



2022-2023 NIH Climate and Health Scholars Program

Overview: [The National Institutes of Health Climate Change and Health Initiative](#) is seeking to bring Climate and Health scientists from outside the U.S. federal government to work with NIH staff to share knowledge and help build our capacity in the scientific domains outlined in the NIH Climate Change and Health Initiative's [Strategic Framework](#).

Program Details: Climate and Health (CH) Scholars will be hosted by an NIH home Institute, Center, or Office (ICO). During their time at NIH, the Scholar will be invited to collaborate with NIH staff on one or more of a diverse array of research, training, and policy activities that share their scientific knowledge with NIH laboratories, program offices, and the wider NIH community. There will be opportunities for individual or group research collaborations to develop between the Scholar and NIH scientists.

The 2022-2023 Scholar position can be virtual, on-site, or a hybrid placement. Preference will be agreed upon with the host NIH ICO. The program is flexible to accommodate fellows' preferred schedule of work at NIH. Scholars will be expected to serve 3-12 months, and hours/schedule will be discussed during the interview process.

Possible NIH Hosts: Multiple intramural laboratory and extramural program research groups have expressed interest in hosting a CH Scholar. Opportunities may exist as well to work with an ICO Office of the Director or Policy Office. Each Scholar will have a home ICO and possible collaborator and should plan to have active engagements with multiple ICOs. A list of possible opportunities at 'home' ICOs is below. This list does not delineate the full spectrum of possible ICO engagements, and if you do not see an area of interest listed, please reach out to the Scholars email account (CHScholars@nih.gov) for more information.

Eligibility: U.S. or international scientists from the academic or private sectors. Candidates (Ph.D. or M.D.) can be early career to senior scientists and should have a strong publication record in climate science or climate and health sciences: including basic, clinical, translational, population, social/behavioral, and/or implementation sciences. Candidates need not have an NIH funding record.

Application Information: To apply, please email a CV, cover letter, and two references to CHScholars@nih.gov. *Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to reach out via the CH scholars email address to discuss areas of interest with program staff in advance of submitting a formal application.*

Within the cover letter please provide:

- a vision statement describing your research focus, and what you would like to accomplish during your time at NIH
- which host office/laboratory/collaborator(s) you hope to work with, if known
- a proposed work schedule (timeline/hours),
- physical location preference (i.e., virtual, on-campus, mixed, etc.)
- Financial and research resources you would need to have a successful experience.

Applications are requested by **September 15th**. Additional rounds of review for applicants interested in later start dates *may* take place in October and November depending on the number of initial applications.

Compensation and Benefits: A stipend may be available on a case-by-case basis. Travel and living expenses for on-site engagement can be made available.

Program Contacts: Please contact CHScholars@nih.gov for more information.

National Institutes of Health • U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



Potential Engagement:

Identified examples of what a climate and health scholar could focus on with a host IC are listed below. This is not an exhaustive list of possibilities. If you do not see an example that fits your climate and health area of interest, please email CHScholars@nih.gov with a description of your interests and we will connect you with an appropriate contact at the NIH. As noted above, in most cases, Scholars will be expected to have interactions with multiple ICOs, as well as the NIH Climate Change and Health Working Group composed of staff from across NIH ICOs.

Fogarty International Center (FIC)

- Two divisions within FIC are seeking scholars interested in climate and health issues in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). FIC's Division of International Epidemiology and Population Studies (DIEPS) conducts and leads policy relevant research and training in global health, with an emphasis on computational modeling of population scale effects of interventions and implementation of these to improve health in LMICs. DIEPS is interested in a scholar with advanced computational and analytical skills related to climate change and air pollution or infectious disease dynamics. Potential collaborative work could include development of new projects in one of these areas or analyses of existing data. FIC's Center for Global Health Studies (CGHS) identifies emerging research priorities, stimulates new scientific directions in global health, and supports multidisciplinary collaboration and short-term training to address pressing global health problems. CGHS is interested in a scholar to explore issues related to climate and health research in LMICs, such as research capacity, community engagement in research, the science of resilience, and/or implementation science. Potential collaborative work could include formative research, analyses, and consultations leading to the development of a webinar or series, recommendations for NIH, a workshop for NIH staff, or a landscape analysis.

