

# Be a Fellow with the Office of Evaluation Sciences:

Enable agencies to build and use evidence to better serve the public

Based at the General Services Administration (GSA), the Office of Evaluation Sciences (OES) is a team of interdisciplinary experts that works across the federal government to help agencies build and use evidence. OES provides government-wide expertise and support on leading practices for evidence-building and evaluation, and partners with federal agencies to answer priority questions using rapid and rigorous evaluation.

To date, OES has completed over <u>70 randomized evaluations</u> with dozens of agency partners. Our portfolio has spanned priority areas such as retirement security, reducing the cost of government operations, improving public health outcomes, and increasing educational opportunity.

## **Fellowship Details**

Full-time fellowships begin in Fall 2021. These positions will be based in Washington DC, with flexibility based on the COVID-19 pandemic.

The work and role of OES is unique and includes directly designing, implementing, and analyzing behavioral interventions through randomized evaluations in a large-scale federal policy environment. OES Fellows apply promising interventions at a national scale, reach millions of people, and work closely with key decision makers in government. Fellows design and direct high-impact projects, author academic publications, work on portfolios shaped by agency priorities, and benefit from a dynamic team and flexible federal work environment. Learn about former and current OES fellow's experiences here.

Fellows and Associate Fellows join OES on-loan from academic, nonprofit or government offices on either a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis. Fellows have come from a variety of universities (e.g., Harvard University, Reed College, Miami University and University of California, San Diego), non-profits (e.g., ideas42, Association for Psychological Science and MDRC) and federal departments (e.g., Department of Labor, the US Forest Service and the National Science Foundation). <u>Current team member bios are available here</u>. Fellows coming from academic or non-profit institutions will join the team through an <u>Intergovernmental Personnel Act agreement</u>.

Fellows and Associate Fellows serve 1-2 year full-time terms, scrub into ongoing project portfolios, and build out additional projects in line with agency priorities. Their primary focus is to:

- Drive implementation on 3-5 projects to translate findings from the social and behavioral sciences into concrete recommendations, including through collaborating with agency partners to ensure:
  - ➤ intervention ideas and the design meet agency goals;
  - > field experiments are implemented as planned; and,
  - results implications are clearly understood
- Work directly with agency collaborators to design and rigorously test interventions
- Perform data analysis and interpretation
- Distill findings into reports, policy memos, and academic publications
- Represent the team by presenting at government and external conferences and meetings
- Collaborate on and contribute to internal team tasks and projects, including by assisting on additional projects managed by other team members

## **Fellowship Applicant Profile:**

OES Fellows and Associate Fellows possess a unique set of technical and professional skills. This includes many of the below skills:

- General knowledge of applied social and behavioral sciences and specialized knowledge of at least one domain of study within the social and behavioral sciences
- Ability to think creatively about the application of insights from the social and behavioral sciences, and design interventions that are feasible within specific federal programs
- Expertise in one or more U.S. domestic policy sectors
- Experience working with government programs, policies, operations, and/or data
- Knowledge of evaluation design and analysis strategies
- Experience conducting randomized evaluations in field settings
- Statistical competency in at least one data analytic programming language (e.g., R, Stata)
- Exceptional communication and interpersonal skills
- The ability to juggle multiple competing priorities in a high-paced environment

#### OES is currently recruiting individuals with associated experience:

- <u>Fellows</u> have substantial expertise in the social and behavioral sciences field. Typically they are researchers with a PhD and publication record in a social or behavioral science field (e.g., economics, psychology, political science, statistics, sociology, public policy, business, etc.).
- <u>Associate Fellows</u> typically have recently completed a PhD or postdoc, or have a Master's Degree plus two or more years of relevant experience.
- <u>Health Fellow</u> should possess expertise in an area of health policy or the application of behavioral insights to health behaviors, experience and familiarity with or deep interest in using health datasets, and be available for a two-year fellowship.

#### **Application Details**

<u>Applicants may apply online here</u>. The deadline to submit is **11:59 p.m. EST Sunday, December 13, 2020.** Finalists will be invited to an interview process that will include a writing exercise, a video interview, and a research presentation. We expect final decisions to be communicated in March 2021.

\*Note: A Google email is required to access the Fellowship Application. If you are unable to access the application through Google Forms, please see the <u>full application here</u> and send the required documents in PDF format to oes@gsa.gov with the subject line: "Last Name, First Name, OES Fellowship Application 2021." PDF document titles should also follow this format (eg, "Last Name, First Name, Cover Letter").