FELLOWSHIP BENEFITS

The program is administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) through an interagency agreement between the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The fellow is considered a program participant and will not enter into an employee-employer relationship with CDER, FDA, ORISE, DOE, or any other office or agency.

Stipend: Awarded as monthly payments for the duration of the appointment.

Vacation/Sick Days: Combined up to 15 days per year.

Holidays: Participants are expected to observe all holidays recognized by the host facility staff. All federal holidays are observed at federal facilities.

Note: The program participant is not an employee of the FDA, thus will not be provided with the federal employee health insurance coverage. Health insurance coverage is a program requirement and participant may obtain coverage through his/her own private insurance or ORISE.

ABOUT THE FDA and ISMP

The FDA’s Center for Drug Evaluation and Research and the Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology perform essential public health tasks by making sure that safe and effective drugs are available to improve the health of people in the U.S. The Division of Medication Error Prevention and Analysis (DMEPA) reviews proposed propriety names to reduce name confusion; identifies error-prone aspects of labels, labeling, and packaging of drug products to minimize error; and performs post marketing surveillance of medication errors. http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/CentersOffices/OfficeofMedicalProductsandTobacco/CDER/default.htm.

The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) represents 30 years of experience in helping healthcare practitioners keep patients safe, and continues to lead efforts to improve the medication use process. www.ismp.org.
ABOUT THE FDA/ISMP SAFE MEDICATION MANAGEMENT FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

This fellowship program is a joint effort between the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology, Division of Medication Error Prevention and Analysis (DMEPA). The fellow will spend 6 months at ISMP in Horsham, PA, and 6 months at the FDA with DMEPA in Silver Spring, MD.

The fellowship program gives experienced candidates an unparalleled opportunity to learn from and work with some of the nation’s top experts in medication safety. The fellow benefits from ISMP’s years of experience devoted to medication error prevention and safe medication use. At the FDA, valuable regulatory experience is gained by working with the division focused on medication error prevention.

DURING THE YEAR AT FDA AND ISMP THE FELLOW WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO:

- Review proposed proprietary names to reduce risk
- Evaluate labels, labeling and packaging to reduce risk
- Apply the techniques of Failure Mode and Effects Analysis (FMEA)
- Address medication error related issues associated with marketed drug products
- Write and review information for columns in journals and ISMP’s medication safety newsletters
- Attend meetings relating to medication safety
- Assist in investigating errors reported to national and state error reporting programs
- Network with pharmaceutical, healthcare, legislative, and regulatory communities
- Follow-up to manufacturers and regulators after learning about safety hazards
- Learn about world-wide medication-system problems and prevention programs
- Participate in original research and surveys on medication errors and prevention
- Contribute to site visits and safety consultations in different healthcare delivery settings

CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants must be healthcare professionals with at least one year of postgraduate clinical experience or have completed a residency program. Pharmacists, physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners and nurses with risk management, qualify improvement or patient safety experience are welcome to apply. FDA and ISMP seek dedicated individuals with a strong commitment to improving medication safety, the ability to work in a fast-paced and often-changing environment, and a high comfort level with working independently or in a collaborative process.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants must submit the following to be considered: the application, a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, three professional and/or academic letters of reference, and official college transcripts. A copy of the application may be obtained from www.ismp.org/profdevelopment/fda ISMPFellowshipApplication.pdf.

For further questions, please contact Maximilian (Max) Straka at: maximilian.straka@fda.hhs.gov and/or Celeste Karpow at: celeste.karpow@fda.hhs.gov.