2025-26 Texas Public Health Fellowship



Fellowship Name: Public Health Informatics Fellowship

Fellowship Details

Host Site Organization Name: Texas Department of State Health Services

Host Site Division/Program: Office of Senior Advisor, Public Health Informatics and Data Exchange Unit (PHID)

Host Site/Fellowship Location: 1100 West 49th Street, Austin, Texas

Host Site Workplace Setting: 100% remote/virtual

Workplace Setting Description: The fellow will work in 100% telework environment. The fellow will have opportunities to engage with the mentor and fellow team members through 1 on 1 meetings, team meetings etc. The mentor is fully committed to ensure the fellow has the support and engagement throughout the fellowship.

Public Health Core Disciplines: Epidemiology Biostatistics

Primary Fellowship Focus/Topics: Disease Surveillance Public Health Informatics

Fellowship Overview

Host Site Mission

The overall mission is to improve the availability and use of public health data to inform decision making and action. This program is dedicated to leading, coordinating, and executing a comprehensive public health data strategy, better partnerships and collaboration around public health data and surveillance, including data modernization.

Fellowship Projects

Electronic Case Reporting (eCR) Utilization for Enhanced Disease Surveillance: The fellow will support efforts for disease surveillance programs (i.e HIV/STD) to utilize eCR for enhanced surveillance activities such as case finding, quality assurance and pregnancy ascertainment. The fellow will examine eCR data in National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NEDSS) to monitor key variables for disease surveillance such as demographics, treatment, adverse outcomes, pregnancy, data quality, facilities reporting eCR and volume of eCRs.

Develop Training Modules for eCR Datamart Utilization: The fellow will collaborate with disease surveillance programs and other eCR team members to develop comprehensive training modules for epidemiologists and other disease surveillance staff to provide guidance on using the eCR datamart to address surveillance needs. This includes case finding, pregnancy and treatment ascertainment, trend analysis, data linkage and data quality reports.

Develop Reports and Dashboards for eCR utilization: The fellow will conduct analysis to examine trends in eCR data for reporting and quality assurance of key variables for disease surveillance to monitor reporting of conditions, demographics, and geographic distribution. The fellow will collaborate with disease surveillance, eCR team and Tableau subject matter expert to create reports and dashboards for leadership and other stakeholders to inform decision making and action.

Fellowship Deliverables

The fellow will have the opportunity to construct an abstract that outlines significant findings from the analysis. The fellow will produce reports and dashboards on eCR utilization for disease surveillance programs. The fellow will create training modules for disease surveillance programs on eCR utilization.

Fellowship Activities/Responsibilities

The fellow will propose and initiate the assessment of eCR data utilization for disease surveillance programs, including design, implementation, analysis of the study and dissemination of data products. Under the direction of leadership in PHID, the fellow will be responsible for initiating and conducting analysis on eCR data, which includes examining eCR to enhance surveillance efforts, evaluate epidemiologic trends and public health follow-up efforts. The fellow will work with staff across DSHS to develop and provide training on eCR utilization for disease surveillance programs. This position contributes to epidemiologic profiles, and DSHS reports for lay and professional audiences. Provides consultation relating to design, planning, and analysis for implementation of eCR into disease surveillance programs. The Fellow will support projects for disease surveillance such as case finding, pregnancy and treatment ascertainment, trend analysis, data linkage and data quality reports.

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Salary and Benefits

Annual Salary: Tier 2, \$56,000

All fellows will be eligible for DSHS employee benefits including health insurance and leave.

Travel

Percent Travel: 5%

Travel Description: The fellow may travel to conferences and stakeholder meetings.

Required Applicant Qualifications

(The following qualifications are REQUIRED. Do NOT apply to this position unless you currently meet or plan to meet these requirements by the start of the Fellowship, June 1, 2025.)

Required certification/license:

No requirement

Ability to Speak in Spanish:

No Requirement

Ability to Write in Spanish:

No Requirement

Preferred Educational Qualifications

(The following preferences are guidelines provided by the Host Site. These are NOT requirements. Host Sites prefer that applicants have completed or are currently working toward these.)

Preferred Level of Education: Bachelor's Degree

Preferred Specialized and Technical Skills

(The following skills will be a focus during this Fellowship position. If you have or are interested in developing data analysis skills or building technical skills in the software listed below, this could be a good Fellowship position for you.)

Data Analysis Skills:

Basic Skills: has some awareness or knowledge of Data Analysis

Statistical Software Skills:

Limited proficiency: has knowledge and interest in learning more, but little experience using the software

Statistical Software:

SAS, Tableau, Power BI

Other Software:

No preference