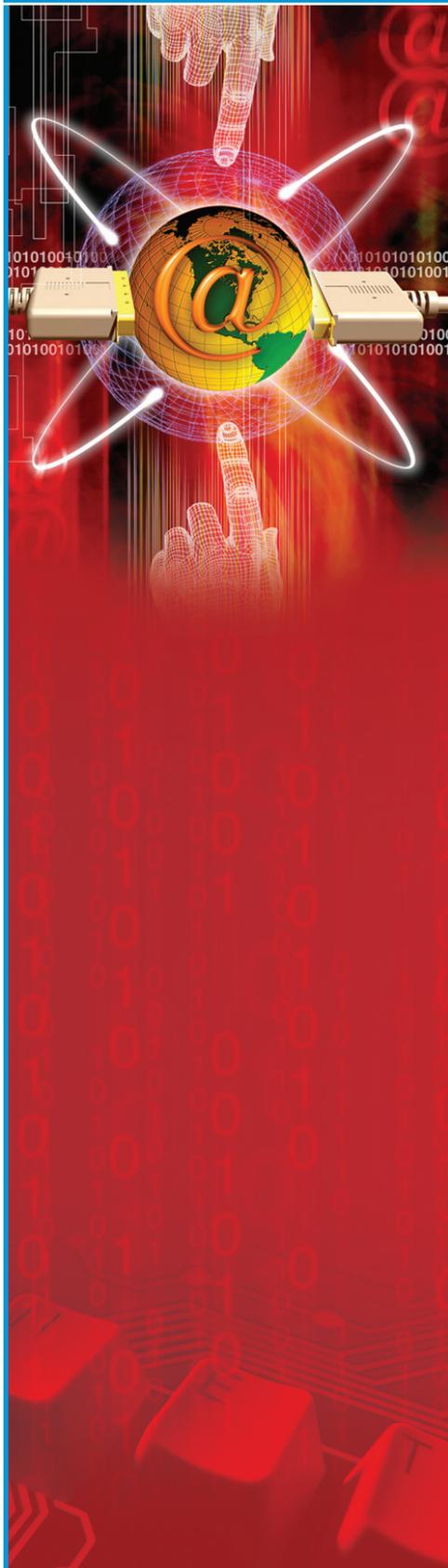


Public Health Informatics Fellowship Program



Background

The 2-year Public Health Informatics Fellowship Program (PHIFP) provides training and experience in effectively applying computer and information science and technology to public health problems. Modern public health practice requires increased development and use of sophisticated information systems to facilitate communication and data exchange among public health personnel at the local, state, and federal levels.

Since 1996, CDC has been training professionals to fill the need for public health informaticians. These professionals are prepared for the future through extensive training and experience in new and emerging technologies, and solving cutting-edge informatics issues in public health.

PHIFP in Action

Courses and projects offer didactic and experiential training. Some examples of projects fellows have worked on include:

- Assessment of HIV/AIDS patient monitoring systems in Kenya and recommendations for system integration
- Re-engineering the global Flour Fortification Initiative information system for improved micronutrient supplementation surveillance
- Case study on biosurveillance challenges using grid computing architecture
- Development of the Human Genome Epidemiology Network information system
- Development of measures of urban form (physical environment) to support studies on the influence of the urban form on physical activity

Eligibility

The following criteria must be met before applying:

- Doctoral (PhD or MD) or master's degree from an accredited academic institution in public health, medicine, health care, health-services research, computer science, information science, information systems, statistics, epidemiology, public health informatics, or a related discipline
- Experience in public health informatics, health informatics or related field, information systems, information science, computer science, or information technology
- Experience in public health or related health care profession (medicine, nursing, veterinary medicine, dentistry, or allied health)
- Experience in performing research or evaluation during or after academic training and willingness to relocate to Atlanta, Georgia
- Non-U.S. citizens must be legal permanent residents or eligible for J-1 status prior to the program's start date.

How to Apply

Eligible persons may apply online at <http://www.cdc.gov/phifp>. The PHIFP application period usually opens in July and closes in November each year.

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

Public Health Informatics Fellowship Program

Phone: 404-498-6197; E-mail: phifp@cdc.gov

1600 Clifton Road, N.E., Mailstop E-92 Atlanta, GA 30333

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





"CDC provides a great opportunity to collaborate with people who have all sorts of backgrounds and who also bring a lot of creative ideas. This organization has top public health experts, researchers, and interestingly software developers! I really enjoy interacting with a group of world class experts."

2010 Informatics Fellow

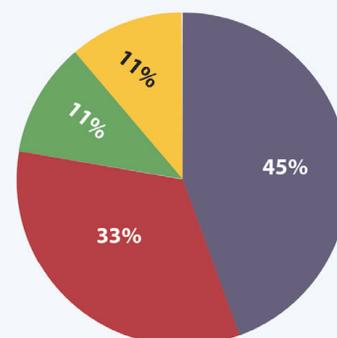
PHIFP Activities

In 2010, Fellows responded to 13 local, state, and global requests for informatics technical assistance (InfoAids) to develop, evaluate, and implement strategies to manage information systems effectively and efficiently. Examples of InfoAids and PHIFP activities include:

- A PHIFP fellow helped the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene make strategic decisions on selection and use of electronic medical records (EMR) system for tuberculosis clinics
- The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) needed to incorporate the ability to store and retrieve occupational safety (OS) information in EMRs that supported OS surveillance — two fellows helped develop systematic approaches to integrating OS data and facilitated the inclusion of OS data elements in EMRs, which contributed to the convening of an Institute of Medicine workshop on "Occupational Information and Electronic Health Records"
- Two fellows assisted the European Center for Disease Control by reviewing the study protocol and instruments used in assessing information systems for tracking H1N1 cases in 27 ECDC countries during the 2009 H1N1 pandemic
- In Colorado, a fellow conducted introductory informatics training and a business process analysis to provide the necessary information supporting the development of an integrated patient safety monitoring database or system to adequately compile data from various programs -- surveillance, as well as education and training

Academic Background of PHIFP Fellows 2010 (N=9)

- Medicine
- Public health
- Nursing
- Information technology



Who are PHIFP Fellows?

- PHIFP fellows are diverse in both cultural and academic backgrounds
- The most common degrees held by fellows are in medicine or public health
- PHIFP fellows have previous public health experiences ranging from academic settings to state health departments
- The majority of PHIFP alumni continue to work in public health at CDC

Selected Publications

Garrett NY, Mishra N, Nichols B, Staes CJ, Akin C, Safran C. Characterization of public health alerts and their suitability for alerting in electronic health record systems. *J Public Health Manag Pract.* 2011 Jan-Feb;17(1):77-83.

Kamadjeu R. Tracking the polio virus down the Congo River: a case study on the use of Google Earth in public health planning and mapping. *Int J Health Geogr.* 2009 Jan 22;8:4.

Krishnamurthy, RS. Informatics and management of surveillance data. In Lee, LM, Teutsch SM, Thacker SB, St Louis ME, editors. *Principles and practice of public health surveillance.* 3rd ed. New York: Oxford University Press; 2010. p. 65-87.