Health Specialist

Opportunities at NIMH Human Research Protection Branch (HRPB)
within the Office of Clinical Research (OCR)
National Institute of Mental Health
Department of Health and Human Services

The Office of Clinical Research (OCR) provides institute-wide coordination and oversight of NIMH-funded clinical research studies and provides strategic guidance and recommendations to NIMH leadership about initiatives in clinical research. The OCR mission encompasses the areas of human subject protection, data and safety monitoring, clinical trial operations, and recruitment monitoring. OCR provides consultations to program staff and principal investigators, provides education about clinical trials oversight, and serves as a liaison between NIMH and other NIH Institutes/Centers as well as other Federal agencies such as the FDA.

This position will serve as a Human Research Protection Specialist in the Human Research Protection Branch (HRPB). HRPB is responsible for the oversight of human research protection and data and safety monitoring at NIMH. This includes ensuring ethical treatment and safety in all NIMH-funded studies with human participants. This Branch also provides guidance and information on clinical trial design and practices, as well as information on compliance with federal regulations and NIH policies on biomedical and behavioral research involving human participants.

Competitive candidates are expected to have professional knowledge of a specialty area of health to identify, evaluate, and control a wide variety of public health hazards associated with the entire range of data collection and to modify approaches or applications to difficult matters. Also, a mastery of the principles, concepts, methods, and techniques of basic science, biomedical research, and health policy to analyze, evaluate, and provide advice and consultation on research efforts.

The incumbent will be responsible for planning, coordination, and implementation activities for assigned research programs and the management and evaluation of grant applications. These activities include planning, implementing, coordinating, and evaluating programs and initiatives in the assigned specialty area of research. The incumbent will review data and progress reports, and implement corrective actions needed to achieve adequate research progress; will participate in the review of human research protection and data & safety monitoring plans; provide expert consultation to Program and Grants Management staff; identifies and interprets relevant federal regulations, NIH policies and IC standard operating procedures for IC staff and analyzes gaps in current oversight processes. The incumbent will also serve as Scientific Administrator (executive secretary) for NIMH-constituted Data and Safety Monitoring Board(s) (DSMB).
Qualifications
Applicants must be U.S. Citizens and bachelor’s or graduate/higher level degree: major study in an academic field related to the medical field, health sciences or allied sciences appropriate to the work of the position. This degree must be from an educational program from an accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (external link) at the time the degree was obtained.

How to Apply
Interested candidates should send a letter of interest, including a curriculum vitae to NIMHsearch@mail.nih.gov.

The NIH encourages the application and nomination of qualified women, minorities, and individuals with disabilities. HHS and NIH are Equal Opportunity Employers.