National Cancer Institute (NCI)

- NCI's Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences seeks to host an NIH Climate Change and Health Scholar interested in applying their expertise to accelerate progress in: (1) understanding cancer- and climate-related human behavior to inform research on the development and testing of interventions that alter behaviors in ways that mitigate climate change while reducing cancer risk and improving outcomes; and/or (2) assessing and ameliorating the impacts of climate change across the cancer control continuum, including understanding the impacts of climate change on cancer care delivery as well as understanding the best approaches to anticipate and mitigate impacts on cancer. The CH Scholar shall serve as a subject matter expert and collaborator on activities such as the developing publications, convening experts, identifying research gaps and needs, promoting research, and facilitating global partnerships.

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI)

- NHLBI has interest in participating in this program and is open to proposals from Scholars interested in the intersection of climate change and heart, lung, blood, and sleep disorders depending on the interests of the Scholar and the NHLBI host, the Scholar may be housed within a Division or Office or more than one, and may have broad input across the institute.

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)

- NIAID is interested in a Climate and Health Scholar with an interest in infectious diseases in general, and in water/food-borne, vector-borne and/or respiratory diseases in particular. The Scholar would provide her/his expertise in climate to identify how environmental changes in



temperature affect these diseases. This could include analyzing epidemiological and climatological data sets, review of the literature, and other activities that will contribute to our understanding of the impact of environmental factors on the incidence of infectious diseases and their influence on human populations.

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)

- Spanning several decades, researchers in the Division of Population Health Research (DiPHR), Division of Intramural Research, NICHD, have conducted numerous observational and experimental studies in the areas of reproductive, pediatric, and perinatal epidemiology. In addition to collecting a variety of longitudinal data, researchers obtained biospecimens at multiple time points. Thus, these data and biospecimens, together with time and space matched environmental data available from other agencies, e.g., NOAA, can be a rich resource to explore the impact of climate change on various birth and/or pregnancy related outcomes. Climate and Health Scholars, together with DiPHR intramural investigators, will lead research efforts to develop this resource and examine climate change and environmental impacts on maternal and newborn health. Moreover, this rich resource provides opportunities for CH Scholars to explore trans-NIH or trans-agency research collaborations using the NICHD data.

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)

- Climate and Health Scholars can work with NIEHS intramural researchers and extramural program staff in the exploration of the impact of climate on immunity, reproduction, epigenetics, neurobiology, signal transduction, genome integrity and associated health effects using laboratory-based methods, mechanistic studies, clinical and epidemiology research, and implementation science to enhance our understanding of risks and interventions. Opportunities exists for CH Scholars to explore the direct and indirect climate and environmental drivers of health risks, including climate related disasters, employing a health equity lens. NIEHS is also interested in the integration of diverse climate and health data streams and the development of data resources for the scientific community. Opportunities for collaboration and consultation include exploring research resources needed to build in-house climate and health research capacity, analysis of data and specimens from existing long-standing cohort studies, enhancing exposure assessment for climate factors in these studies, furthering climate justice in health disparate populations in the US and abroad, and intellectual exchanges such as journal club, lectures on key research methodologies, and creation of thought pieces on future directions for translation of climate and health research findings to a wide spectrum of stakeholders.

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)

- NIMH has interest in participating in this program and is open to proposals from Scholars interested in the intersection of climate change and mental health, depending on the interests of the scholar, they may be housed within a Division or Office, or may be hosted by the NIMH Office of the Director and have broad input across the institute.

National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD)

- NIMHD's Division of Biological and Behavioral Sciences, within the Division of Extramural Scientific Programs, would welcome a Climate and Health Scholar to help us develop programmatic activities related to investigating the impact of climate change on populations whom NIH designates as experiencing health disparities in the United States, which include racial and ethnic minority groups (Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander populations), people with less privileged socioeconomic status, sexual and gender minority persons, and rural



populations. Potential activities may involve conducting a landscape analysis of research related to climate change and health disparities, assist with developing a concept, helping promote awareness of climate change and health disparities research at NIMHD, and/or planning a workshop. Additionally, NIMHD's Division of Clinical and Health Services Research is interested in a scholar to learn more about the current state of the science on the long-term effects of disasters on health care systems serving populations with health disparities.

National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR)

- NINR's 2022–2026 [Strategic Plan](#) outlines the Institute's vision for supporting science that advances their mission: to lead nursing research to solve pressing health challenges and inform practice and policy — optimizing health and advancing health equity into the future. NINR is interested in engaging external expertise to inform the planning and development of climate change-associated research consistent with NINR's research lenses (i.e., perspectives through which a health challenge is examined): Health Equity, Social Determinants of Health, Population and Community Health, Prevention and Health Promotion, and Systems and Models of Care.