Program Director for Obesity Research Available at NIDDK

The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) is seeking an individual with significant research experience to lead a program in addressing obesity and diabetes in the Division of Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases (DDEMD). The DDEMD supports and provides leadership for research on the causes, prevention and treatment of diabetes and its complications, as well as other endocrine and metabolic diseases.

Current Opening

The NIDDK is seeking an exceptional basic scientist with expertise in the molecular drivers of the etiology and pathophysiology of obesity to work as a program officer in the Division of Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases. The program officer position would involve the administrative oversight of grants and the development of new initiatives in the obesity area for our division that would focus on basic and translational science in obesity and diabetes. The ideal candidate would have an in-depth knowledge of the signaling molecules, receptors and pathways involved in the regulation of hunger and satiety as well as the regulation of peripheral energy metabolism and inflammatory drivers of tissue dysfunction. The successful applicant should be familiar with state-of-the-art methods in model systems with techniques such as CRISPR, optogenetics and in cellular phenotyping including single cell sequencing and various ‘omic approaches. Knowledge of the molecular genetics of obesity and the gene-environment interactions that influence excess weight gain would be a plus. This knowledge and strategic vision will enable the successful candidate to develop new programs and initiatives both within NIDDK and across NIH in framing strategies to prevent and treat obesity. The successful applicant will manage an innovative portfolio of grants within the Division of Diabetes, Endocrinology, and Metabolic Diseases, based on his or her specific research experience to be negotiated during the recruitment process.

The successful candidate will also work closely with the NIDDK Office of Obesity Research (OOR), which is responsible for coordination of obesity-related research across NIDDK and carries out its functions through the NIDDK Obesity Research Working Group. The OOR is located organizationally under the auspices of the Office of the Director, NIDDK, and its co-directors represent the two divisions with primary responsibility for obesity-related extramural research, the Division of Digestive Diseases and Nutrition (DDN) and the Division of Diabetes, Endocrinology, and Metabolic Diseases (DEM).

The applicant must have a professional scientific degree (Ph.D. or M.D., M.D/Ph.D), considerable research contributions to the field of obesity, scientific management and research administration experience, and strong interpersonal and written communication skills.
The position is located in Bethesda, Maryland. Salary and benefits will be commensurate with experience of the applicant.

The below listed global announcements for the Health Scientist Administrator will be open on September 20, 2021 and can be found on USAJobs. To determine which announcement(s) you should apply to, open the link and view the section titled, “This job is open to” on the right side of the announcement.

Delegated Examining (Open to the Public)
- GS-12/13/14 Health Scientist Administrator (Program Officer/Scientific Review Officer)
- GS-15 Non-Supervisory Health Scientist Administrator (Program Officer)
- GS-15 Supervisory Health Scientist Administrator (Program Officer/Scientific Review Officer)

Merit Promotion (Open to Status Candidates)
- GS-12/13/14 Health Scientist Administrator (Program Officer/Scientist Review Officer)
- GS-15 Non-Supervisory Health Scientist Administrator (Program Officer)
- GS-15 Supervisory Health Scientist Administrator (Program Officer/Scientific Review Officer)

For more information on the position, contact: niddkdemjobopenings@mail.nih.gov.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), NIH, and NIDDK are equal opportunity employers committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion. Applicants must be U.S. Citizens and the position is subject to a background check.

If you are not currently looking for a new position, please circulate this announcement to individuals who might be interested.