



## Environmental Public Health Tracking: Peer-to-Peer Fellowship Program

### Call for Applications:

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), with support from CDC's National Center for Environmental Health, is pleased to announce that it has teamed up with Esri to provide fellowships and data visualization training as part of the Environmental Public Health Tracking Peer-to-Peer Fellowship Program. Designed to enhance capacity of states and territories not currently funded as part of CDC's National Tracking Network, the newly upgraded fellowship program will prepare non-funded health agencies with GIS technology to support current initiatives in environmental public health tracking. Fellowship recipients will have the opportunity to:

- Gain one-on-one, in-depth mentorship from a current Tracking Program state grantee.
- Learn key tracking techniques and IT infrastructure that can be modeled around the needs and environmental challenges specific to the fellow's state.
- Build peer networks across state and territorial health agencies.
- Visualize health and environmental data using Esri's ArcGIS Online tool.
- Be part of the national tracking conversation.

### Fellowship Activity and Deliverables

ASTHO Tracking Fellows are expected to pursue activities that strengthen their capacity to conduct and collaborate on Tracking Program activities. Prospective fellows:

- Travel to a host tracking state for a three-day site visit to learn firsthand the following at minimum:
  - Portal development and standards.
  - Metadata creation and submission.
  - Challenges surrounding data acquisition.
  - Program marketing and risk communication.
- Propose and implement a small tracking project in their states.
- Participate on ArcGIS Online Fellowship Community Group.
- Complete a written report on their learning experiences, how tracking could be useful in their states, and the results or projected outcome of their pilot projects.
- Make a final report available for posting on ASTHO's website and distribution to ASTHO members.

### Financial Support

Each recipient will receive up to \$7,000 toward fellowship activities. ASTHO will handle all travel arrangements and will reimburse justifiable expenditures associated with the fellow's project, not to exceed the total awarded amount.

#### What Past Fellows Are Saying

"The task of creating an EPHT program from scratch is daunting at best, and the willingness of the tracking community to support and encourage programs still in their infancy is not only obvious, but welcomed."

"This program has helped to gain appreciation of the scope of EPHT."

"I came away with a much better understanding of what EPHT is and how it works at the state after completing this fellowship."

"Every part of the fellowship aided me in preparing my state to join the National EPHT Network."



## Eligibility:

To be eligible for the ASTHO Tracking Fellowship Program, the applicant must:

- Be a public health or environmental health professional, epidemiologist, or other related program manager from a state or territorial health agency (S/THA) not currently funded as part of CDC's National Tracking Program.
  - Practitioners from city, county, and tribal health departments with demonstrated intent to collaborate with a non-funded S/THA on Tracking Program activities are eligible to apply.
  - Universities may apply as bona fide agents of a state or territorial health agency. The bona fide agent will be required to submit a letter from the non-funded S/THA as documentation of the status. Please note that the health department being represented would be the direct recipient of the award.
- Demonstrate interest and knowledge of environmental epidemiology/surveillance, tracking, or related activities.
- Be willing to share resources and lessons learned with ASTHO, CDC, and other S/THAs across the country.
- Propose a project that is reasonable in scope, complements current activities at the S/THA, and advances the goals of the National Tracking Program.
- Demonstrate commitment to the proposed effort, including how the fellowship builds the capacity for that S/THA to promote and collaborate with peers on tracking activities.

## Application Process

The Fellowship application package should contain the following elements:

1. Completed application form (available on ASTHO's [Tracking Environmental Health Hazards](#) web page).
2. Proposal of activities.
  - a. Introduction/background.
  - b. Statement/perception of need.
  - c. Pilot project description and timeline.
  - d. Expected outcome of project.
  - e. Budget narrative.
    - Please give details on how costs were estimated.
    - Categories may include but are not limited to:
      - Travel to other tracking related national conference(s).
      - Printing costs for publication.
      - Hosting an in-state meeting with data stewards.
      - Hosting a teleconference or webinar.
3. Curriculum vitae.

**Applications must be received by Nov. 2, 2012.** Decisions will be announced December 2012. Fellowship activities may start as early as January 2013 and must be completed no later than May 24, 2013. Each application will be reviewed and rated by a panel consisting of ASTHO staff and CDC's Tracking Program staff.

For questions about this fellowship, please contact:

**Ify J. Mordi, MPH**  
Senior Analyst  
Environmental Health  
(571) 527-3172  
[imordi@astho.org](mailto:imordi@astho.org)

**Abraham Kulungara, MPH**  
Director  
Environmental Health  
(571) 527-3154  
[akulungara@astho.org](mailto:akulungara@astho.org)

For more information about tracking, please visit:

[www.astho.org](http://www.astho.org)

[www.cdc.gov/ephtracking](http://www.cdc.gov/ephtracking)

*The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) is the national nonprofit organization representing the state and territorial public health agencies of the United States, the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia. ASTHO's members, the chief health officials of these jurisdictions, are dedicated to formulating and influencing sound public health policy and to ensuring excellence in state-based public health practice.*