National Center for Health Statistics

Office of Analysis and Epidemiology

Chief, Special Projects Branch (GS-0601/1530-15)

USA Jobs Announcement: [HHS-CDC-DE-1564221](https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/PrintPreview/422449300) and [HHS-CDC-MP-1564229](https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/PrintPreview/422457600)

# Organization overview

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), located in Hyattsville, Maryland, is the principal health statistics agency in the United States. NCHS’ mission is to compile accurate, relevant, and timely statistical information to guide actions and policies that improve the health of the nation. Within NCHS, the Office of Analysis and Epidemiology (OAE) is responsible for cross cutting research and analysis in the fields of epidemiology, health status, health services utilization, health promotion, and health economics. Within OAE, the Special Projects Branch conducts NCHS’ data linkage program designed to maximize the scientific value of NCHS’ population-based surveys. For information about NCHS data linkage activities, see <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data_access/data_linkage_activities.htm>.

# Position overview

The Chief of OAE’s Special Projects Branch is responsible for planning, directing and executing a comprehensive research and data development program to enhance NCHS’ population survey data through data linkage activities. The incumbent will provide expert guidance to the branch and work collaboratively with other federal agencies and outside researchers to enhance the research potential of cross-sectional and longitudinal surveys through administrative record linkage with health utilization, government assistance program participation, and mortality data. The incumbent will develop and oversee:

* methodological studies to assess the quality of linked data, the validity of record matching techniques and the evaluation of resultant linkage bias;
* analytic guidelines on the correct application of statistical techniques such as weighting and variance estimation in the analysis of linked data files;
* analysis of disclosure risk of linked data files and selection of scientifically sound data perturbation methods to create public use files;
* evaluation of the feasibility of proposed linkage projects as well as research projects using the linked files;
* preparation and submission of files for data linkage projects and the preparation of final linked files for public and restricted-use release;
* preparation of IRB protocol packages for approval of linking records from multiple surveys and sources;
* development of data linkage products and user tools that provide guidance of the appropriate analysis techniques and interpretation of NCHS surveys and linked records;

# Qualifications and terms of appointment

Applicants must meet the basic qualifications for a supervisory health scientist or health statistician as specified in the vacancy announcements above. Key requirements include US Citizenship, Background Investigation, and an OGE-450 Financial Disclosure. An initial salary of $126,245.00-158,700.00 will be offered, based on education and experience.

# Application process

To apply for this position please see USA Jobs Announcement: [HHS-CDC-DE-1564221](https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/PrintPreview/422449300) (Competitive Vacancy) and/or [HHS-CDC-MP-1564229](https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/PrintPreview/422457600) (Merit Promotion Vacancy). To apply you must complete the occupational questionnaire and submit the documentation specified in the “Required Documents” section of the announcement. **Application materials must be submitted by 11:59 PM (EST) on Sunday, December 20, 2015 to receive consideration.**

*CDC/NCHS is an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, creed, color, age, sex, national origin, physical or mental disability, or sexual orientation.*

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

**National Center for Health Statistics**

