

Letters of Interest Sought for Position of Chief, Tobacco Control Research Branch, NCI

October 2021

The National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences welcomes letters of interest from senior scientific leaders to serve as chief of the Tobacco Control Research Branch (TCRB).

ABOUT TCRB

One of four extramural branches in the Behavioral Research Program (BRP), TCRB leads and collaborates on research and disseminates evidence-based findings on prevention, treatment, and control of tobacco use. Current scientific priorities include research on tobacco cessation interventions at the individual, system, and population levels (including cessation among cancer patients and survivors); tobacco control interventions for underserved and at-risk populations; etiology and determinants of tobacco use, nicotine dependence, and cessation; use of policy and media to reduce tobacco use; and use of tobacco prevention and control research to promote health equity and reduce disparities in health outcomes.



NCI – Shady Grove in Rockville, Maryland

BRP maintains a robust surveillance capacity through routine administration of population surveys, such as the Tobacco Use Supplement to the Current Population Survey ([TUS-CPS](#)) and Health Information National Trends Survey ([HINTS](#)). Staff support [several research tools and public-use data](#) for behavioral analysis; hosts [Smokefree.gov](#), a digital, evidence-based suite of programs to help smokers quit; and produces the [Tobacco Control Monograph](#) series, among other high-profile products to support cancer control researchers and the public. Funded grants include investigators at domestic and international research institutions with an innovative and diverse research portfolio (see [TCRB-funded grants](#)).

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The branch chief will lead a group of behavioral and social scientists, pre- and postdoctoral fellows, and public health practitioners to develop innovative research initiatives and encourage development in broad scientific areas such as tobacco policy research, tobacco cessation, global tobacco use, and tobacco-related disparities.

The branch chief will work collaboratively with the [Associate Director](#) and the program's leadership team to spearhead new initiatives and collaborations within the division. The branch chief will participate in and lead collaborations across NCI/NIH, throughout the federal government (including the Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and U.S. Census Bureau), and with key stakeholders at academic institutions and non-government organizations.

BRP branch chiefs enjoy a scientifically energizing and collegial environment with opportunities to

- Manage and mentor engaged scientific and programmatic staff, fellows, and trainees
- Develop research and funding priorities to cultivate a diverse portfolio of grant-supported research
- Lead and participate in cross-disciplinary collaborations in public, private, and academic sectors
- Create national and international scientific programming (e.g., symposia, special journal issues and supplements, conferences, and workshops)
- Inform documents and reports to advance the public health agenda in cancer prevention and control
- Conduct independent research, publish, and present at professional meetings

Interested candidates are welcome to explore the program's [online staff directory](#) and contact any staff member to learn more about tobacco control research at NCI.

QUALIFICATIONS

Qualified candidates should possess a PhD, ScD, MD, or equivalent; hold an exceptional record of scholarship in tobacco control research; and demonstrate ability to lead and manage a large scientific team. Professionals at mid-career level or higher are encouraged to apply.

ANNOUNCEMENT DETAILS

The anticipated full-time position is based in Rockville, Maryland, and will likely be classified as a GS15 on www.usajobs.gov; excellent benefits are provided. Get more information about [federal employment](#).

This announcement is for a career position with the U.S. government and requires the applicant to be a U.S. citizen. The successful candidate will be subject to a background investigation. Educational qualifications verified by official transcripts and submission of a Confidential Financial Disclosure (OGE Form 450) will be required. As a federal government agency, NCI shares a commitment to equal opportunity, diversity, and inclusion in recruitment and hiring of a high-performing work force, including in our search process for this position. All applicants will receive consideration without regard to ethnicity, gender, national origin, age, religion, disability, or sexual orientation.

IMPORTANT NOTE: This is a pre-announcement of the vacancy. A formal position announcement will be posted on www.usajobs.gov, and applications must be submitted through that website to be considered.

LETTERS OF INTEREST

Please submit a letter of interest and CV by **December 1, 2021** to the search committee chair, Dr. Linda Nebeling, Deputy Associate Director for Behavioral Research (nebelinl@mail.nih.gov).

The start date is flexible, but preferred Spring-Fall 2022.



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