The National Biosafety and Biocontainment Training Program (NBBTP) was conceived as a partnership between the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) and the Division of Occupational Health and Safety (DOHS) at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland.

The NBBTP offers post-baccalaureate and post-doctoral fellowships at the NIH Bethesda Campus providing a rare opportunity to receive professional training in biosafety and biocontainment at one of the foremost biomedical research centers in the world.

FELLOWSHIP SUPPORT

Stipends are awarded commensurate with the academic and professional experience of the successful candidate and are consistent with the NIH Intramural Research Training Award (IRTA) Program. Candidates who apply bringing other academic or employer support will be equally considered.

Fellows receive health and dental insurance as well as training and travel funds. The NBBTP also provides laboratory supplies, books, and materials.

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THE OPPORTUNITY

The NBBTP Fellowship is a rigorous program including academic training, experiential learning, mentorship, developmental assignments, and applied occupational safety and health research opportunities within the extraordinary learning environment of the National Institutes of Health.

The NBBTP mission is to prepare biosafety and biocontainment professionals of the highest caliber to meet the needs of the biomedical, emerging disease, and biodefense research communities through the 21st century.

Fellows train specifically to support Biosafety Level 3 and 4 research environments by acquiring knowledge and skills necessary to meet the scientific, regulatory, biocontainment, biosafety, engineering, communications, management, and public relations challenges associated with the conduct of research in these facilities.

THE PROGRAM

The NBBTP expects that all Fellows will work at least 40 hours per week and additionally participate in a variety of learning experiences, such as:

- Classroom lectures and assignments
- On-the-job training assignments
- Experiential learning assignments
- Developmental assignments at other institutions, nationwide
- Selected national professional conferences, symposia, and training courses during their tenure
- Preparation to sit for the Biological Safety Microbiology examination administered by the American Society of Microbiology

During the second fellowship year, each Fellow is expected to complete an applied research project resulting in an abstract for presentation at a professional society meeting and to have an approved article submitted for publication in an appropriate professional or scientific journal. Fellows are encouraged to take advantage of the full range of academic, continuing education and social opportunities that the NIH Intramural Program has to offer.

THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE

- U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or naturalized citizen of the United States
- Post-graduate with academic degree(s) in microbiology, public health, medicine (human or veterinary), or other allied sciences (industrial hygiene, engineering, etc.)
- Microbiology and/or research laboratory experience combined with excellent professional performance
- Outstanding professional and academic recommendations
- Excellent written & verbal communication skills
- Proficiency in the English language*
- Meets all requirements established under federal regulations & policies necessary to work with Select Agents
- Excellent employment history
- Participation in academic, professional and/or civic organizations
- Committed to the mission and vision of the NBBTP

Additionally, a successful NBBTP applicant must:

- Submit to on-going personnel reliability screening assessments
- Submit all required application materials, including references and academic credentials, by the stated deadlines
- Be willing to relocate to the Bethesda, MD area
- Be able to travel to participate in multi-week assignments

*The NBBTP reserves the right to review an applicant’s TOEFL or IELTS exam scores or request that the applicant take one of these exams to demonstrate English proficiency. Please see additional information at www.nbbtp.org.