

Environmental Health

The Fellow will be assigned to the Division of Environmental Health Epidemiology (DEHE), in the Bureau of Epidemiology, Pennsylvania Department of Health. This Division is the Department's program responsible for the study and prevention of occupational and environmental health problems, including environmental epidemiology, occupational health tracking and investigations, toxicology, adult blood lead poisoning surveillance, asthma epidemiology, health assessment focusing on the state's National Priority List (NPL) hazardous waste sites, and environmental public health tracking.

The Fellow will have the opportunity to work with a multidisciplinary team in DEHE. DEHE provides statewide leadership through science and service that promotes health and quality of life by preventing or controlling adverse health effects relating to the environment. DEHE provides technical environmental public health advice, support, and education to other agencies and the public in this area. In its daily activities, DEHE interfaces with communities, state and federal agencies, and other groups involved with environmental protection and environmental and occupational health services. DEHE is comprised of five programs: General Environmental Health, Health Assessment, Environmental Public Health Tracking, Occupational Health, and Toxicology.

The fellow will work directly with the Environmental Health Division Director, Dr. James Logue, and the Health Assessment Section Leader, Dr. Mark White. The fellow will participate in all activities within the Bureau of Epidemiology. The fellow will rotate with the different programs in the Division throughout the length of the fellowship. The fellow will be assigned to a specific project pertinent to that program during the rotation assignment. The fellow will also be able to choose one long-term project that will continue for the entire length of the assignment. Current underway, predicted, or conceptualized long-term projects that will be available for consideration by the fellow include but are not limited to: (1) Work related to the Asthma School Project and school-child asthma in Pennsylvania; (2) Work related to an investigation of polycythemia vera in northeastern Pennsylvania; (3) Work related to possible asbestos exposures in southeastern Pennsylvania; and (4) Work related to federal health assessment activities pertaining to National Priority List sites, other sites of interest, and sites of potential environmental and public health hazard across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. These projects all have a special focus on potential environmental health issues. Data collection and analyses will be an ongoing part of his/her work. The fellow will not have supervisory responsibilities.

Statistical and Data Analysis Support:

The CSTE Fellow will have access to the following databases:

1. National Electronic Data Surveillance System (NEDSS)
2. Vital Statistics Registry
3. Pennsylvania Hospital Discharge Data

4. Pennsylvania Medicaid Data Warehouse (PROMISe)

Assignment Location: Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Primary Mentor: James Logue, Dr.P.H., MPH

Director, Division of Environmental Health Epidemiology, Bureau of
Epidemiology, Pennsylvania Department of Health

Advanced Degrees: Dr.P.H., Columbia University (1978)

MPH, University of Michigan (1971)

Secondary Mentor: Mark White, MD, MPH

Director and Epidemiologist, Health Assessment Section, Pennsylvania
Department of Health

Advanced Degrees: MPH, University of Pittsburgh (2000)

MD, Georgetown University School of Medicine (1999)