency of the committee deliberations.
- Perform a systematic literature review looking at cross-cutting immunization issues, such as vaccine effectiveness and safety in immunocompromised persons.
- Work on improving the usability of the U.S. adult immunization schedule.
- Learn about vaccine-policy related issues related to ongoing deliberations of the ACIP.
- Learn about National Immunization Technical Advisory Groups.

**Travel:**

The office has committed to providing a travel/training allowance for this position.

**Required and/or Desired Skills and Knowledge:**

A masters degree in public health (MPH) received within the last five years. Knowledge of infectious diseases, vaccine preventable diseases, and vaccines preferred.

**Expected Benefits:**

Through this position the fellow will have the opportunity to learn first hand about the development of U.S immunization policy.

- ❖ **Position #Y1-18-IRD-02**  
**National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD)**  
**Atlanta, GA**

**Fellowship Title:**

School Vaccination Coverage and Exemption Assessment Fellowship

**Office Background and Objectives:**

The National Center for Infectious and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD), has taken a lead in promoting immunization and providing access to safe and effective vaccines both in the United States and around the world. As a disease-prevention program, NCIRD provides leadership for the planning, coordination, and conduct of immunization activities nationwide. The activities for this fellowship will be conducted within the Assessment Branch (AB), which is part of the Immunization Services Division (ISD) at NCIRD. ISD protects individuals and communities from vaccine preventable diseases through

the provision of federal funds and contracts to purchase vaccine, the provision of technical and financial support of immunization programs, provider and public education, evaluation, and research.

The Assessment Branch is responsible for monitoring school vaccination coverage and exemptions in the United States and affiliated jurisdictions. The 50 states, District of Columbia, selected U.S. cities and U.S.-Affiliated Islands report school vaccination and exemption data to CDC annually, where these data are analyzed and results are disseminated. The primary objectives for school vaccination assessment are to:

- Monitor state-mandated school vaccination among kindergartners.
- Monitor exemptions to state-mandated school vaccination requirements among kindergartners.
- Provide technical assistance on school vaccination assessment to state-level immunization programs.
- Conduct applied research to improve data quality and vaccination coverage.

### **Project Description:**

This Fellowship within the School Vaccination Assessment Group will provide the opportunity to learn about collecting programmatic data from state-level health departments for public health surveillance. Recent outbreaks have raised the profile of school vaccination requirements, vaccination coverage, and exemptions from school requirements leading to greater interest in these data. The primary activities of this fellowship are to work as part of a multidisciplinary team to:

- Revise the data collection instrument based on user feedback and evolving data needs.
- Develop database documentation, such as a codebook and data dictionary, necessary to prepare the school vaccination assessment data for analysis.
- Clean and analyze data using SAS.
- Co-author an annual MMWR report of the school vaccination assessment results.
- Prepare an abstract for submission to a national conference.

Technical assistance available from mentor will include assistance with formulation and design of project, execution of project, data analysis, and abstract writing.

### **Travel:**

The office has committed to providing a travel/training allowance for this position.

### **Required and/or Desired Skills and Knowledge:**

- Understanding of the basic principles of public health, epidemiology, biostatistics, and research ethics.
- Knowledge of public health surveillance and related analytic techniques.
- Knowledge of immunization policy and/or vaccine preventable diseases.
- Skills in use of software programs such as Microsoft Access, Word, and Excel, along with statistical software packages including SAS.
- Ability to carry out research under supervision.
- Good oral and written communication skills.

### **Expected Benefits:**

The fellow will gain experience in working with the Assessment Branch in CDC's National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases and, as a result, will become familiar with immunization programs and practices and related public health issues in general and related to school vaccination in

particular. He/she will develop new skills and improve existing ones in addressing concrete public health issues.

- ❖ **Position #Y1-18-OSH-01**  
**National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)**  
***Morgantown, West Virginia***

**Fellowship Title:**

Trends in occupational respiratory disease mortality among working adults in the United States.

**Office Background and Objectives:**

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is the federal agency responsible for conducting epidemiologic and clinical research and making recommendations for the prevention of work-related injury and illness. The mission of Respiratory Health Division is to advance protection against work-related hazards and exposures that cause or contribute to respiratory illness, injury, and death and to promote workplace-based interventions that improve respiratory health. The Surveillance Branch (SB) within RHD collects, analyzes, and disseminates health and hazard information related to occupational respiratory diseases. SB works to establish health surveillance systems in order to summarize information relating to overall incidence, prevalence, and mortality of occupational respiratory diseases, and defines the occurrence of specific diseases related to occupation, industry, geography, and demographic characteristics.

**Project Description:**

The objective of the fellowship is to provide public health graduate and early career professionals the opportunity to gain hands-on public health and prevention experience. Occupational respiratory diseases impose a large public health burden in the United States. The objective of this assignment is to examine time trends in mortality from selected occupational respiratory disease among U.S. adults. Data from the National Center for Health Statistics' multiple cause-of death (National Vital Statistics System) from 1968 to 2016 for adults aged  $\geq 18$  years will be accessed, and trends in deaths and mortality rates by selected characteristics will be examined using Joinpoint Regression Program (National Cancer Institute) and SAS (SAS Institute Inc., Cary, NC) software. Institutional Review Board approval is not required for this analysis of publicly available data.

