Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health

Overview:

ARPA-H (the Advanced Research Project Agency for Health) is seeking highly qualified candidates to build out our executive leadership team. ARPA-H is a new agency established with the mission of creating breakthrough solutions to America’s most challenging health-related problems. ARPA-H will support high-uncertainty, high-reward programs to solve hard challenges using programmatic approaches that other agencies cannot or do not use. With a scope spanning the molecular to the societal, ARPA-H programs have the potential to radically improve everyone’s health. Our streamlined awards process enables us to act quickly and catalyze cutting-edge biomedical and health research. ARPA-H will create an environment to support the best ideas from Program Managers that will bring together dynamic teams to solve the toughest health challenges. Our rigorous program design, competitive project selection process, and active program management ensure thoughtful and impactful expenditures. ARPA-H Program Managers serve for limited terms to ensure a constant infusion of fresh thinking and new perspectives. More information on ARPA-H can be found here: https://arpa-h.gov/

Founding Mission Office Director- Proactive Health

Description:

ARPA-H has four Mission Offices: Health Science Futures, Scalable Solutions, Proactive Health, and Resilient Systems that together serve as the core of ARPA-H program innovation activities (more information on each Mission Office can be found here: https://arpa-h.gov/research/). The ARPA-H Mission Office Directors (MOD) are responsible for overseeing and managing the ARPA-H mission offices including providing strategic direction, ensuring effective collaboration across ARPA-H, other R&D funding agencies, and with private sector partners, and fostering innovation to advance the agency’s objectives in improving health and advancing scientific knowledge.

ARPA-H is seeking exceptionally talented, highly motivated health innovation experts to lead the agency’s Proactive Health Office, which is focused on reducing the likelihood that people become patients. Proactive Health program investments will create new capabilities to detect and characterize disease risk and promote treatments and behaviors to anticipate threats to human health, whether those are viral, bacterial, chemical, physical, or psychological. The Proactive Health MOD will build and lead a team of Program Managers who are investing in a portfolio of projects and programs in relevant areas. The founding director of the Proactive Health Office will create and implement the initial strategy for the Mission Office and will set the vision for change through ARPA-H investment that will create new leaps towards improved health outcomes for all Americans.

Key Responsibilities

1. Build the Mission Office teams:
• Recruit highly qualified PMs to design, launch, and oversee ARPA-H programs
• Develop Mission Office processes and procedures to provide a streamlined, sustainable approach to organizational management
• Facilitate PM success through visionary leadership and day-to-day technical guidance

2. Strategic Planning and Leadership:
• Develop and implement strategic plans for the agency’s research and development mission office.
• Provide visionary leadership and guidance to align research efforts with the agency’s mission, goals, and priorities.
• Establish performance metrics, monitor progress, and make informed decisions to optimize resource allocation and achieve desired outcomes.

3. Research and Development Coordination:
• Collaborate with agency leadership, scientific experts, and stakeholders to identify research needs and priorities.
• Facilitate cross-functional collaboration and coordination among internal research teams, external partners, and funding agencies.
• Foster innovation and identify opportunities for multidisciplinary research initiatives that address persistent and emerging health challenges.

4. Program Management:
• Oversee PM implementation and management of research programs, ensuring alignment with strategic objectives and compliance with regulatory requirements.
• Monitor program budgets, timelines, and deliverables, and take proactive measures to address any deviations or challenges.
• Evaluate program effectiveness and impact, and provide recommendations for process improvement and resource optimization.

5. Stakeholder Engagement:
• Build and maintain strong relationships with external partners, including other federal agencies, academic institutions, industry stakeholders, and non-profit organizations.
• Foster collaborative partnerships to leverage expertise, resources, and funding opportunities that support the agency’s research and development efforts.
• Represent the agency at conferences, meetings, and public events, and effectively communicate the agency’s mission, achievements, and research priorities.
6. Policy and Regulatory Compliance:
   - Stay abreast of relevant policies, regulations, and ethical considerations related to health research and development.
   - Ensure compliance with federal guidelines, ethical standards, and data privacy regulations in all research activities.
   - Provide guidance to PMs and program staff on best practices and compliance requirements.

Educational Qualifications and Requirements:
   - MD or Ph.D. degree in a relevant field (e.g., health sciences, biomedical research, public health)
   - Experience in academia, industry, and/or government on topics related to proactive health including, but not limited to, diagnostic, preventative, behavioral, and mental health. Extensive experience (typically 10+ years) in health research and development, with a strong background in program management and strategic planning.
   - Demonstrated leadership skills, with a track record of successfully building, leading, and managing teams and projects, especially in a high growth and sometimes ambiguous setting.
   - Knowledge of federal and/or private sector research and development policies, regulations, and funding mechanisms.
   - Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to engage and collaborate with diverse stakeholders.
   - Strong analytical and problem-solving abilities, with a data-driven and results-oriented mindset.
   - Familiarity with emerging trends, technologies, and best practices in health research and development.
   - US Citizenship

Apply at CAREERS@ARPA-H.GOV Please include subject line: Mission Office Director-Proactive Health Application

At ARPA-H, our customer is the American public, and we seek to build a mission-driven workforce that is as diverse as our customer base. We are building a culture that creates a space for visionary innovators in science, health, and in building a best-in-class ARPA organization. For this position, ARPA-H is able to use special hiring authorities that are legislatively granted that allow for a streamlined hiring and onboarding process.

Values Statement: ARPA-H is dedicated to fostering a workforce that reflects the rich diversity of America. Our goal is to deliver groundbreaking health solutions that benefit all Americans, and we know the best path to reach everyone is to include everyone.

Benefits: The Mission Office Director will be hired at an industry-competitive salary commensurate with the selectee’s qualifications and experience and ARPA-H salary guidelines. Full Federal benefits will be provided, including retirement, health and life insurance, leave, and savings plan (401(k) equivalent). Relocation and other incentives may be available.
**Equal Employment Opportunity:** Selection for this position will be based solely on merit, with no discrimination for non-merit reasons such as race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, political affiliation, marital status, disability, age, or membership or non-membership in an employee organization. ARPA-H encourages the application and nomination of qualified women, minorities, and individuals with disabilities.

**Standards of Conduct/Financial Disclosure:** ARPA-H inspires public confidence in our work by maintaining high ethical principles. ARPA-H employees are subject to Federal government-wide regulations and statutes as well as agency-specific regulations described on the NIH Ethics website. We encourage you to review this information. The position requires the incumbent to complete a public financial disclosure report prior to the effective date of the appointment.

**Foreign Education:** Applicants who have completed part or all of their education outside of the U.S. must have their foreign education evaluated by an accredited organization to ensure that the foreign education is equivalent to education received in accredited educational institutions in the United States. We will only accept the completed foreign education evaluation. For more information on foreign education verification, visit the https://www.naces.org website. Verification must be received prior to the effective date of the appointment.

**Reasonable Accommodation:** ARPA-H provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you require reasonable accommodation during any part of the application and hiring process, please notify us. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.