

Cancer Research Training Award Fellowship in Tobacco Control and Surveillance Research

September 2023

ABOUT THE BEHAVIORAL RESEARCH PROGRAM

The National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Behavioral Research Program (BRP), within the Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences (DCCPS) seeks a Cancer Research Training Award (CRTA) fellow to serve in the Tobacco Control Research Branch (TCRB). Learn about the [BRP mission](#) and [TCRB and its key initiatives](#).

This full-time fellowship position is based in Rockville, Maryland and it provides outstanding opportunities for training and professional development that support program activities and contributes to the scientific literature in tobacco control and related areas of behavioral research. CRTA fellows collaborate with researchers in public health, behavioral health, and cancer population health and prevention at NCI, across the National Institutes of Health (NIH), across Department of Health and Human Services agencies, and the broader research community.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The CRTA fellow will function as part of a multidisciplinary team of federal staff, contractors, and external scientists who plan and implement tobacco control research activities. This position will focus on tobacco surveillance research. Day-to-day activities may include performing data analyses with large population health datasets, mainly the Tobacco Use Supplement to the Current Population Survey ([TUS-CPS](#)); contributing to manuscripts for peer-reviewed journal publications; conducting literature reviews or environmental scans; writing scientific content for federal staff and other audiences; participating in TUS-CPS meetings and other team meetings; and attending seminars and other training opportunities. Data from other resources, including the Population Assessment for Tobacco or Health (PATH) survey, may be analyzed. TCRB fellows are encouraged to initiate projects that align with TCRB's goals, and train to become an independent investigator in the areas of tobacco use and co-use, tobacco and cannabis co-use, health disparities, and cross-disciplinary areas of tobacco use (e.g., alcohol use and sleep health). Opportunities may be provided to attend scientific conferences and present findings. The fellow will also have opportunities to learn about NCI programmatic activities (e.g., the NIH scientific grants administration process) and will be encouraged to explore project collaborations with other branches of BRP and across NCI and NIH.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Applicants with a Ph.D. or equivalent degree in a relevant discipline (e.g., epidemiology, public health, biostatistics, psychology, behavioral health, health policy, implementation science) are encouraged to apply; highly qualified Ph.D. candidates permitted to apply.
- A strong interest in tobacco control research (particularly in tobacco use epidemiology, surveillance, cessation, health equity and disparities, and other research topics of interest to the branch) and cross-disciplinary areas of behavioral science research. See [TCRB key initiatives](#) for additional information.
- Experience conducting research or serving as a research assistant on a scientific project.
- Strong data management and statistical analysis skills (proficiency with statistical software packages like SAS, R, or STATA).
- Experience with questionnaire design/development preferred, but not required.
- Superior academic achievement, typically cumulative 3.5 GPA or higher.
- Excellent organizational, planning, writing, time management, and project management skills.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, and the ability to work independently and as part of a research team.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

To be considered for this position, the following materials must be submitted:

1. Cover Letter
Explain your interest in tobacco control, experience in data analysis, your professional development goals, and how you hope this fellowship will help achieve them.
2. Resume or curriculum vitae
3. Two signed letters of reference on official letterhead or sent from reference's email (can be submitted separately)

Application materials may be submitted via email to ncidccpsbrpadvances@mail.nih.gov with the subject line "TCRB Data Analysis Fellowship 2023." For questions about the position, contact [Ms. Kristen Mangold](#).

Highly ranked candidates will be requested to submit proof of U.S. citizenship (photocopy of birth certificate or passport) or resident alien status (Green Card) and official transcripts and/or proof of academic good standing of highest degree conferred. If currently enrolled in school, proof of academic good standing must be sent on official letterhead and signed by a graduate studies program director, advisor, or equivalent.

DCCPS is deeply committed to building a diverse health sciences workforce that maintains, fosters, and promotes an equitable, inclusive, accessible, and nurturing work environment. Diverse teams foster scientific innovation, improve the quality of research, contribute their lived experiences to a robust learning environment, advance the likelihood that underserved or health disparity populations participate in and benefit from health research, and enhance public trust.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

START DATE

October 2023 (negotiable).

STIPEND AND BENEFITS

This position is a one-year, full-time fellowship with a possibility for renewal. Stipends for CRTA fellows are adjusted yearly and are commensurate with academic achievement and relevant experience. View the [stipend range](#) for the initial appointment of CRTA fellows. Benefits include health insurance at no cost and a wide range of career development and social activities.

The office is in Rockville, Maryland and is easily accessible by car or public transportation from surrounding locations in Maryland and Washington, DC.

To learn more about BRP staff, please see our [online staff directory](#). You are encouraged to contact current and past fellows, mentors, and other staff members to learn more about the BRP fellow experience.