

Epidemic Intelligence Service

Preparing Our Future Leaders and Responding Today



Our Alumni

EIS is a pipeline for the next generation of public health leaders. Our alumni have occupied esteemed leadership positions

- Acting U.S. Surgeon General
- CDC director
- Medical school dean
- State health official
- Pharmaceutical industry executive
- Medical writer and reporter

"I remember coming home from work my first week in my assignment and thinking, 'I can't believe I get paid to do this.'"

—Tom Frieden, MD,
CDC Director (2009-2016),
EIS class of 1990

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has long been known for its Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS)—a corps of **doctors, veterinarians, and scientists** who serve on the front lines of public health. EIS officers are boots-on-the-ground “disease detectives” who **investigate outbreaks and assist during natural disasters** from U.S. cities to rural towns to remote global villages. The nation’s investment in **scientific education and professional development** paves the way for EIS to train the next generation of public health leaders.

Our Work

When a disease outbreak occurs or a natural disaster strikes, CDC can send EIS officers anywhere in the world to investigate and assist. Their detective work protects people and saves lives. EIS officers help

- Discover the cause of **emerging health threats**, such as new microbes
- Quickly put **control measures** in place
- Collect evidence to recommend how to **prevent future threats**.

For more than 65 years, EIS has provided rapid response to major health threats, including

- Investigating **biological warfare** during the Korean war
- Participating in the worldwide **smallpox eradication** campaign in the 1960s and 1970s
- Discovering the microbes that cause **Legionnaires' disease, Lassa fever, and AIDS**
- Investigating and responding to outbreaks and incidents related to **Anthrax, SARS, and flu subtypes H1N1 and H5N1**
- Providing disaster relief following **Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria, and Katrina, and 9/11**
- Providing on-the-ground response to **Ebola and Zika virus** outbreaks.

Our Value



Trained more than **3,600**
EIS officers since 1951



Approximately **85%** of EIS graduates
enter the public health workforce



Active EIS officers deploy more
than **200 times each year** to
support field investigations for
urgent public health problems in
the U.S. and around the world.



60-80 new officers
graduate from EIS each year



Approximately **30%** of state or large
city epidemiologists are EIS alumni

Learn more about EIS
at www.cdc.gov/eis

Center for Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Laboratory Services (CSELS)
Division of Scientific Education and Professional Development (DSEPD)



During their 2-year on-the-job training and service fellowship, EIS officers are based in state and local health departments across the country, other federal agencies and partner organizations, or at CDC in Atlanta. They may be sent to other locations in the U.S. or internationally for short-term assignments.

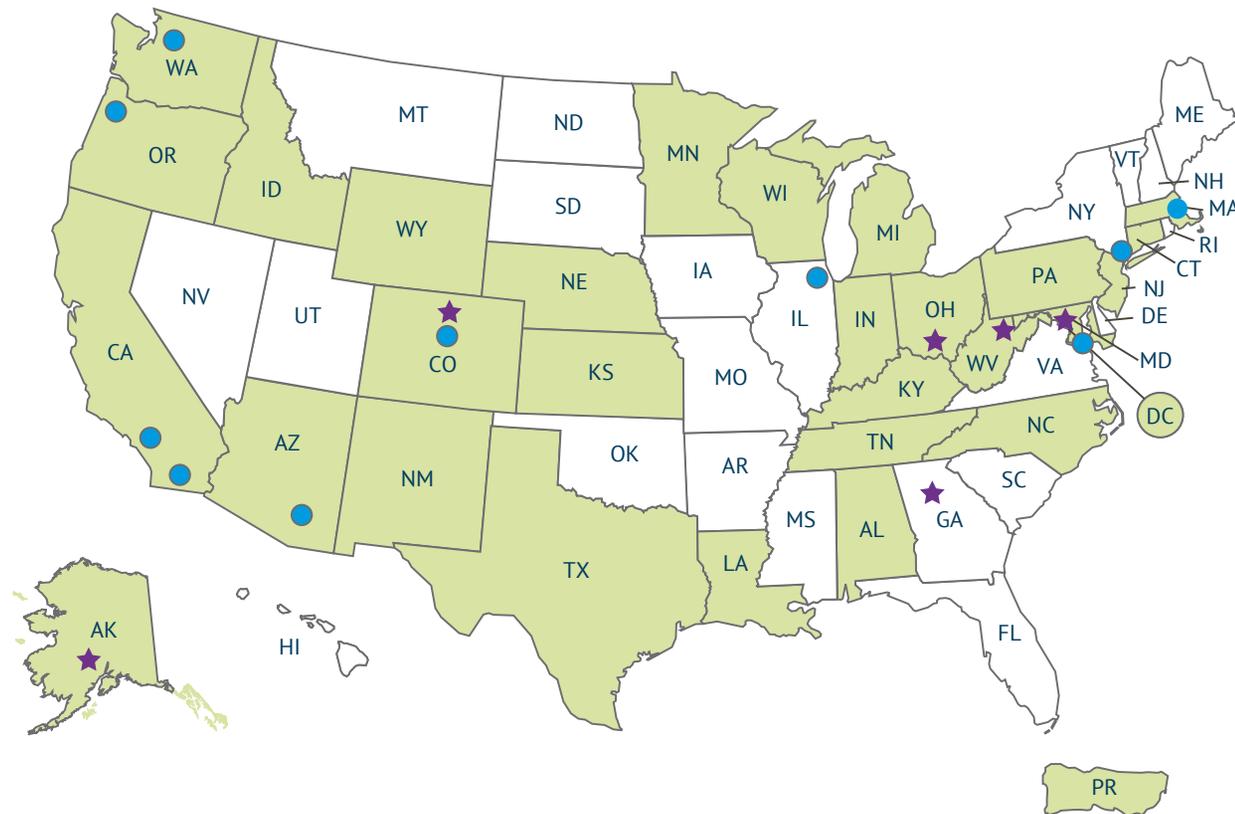
Total Number of Current EIS Officers 149

Class of 2016 78

Class of 2017 71

“EIS prepared me for all of the twists and turns my career has taken. It is where I fell in love with public health and its power to change the world.”

EIS Officers Across the Country



LOCATIONS

- State and territorial health departments (33)
- City, county, tribal, and other partners (11)
- ★ CDC headquarters and campuses (105)

2016 and 2017 EIS classes (149 officers)
78 in class of 2016 | 71 in class of 2017

Effective July 2017

—Richard Besser, MD,
President and CEO of RWJF,
CDC Acting Director (2009),
EIS class of 1991