

Epidemic Intelligence Service

Background

The Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) is a unique 2-year post-graduate program of service and on-the-job training for health professionals interested in the practice of epidemiology. EIS officers comprise a vital element at the frontlines of public health conducting epidemiologic investigations, research, and surveillance, both domestically and internationally. Formal instruction in epidemiology, biostatistics, public health ethics and law, evaluation of surveillance systems, and scientific writing supplement experiential training opportunities.

EIS in Action

Since 1951, more than 3,500 EIS officers have responded to requests for epidemiologic assistance within the United States and throughout the world. EIS officers provide frontline responses to investigate disease outbreaks, natural and man-made disasters, and other public health emergencies through epidemiologic analysis of critical health issues and development of population-based solutions aimed at both control and prevention.

EIS officers are assigned to positions within CDC or to field positions in state and local health departments and other federal agencies. Assignments for EIS officers offer opportunities for training in infectious disease, chronic disease, environmental health, occupational health, injuries, and birth defects and developmental disabilities.

EIS alumni occupy leadership positions at CDC and other national, state, local, and international public health agencies, as well as in academic medicine, clinical epidemiology, and managed care systems.

Eligibility

Professionals with a strong interest in applied epidemiology who meet one or more of the following criteria are eligible to apply:

- Physicians (MD, DO, MBBS, etc.) with at least one year of clinical training
- Doctoral level scientists (PhD, DrPH, ScD, etc.)
- Health professionals (DDS, PharmD, RN, PA) with an MPH or equivalent degree or training
- Veterinarians (DVM, VMD) with an MPH or equivalent degree or training
- Non-U.S. citizen applicants must be legal permanent residents or eligible for J-1 status prior to the program's start date

How to Apply

Apply online at <http://www.cdc.gov/eis/ApplyNow.html>

Competitive candidates will be invited for interviews in the fall; class selection is completed by January for a start date of July 1.

Check us out online: <http://www.cdc.gov/eis>

Epidemic Intelligence Service

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Center for Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Laboratory Services
Division of Scientific Education and Professional Development





"Our goal is to develop a cadre of well-trained health professionals to continue epidemiologic investigations, research, and public health surveillance both nationally and internationally."

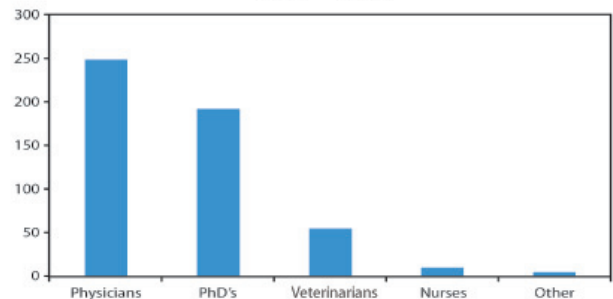


EIS Activities

Examples of on-the-job opportunities include:

- EIS officers investigated a nationwide outbreak of a specific strain of *Salmonella* Typhimurium. Case-patients infected with the outbreak strain were identified in 31 states. The investigation revealed the vector as aquatic frogs kept as pets in the case-patient households. This was the first reported outbreak of *Salmonella* Typhimurium associated with amphibians and will likely result in changes in the marketing of these pets.
- EIS officers assessed mercury poisoning in a community engaged in artisanal gold mining. The officers found that mercury contamination was not limited to miners (1/3 of the study population in Madre de Dios, Peru) but was present in 91% of the study participants. The investigation led to community education, risk mitigation, and further surveillance.
- EIS officers analyzed the impact of rotavirus vaccination for infants in Brazil. Results showed significant declines in mortality for children younger than 5 years, diarrhea-related mortality, and hospital admissions for diarrhea.

**Education Background of EIS Officers
2006–2011***



*During 2006–2011, there were 488 EIS officers and some officers hold multiple advanced degrees.

Selected EIS Publications

Bell BP, Goldoft M, Griffin PM, Davis MA, Gordon DC, Tarr PI, et al. A multistate outbreak of *Escherichia coli* O157:H7-associated bloody diarrhea and hemolytic uremic syndrome from hamburgers. The Washington experience. *JAMA*. 1994 Nov 2;272(17):1349-53.

Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Kaposi's sarcoma and *Pneumocystis pneumonia* among homosexual men—New York City and California. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep*. 1981 Jul 3;30(25):305-8.

Honein MA, Paulozzi LJ, Erickson JD. Continued occurrence of Accutane® exposed pregnancies. *Teratology*. 2001 Sep;64(3):142-7.

Novel Swine-Origin Influenza A (H1N1) Virus Investigation Team, Dawood FS, Jain S, Finelli L, Shaw MW, Lindstrom S, Garten RJ, et al. Emergence of a novel swine-origin influenza A (H1N1) virus in humans. *N Engl J Med*. 2009 Jun 18;360(25):2605-15. Epub 2009 May 7. Erratum in: *N Engl J Med*. 2009 Jul 2;361(1):102.

Perrine CG, Sharma AJ, Jefferds ME, Serdula MK, Scanlon KS. Adherence to vitamin D recommendations among US infants. *Pediatrics*. 2010 Apr;125(4):627-32. Epub 2010 Mar 22.

Siston AM, Rasmussen SA, Honein MA, Fry AM, Seib K, Callaghan WM, et al.; Pandemic H1N1 Influenza in Pregnancy Working Group. Pandemic 2009 influenza A (H1N1) virus illness among pregnant women in the United States. *JAMA*. 2010 Apr 21;303(15):1517-25.