



Health Scientist Administrator (Branch Chief) Opportunity at NIMH

Chief, Genomics Research Branch Division of Neuroscience and Basic Behavioral Science National Institute of Mental Health Department of Health and Human Services

The Division of Neuroscience and Basic Behavioral Science (DNBBS) at NIMH directs, plans, and supports programs of research in the areas of basic neuroscience, human genetics, basic behavioral science, research training, resource development, technology development, drug discovery, and research dissemination. The Division also has the responsibility, in cooperation with other components of the Institute and the research community, for ensuring that relevant basic science knowledge is generated and then harvested to create improved diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of mental and behavioral disorders. The Division is looking for a motivated individual to serve as **Chief of the Genomics Research Branch**.

The Branch plans, supports, and administers programs of research towards the discovery and function of gene variants and other genomic elements that contribute to the development of mental illnesses and related traits. Research projects apply genome-scale approaches to case-control, family, and population-based study designs in order to identify genetic risk factors and the underlying genetic architecture of serious mental illnesses. The Branch also supports basic research into the relationship between human genetic variation and phenotypic variation in molecular, cellular, affective, and cognitive traits relevant to mental illnesses. Towards this end, the Branch encourages the development and distribution of research resources such as novel statistical, computational, and bioinformatics tools as well as comprehensive genomic reference maps derived from healthy and patient brains, organoids, and cells. The goal is to establish a robust foundation based on human genetics and human biology for translational neuroscience efforts aiming to diagnose, treat, and ultimately prevent mental illnesses.

The selected candidate will oversee and supervise Program Officers who initiate, plan, develop, and direct NIMH extramural research programs administered by the Branch. The selected candidate will serve as Program Officer for a portfolio of grants, contracts, and/or cooperative agreements, and will participate in collaborative activities with other NIH institutes and Federal departments or agencies, as appropriate.

Competitive candidates are expected to be accomplished scientists with a good understanding of how biomedical research is performed and expertise in interdisciplinary genomics research with a focus on understanding genetics of brain and behavior. A publication record, prior research experience, and evidence of a familiarity with current literature in human genomics related to mental illness are essential. Supervisory experience is desired. This position requires working both independently and collaboratively and offers opportunities to impact priorities, develop new initiatives, and contribute to the advancement of a national program of research.

Responsibilities include supervision of scientific staff, planning and executing activities within the Branch's scope of responsibilities, and aligning those activities with the NIMH Strategic Plan. Direct management of a portfolio of grants/contracts is also expected. Strong collaborative, organizational, and oral and written communication skills are required. Salary will be commensurate with the experience of the candidate. A full package of federal Civil Service benefits is available, including: retirement, health and life insurance, long term care insurance, leave, and a Thrift Savings Plan (401K equivalent). The successful candidate is subject to a background investigation and public financial disclosure requirements.

Qualifications

Applicants must be U.S. citizens and have a Ph.D., M.D., or equivalent degree from an accredited college or university, including acceptance of the dissertation in genomics or other pertinent academic fields of sciences allied to health or health-related research.

How to Apply

Interested candidates should send a letter of interest, including a curriculum vitae to **NIMHsearch@mail.nih.gov**.

The NIH encourages the application and nomination of qualified women, minorities, and individuals with disabilities. HHS and NIH are Equal Opportunity Employers.