

Scientific Officer Prevention and Behaviour Change

Unit: Disease Programmes

Reference: ECDC/FGIV/2023/DPR-SOPBC

Applications are invited for the above Contract Agent post at the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC).

Job description

ECDC plans to recruit one person for the above-mentioned vacancy. ECDC also aims to establish a reserve list, which may be used for any future vacancies in the area.

The jobholder will report to the Deputy Head of Disease Programmes Unit (DPR) while working closely with colleagues in the Unit and other parts of the organisation that are involved in communicable disease prevention and behaviour change.

The jobholder will be responsible for or contribute to the following areas of work:

- Contributing as needed to the implementation of the ECDC Prevention Framework, in alignment with the ECDC 2021-2027 strategy and including through support to the ECDC Prevention Community of Practice;
- Engaging in dialogue with countries on needs for support for communicable disease prevention, especially in the area of behaviour change;
- Supporting the exchange of good practices related to prevention and behaviour change between countries;
- Supporting the development of ECDC guidance on prevention and behaviour change;
- Liaising with relevant ECDC stakeholders, partners and other national and international bodies involved in communicable disease prevention and control, especially in relation to prevention and behaviour change;
- Liaising with DPR Sections and other ECDC organisational entities in relation to prevention and behaviour change;
- Planning and implementing country support activities (trainings, exchange visits, workshops, country visits etc.);
- Contributing to ECDC work planning in the area of prevention and behaviour change;

- Organising tenders, and project managing and following-up of contracted activities in the area of prevention and behaviour change;
- Contributing to ECDC risk assessments and other ECDC outputs as needed in the area of prevention and behaviour change;
- Providing support to scientific studies and other disease-specific projects;
- Contributing to public health emergency response and ECDC duty systems, as required;
- Any other tasks related to his/her area of work as requested.

Qualifications and experiences required

A. Formal requirements

In order to be an eligible candidate you need to fulfil a set of formal requirements. These requirements are:

- A level of education which corresponds to completed university studies of at least three years attested by a diploma ¹;
- Thorough knowledge of one of the official EU languages and a satisfactory knowledge of another official EU language to the extent necessary for the performance of his/her duties²;
- Nationality of one of the EU Member States or of Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein;
- To be entitled to his or her full rights as a citizen³;
- To have fulfilled any obligations imposed by the applicable laws on military service;
- Meet the character requirements for the duties involved; and
- Be physically fit to perform the duties linked to the post.

B. Selection criteria

To qualify for this post we have identified **essential criteria** with regard to professional experience/knowledge and personal characteristics/interpersonal skills.

Professional experience/knowledge:

- University degree within the social, behavioural or related sciences;
- At least 3 years of professional experience (following the award of the diploma) acquired in positions relevant to the job description;
- Work experience providing an understanding of the context in which national/international public health institutes and other public health actors are working;
- Hands-on experience in the area of behaviour change in relation to communicable disease prevention;

1 Only diplomas and certificates that have been awarded in EU member states or that are the subject of equivalence certificates issued by authorities in the said Member states shall be taken into consideration.

2 Candidates with a non-official EU language or English as their mother tongue must provide proof of their level of a second language with a certificate (B1 or more).

3 Prior to the appointment, the successful candidate will be asked to provide a certificate from the police file to the effect of non-existing criminal record.

- Hands-on experience of working with public health Communities of Practice or other collaborative fora;
- Knowledge and experience of qualitative and quantitative research methodologies;
- Proven experience in project management, including networking and communication with stakeholders;
- Experience and skills in writing reports and delivering oral presentations;
- Excellent level of English, both written and spoken.

Personal characteristics/interpersonal skills:

- Ability to take initiative;
- Excellent oral and written communication skills;
- Ability to work collaboratively in a multi-disciplinary, multi-cultural team;
- Organisational skills and ability to manage responsibilities under routine conditions as well as under pressure;
- Quality-driven and service-minded.

Depending on the number of applications received, the selection committee may apply stricter requirements within the aforementioned selection criteria.

Equal Opportunities

ECDC is an equal opportunities employer and encourages applications from all candidates who fulfil the eligibility and selection criteria without any distinction on grounds of age, race, political, philosophical or religious conviction, gender or sexual orientation and regardless of disabilities.

Appointment and conditions of employment

The jobholder will be appointed on the basis of a shortlist proposed by the Selection Committee to the Director. This vacancy notice is the basis for the establishment of the Selection Committee's proposal. Candidates will be requested to undergo written tests. Candidates should note that the proposal may be made public and that inclusion in the shortlist does not guarantee recruitment. The shortlist of candidates will be established following an open selection process.

The successful candidate will be recruited as a contract agent, pursuant to article 3a) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union, for a period of five years. The contract may be renewed. The appointment will be in **Function Group FG IV**.

Applicants should note the requirement under the EU staff regulations for all new staff to successfully complete a probationary period of nine months.

For any further information on contractual and working conditions, please refer to the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Communities, which are available at the following link:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A01962R0031-20140501>

The place of employment will be Stockholm, where the Centre has its activities.

Reserve list

A reserve list may be created and used for recruitment, should similar vacancies arise. It will be valid until 31 December of the same year as the application deadline and may be extended.

Application procedure

To apply for this vacancy, please create/ log in to your account via ECDC's e-recruitment system, complete all required sections of the application and submit it. **ECDC does not accept applications submitted by e-mail, mail or any other means.**

The closing date for the submission of applications is on **15 November 2023 at 11:59:59 (midday) Stockholm time**. You are advised to submit your application well ahead of the deadline in case you face technical issues and/or if there is heavy traffic on the website. ECDC will not accept any applications after the deadline. Once you have submitted your application, you will receive an automatic e-mail message confirming receipt of your application. Please ensure that the email address you provide for your applicant account is correct and that you check your email regularly.

You can find an e-recruitment user guide and a guide on the ECDC recruitment and selection process on our website:

<https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/about-us/work-us/recruitment-process>

Due to the large volume of applications received, only candidates selected for interviews will be notified.

You can find the translation⁴ of this vacancy notice in all EU languages here:

<https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/about-ecdc/work-ecdc/recruitment/vacancies/vacancy-translations>

⁴ While this vacancy notice has been translated into all official EU languages from its English original the language of day-to-day operations in the Agency is generally English. ECDC therefore prefers to receive the application in English.