



American
Public Health
Association



American Public Health

2013

Public Health Fellowship in Government

www.apha.org/advocacy/fellowship/



The American Public Health Association (APHA) announces a call for applications for the APHA Public Health Fellowship in Government. This fellowship is sponsored by an unrestricted grant from Pfizer External Medical Affairs.



APHA is looking for candidates with strong public health credentials who wish to spend one year in Washington, D.C. working in a **CONGRESSIONAL** office on legislative and policy issues such as health, the environment or other public health concerns. There is a critical need for public health **PROFESSIONALS** including practitioners and researchers to engage in the federal policy process. The fellow will have the opportunity to see first hand how public policy impacts public health and to offer their public health expertise to policymakers. This hands on **EXPERIENCE** will be invaluable to the field of public health, policymakers and the public health fellow.



Fellows will spend one year working in Washington, D.C. on legislative, regulatory and policy issues that would benefit from the input of a public health professional. The fellow will have the option of serving on the staff of a member of Congress or a congressional committee.

Public Health Fellowship in Government 2013

www.apha.org/advocacy/fellowship/

Program Description: The fellowship will begin in January 2013 and continue through December 2013. The fellow will participate in an orientation at the beginning of the fellowship. Additional meetings may be coordinated by the American Public Health Association to include representatives of agencies that are part of the Public Health Service, Local Health Departments, State Health Departments, and NGOs involved in public health. By the end of the first quarter of the fellowship, the fellow may present the work to be done, and a year later, by the end of the first quarter, he/she will present the results of the work accomplished in the prior year at a meeting sponsored by Pfizer External Medical Affairs in March 2013.

Program Purpose: The fellowship is designed to provide a unique public policy learning experience, to demonstrate the value of science-government interaction, and to make a contribution to enhancing public health science and practical knowledge in government. The overarching goals are to: 1) increase the capacity of public health professionals; 2) to inform the discussions and the decisions of the individuals and institutions that influence or determine policies; 3) and to provide relevant expertise and analysis to support decision-makers confronting increasingly complex health issues. The fellowship aims to:

- Establish and nurture critical links between federal decisions makers and public health professionals;
- Educate public health professionals in the skills necessary to translate complex analysis of public health issues into legislative, regulatory and policy initiatives;
- Foster positive exchanges between public health professionals and policy makers and educate public health professionals about the legislative process; and
- Increase the visibility and impact of public health professionals in the public policy realm.

Application: The process of applying for this fellowship is an open competition. A written application is required. A committee of APHA leaders, former Fellows, and policy experts will review the applications and select the finalists. The application is due to APHA by April 9, 2012. Finalists will be brought to APHA Headquarters in Washington, D.C. for an interview. The committee will make its decision by August 31, 2012. The application and additional information are available at www.apha.org/advocacy/fellowship/.

Eligibility: The fellowship is open to all APHA members who are public health professionals including state and local health department staff, medical, nurse or public health practitioners, nongovernmental agency staff and teacher/researchers/academics who have a demonstrated interest and ability in policy analysis. Federal employees are not eligible for this fellowship. All candidates must have a Masters degree or a doctorate in a public health or related discipline. In addition, all candidates must be U.S. citizens or permanent resident. All candidates must have five years or more of professional experience in a public health setting. Internships, graduate assistantships and residencies do not count toward the five year requirement.

Professional excellence and suitability for the fellowship are the primary considerations for receipt of the fellowship. Candidates must demonstrate exceptional competence in their fields; have solid credentials and the endorsement of three references; and demonstrate a strong interest in applying their knowledge toward the solution of societal challenges. Candidates should be aware of how public health science affects a broad range of non-scientific issues and display sensitivity to political, economic and social factors. They should exhibit willingness and flexibility to tackle problems beyond the scope of their specific area(s) of public health expertise, and show a commitment to apply their expertise to serve society. Candidates also should demonstrate integrity and good judgment; be articulate and able to communicate well, both verbally and in writing, to audiences not familiar with public health; and demonstrate the ability to

work effectively with decision makers and others outside the public health community. It is important that candidates display maturity and self-direction, with the capacity, initiative and flexibility to work well independently and in groups. In addition, candidates must be aware of possible conflict of interest concerns.

Placement: Fellows will work during their Fellowship year as staff to a member of Congress or a congressional committee, on topics relating generally to public health. Fellows are free agents and will determine their own Congressional placement. The fellow will be expected to attend and present at the APHA Annual Meeting in Boston, MA in November, 2013.

Stipends and Fellowship Support:

The APHA fellow will receive a stipend of \$65,000 for the year and an additional \$10,000 is available for travel and other related costs (including moving costs and the costs of attending the APHA Annual Meeting).

Conflict of Interest: In cases where there may be a real or perceived conflict of interest in connection with a Fellow's placement, the appropriate congressional ethics committee must be contacted and any guidelines and/or requirements issued from that committee must be adhered to.



American
Public Health
Association

800 I Street, NW • Washington, DC 20001-3710
E-mail: aphafellowship@apha.org