



Filling the Gaps in Workforce Resources for Climate Change Programs

While climate change will likely test the capacity of state and territorial health agencies to respond to a range of health issues, finding and retaining skilled public health professionals during tight fiscal times to deal with this challenge will be equally difficult. The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) is providing this resource sheet to assist state and territorial health agencies to build the workforce capacity to deal with climate change as a public health issue. The following are descriptions of fellowship programs that may be utilized to bolster state or territorial health agency capacity to confront climate change. Further information on each program is available by accessing the relevant links.

CSTE Applied Epidemiology Program

Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists

<http://www.cste.org/dnn/ProgramsandActivities/FellowshipProgram/tabid/259/Default.aspx>

*This competitive two-year program provides training in applied epidemiology at state and local health agencies to recent masters and doctoral level graduates in epidemiology. State and local agencies apply to host these fellows, where they focus on a specific project area (chronic disease, environmental health, infectious disease, maternal/child health, birth defects, or injury prevention) while developing a set of core skills through competency-based training. The fellowship provides a competitive stipend and benefits to its fellows. Fellows are matched to a host agency based on the needs of that health department and the personal interests of the applicant. The host agency must provide two experienced mentors and actively encourage the professional development of the fellow. **Deadline for submission of [host agency application](#): fall.** Host site application open October 1-October 29, 2009.*

Public Health Prevention Service

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

<http://www.cdc.gov/PHPS/index.html>

*The Public Health Prevention Service (PHPS) is a three-year fellowship for master's level public health professionals. The program provides training on public health management topics, including planning, implementation, and evaluation throughout their first year. The CDC provides fellows with a salary equivalent to the GS-9 level during the first two years of the program, while third-year participants receive compensation at the GS-11 level. Fellows complete two six-month rotations at a CDC facility before embarking on a two-year field assignment at any of the following: a state/territorial or local health department, a community based-organization, or a public health institute or association. Fellows work in a variety of program areas including infectious disease, chronic disease, and environmental health. Host agencies must mentor their PHPS Specialists and assist them in their professional and technical skill development as they fulfill their performance requirements. **Deadline for initial [letter of intent](#) to request PHPS fellow: winter.***



Filling the Gaps in Workforce Resources for Climate Change Programs

Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) Program

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

<http://www.cdc.gov/eis/index.html>

*The Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) is a competitive two-year program that provides training in applied epidemiology. The EIS accepts doctoral-level scientists with backgrounds in epidemiology or other relevant health fields, physicians, veterinarians, and other medical professionals with a master of public health or equivalent degree. EIS officers receive practical training by completing public health projects and investigations under the supervision of an experienced epidemiologist. EIS officers can be matched to field assignments (state or large local health departments) or program areas with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). EIS officers in field assignments tend to work on a wide-ranging spectrum of public health projects. EIS officers in CDC program assignments work in more specialized subject matter areas but can travel to states to conduct two–three week investigations (Epi-Aids) in response to a request from the health department. While the number varies, the EIS program usually accepts approximately 80 new officers annually, with about a third assigned to state or local health departments. With few exceptions, EIS field assignments are limited to one–two placements per state. During the annual EIS conference, officers meet with potential mentors and both rank their interests. The EIS program then matches officers to assignments. **Call for positions from state and local health agencies: fall.***