

**Position ID**

E17-29

**Position Title**

EPA National Nutrient Criteria Program Fellow

**Office Name**

Ecological and Health Processes Branch - Nutrients Team (US EPA, S&T), Environmental Protection Agency

**Portfolio Summary**

The National Nutrient Criteria Program's principal mission is to provide technical support to help states, tribes, and territories derive scientifically-defensible regulatory limits, known as numeric nutrient criteria, to protect the nation's waters from the effects of nutrient pollution (primarily an excess of nitrogen and phosphorus). To help develop these criteria, our program relies on a diverse knowledge of science, risk management, environmental law, and environmental policy and collaborates with a wide variety of scientists and experts both inside and outside of government.

This position provides the fellow with a great opportunity to connect her or his scientific knowledge to the policies and regulations that promote environmental protection. We are open to tailoring this experience to the skillset and interests of the fellow, while providing the ability to build on and refine those skills by working on existing projects. Examples of upcoming projects include technical resource updates for estuarine and coastal water numeric nutrient criteria derivation and determining how to best characterize the condition of biological communities to better understand the overall condition of estuarine, near coastal, and coral reef environments. The fellow's portfolio may also include the following: participating in EPA's Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Team, liaising with EPA regional offices, providing technical support outreach to EPA regions and state water quality agencies, reviewing state water quality standards packages, and tracking state numeric nutrient criteria development. These and other projects will provide the fellow excellent opportunities to learn how to apply the best, most up-to-date scientific information to establish updated environmental policy.

The fellow will also be encouraged to take advantage of professional training opportunities provided by EPA (e.g., EPA's Clean Water Act course, Watershed Academy, and Water Quality Standards Academy), and to pursue outside professional development opportunities.

**Expertise Desired**

We seek a fellow who likes to laugh while working in a complex and challenging regulatory environment. This position is well-suited for someone who has good time management skills, a good sense of humor, and takes initiative. Strong oral and written communication skills will also be helpful.

The ideal fellow will have a strong scientific background, with a working knowledge of modeling, statistics, freshwater ecology, and/or estuarine ecology. Skills and interest in coding, statistics, and modeling are useful, but not necessary. The fellow's existing skills will serve as the base to help the her or him create scientifically supported policies.

**Travel within DC (days per month)**

0-3

**Travel outside DC (days per month)**

0-2

**Accepts Foreign Nationals**

Yes