Working with mentors, the fellow will be responsible for developing a database, preparing a plan for analyses, conducting data analyses, interpreting results, and formulating recommendations. The fellow will be expected to prepare an internal report outlining findings and an abstract for presentation at a national scientific conference. The fellow will have an opportunity to write a report for publication in the CDC's MMWR and/or a peer-reviewed journal.

**Travel:**

The office has committed to providing a travel/training allowance for this position.

**Required and/or Desired Skills and Knowledge:**

Experience in database management and data analysis is desirable. Especially helpful would be experience with multiple cause-of-death data from National Center for Health Statistics. Previous experience working with Joinpoint Regression Program (National Cancer Institute), SAS (SAS Institute Inc., Cary, NC) statistical software, and International Classification of Diseases is a plus. Applicants



must be proficient with standard Microsoft Office (Microsoft Corp.) products. Careful attention to detail and good organizational skills are a must. Strong writing, communication, and inter-personal skills are highly-desirable as this position requires frequent communication regarding highly technical matters with CDC epidemiologists.

**Expected Benefits:**

With technical support from CDC/NIOSH staff, the fellow will improve analytical skills and master Joinpoint Regression Program (National Cancer Institute) and SAS (SAS Institute Inc., Cary, NC) software, as well as learn the CDC/NCHS data processing system. The Fellow will improve/develop presentation and writing skills by attending the 2019 Annual Society for Epidemiologic Research Conference, and serving as a co-author on scientific publication outlining the study results.

The fellow will be an active member of the Surveillance Branch and will work closely with mentors who will provide guidance and assistance on all projects. The fellow will have the opportunity to attend internal presentations and training sessions and participate in activities offered by CDC (webinars).

- ❖ **Position #Y1-18-ADC-01**  
**Office of the Associate Director for Communication (OADC)**  
**Atlanta, GA**

**Fellowship Title:**

Public Health Analysis Fellowship

**Office Background and Objectives:**

The Fellow will support the CDC-INFO Content Team. The team (3 FTEs and 2 contractors [1 part-time]) serve as liaisons between the National Contact Center and CDC program staff in divisions throughout the agency. Agents at the Contact Center use scripts (prepared responses [PRs]) to answer questions from the public and clinicians that come in by phone, e-mail, or postal mail. We get about 1,000 inquiries each day on topics ranging from Autism to Zika.

CDC-INFO is part of the Division of Communication Services (DCS) within the Office of the Associate Director for Communication (OADC).

**Project Description:**

Fellow would need to be a little flexible to adjust to Team priorities. Although analytical work is planned, the Fellow may need to help with work related to CDC emergency response (EOC/JIC) needs and potentially quality review or other needs after CDC Contact Center changes vendors in late 2017.

Fellow as Public Health Analyst would learn and review CDC-INFO Content processes and database organization. Content database is somewhat complex and was initially organized based on guidance from medical librarian. Database also has CDC organizational chart categories (CIO/Division) and with changes over the years to CDC org chart, CDC-INFO needs help maintaining content in proper categories and identifying automated/linked processes to keep content labels current.

Fellow would compare CDC-INFO documents (SOP, handbook) to ensure the instructions correctly guide reader through processes and are consistent.

Fellow would help with reviewing batches of files in content database to ensure the files are current, consistent, and have Spanish versions.

Fellow would review messages in some batches of content (by topic such as STDs, healthcare-associated infections) to help ensure questions/titles are relevant, responses are clear and concise, and that PRs are cross-referenced with key words and Probes (links to other prepared responses).

**Travel:**

The office has committed to providing a travel/training allowance for this position.

**Required and/or Desired Skills and Knowledge:**

The Fellow would help CDC-INFO with in-depth support in reviewing our documents (e.g., SOP, handbook) and database (about 4,000 prepared responses [PRs]) to help us ensure our procedures are sound, clear, and streamlined and to be sure our database content is properly organized. We need someone who has an interest in public health communication in terms of ensuring we're communicating effectively with external audiences AND who is skilled in analysis after reviewing and testing content (instructions, organizational categories, messages). In addition, we want the Fellow to pull reports from the database for review/ comparison and help us ensure the PRs are current, translated into Spanish (files are in place and have recent update dates), and consistent. Someone who is good with project management, strategic thinking (including analytical skills), and has sharp attention to detail would be ideal. Spanish language skills would be a plus, but are not required.

**Expected Benefits:**

Fellow will get a broad view and experience in dealing with messaging on all topics CDC handles. Fellow will get trained and experience in public inquiry processes and the organization of scripts that are used to respond to external questions and comments.

Fellow will have opportunity to improve the accessibility of vital health information for those contacting CDC.

Fellow can then share his/her experience with university through presentations, reports, and papers on how to effectively communicate with the public and partners on vital health matters. Fellow will get experience in analyzing content sets and actual messages for consistency and clarity. Fellow will get training on editing and message development that will improve his/her writing and presentation skills, directly benefiting his/her academic institution.

CDC-INFO is a unique aspect of communicating public health information. Although there are other health-based contact centers (FDA, NIH, SAMHSA, American Cancer Society), CDC's National Contact Center is linked to CDC's public health information and emergency response mission. CDC is sought after by members of the public as well as highly educated health workers who want to know basic facts or apply complex guidelines. CDC-INFO is a good vantage point for Fellows to understand the public and external communication needs from individuals that are representative of generally what concerns people about their health and safety. Working on this team can be impactful yet the skills and effort required are very specialized and needed for many types of communication strategy work.