

Expert Biostatistics

Unit: Scientific Methods and Standards
Reference: ECDC/AD5/2023/SMS-EB

Applications are invited for the above Temporary 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 Head of Section Scientific Process and Methods.

He/She will be responsible in particular for the following areas of work:

- Collaborating with epidemiologists, infectious disease experts, public health professionals, biostatisticians and modellers at the Centre and other European and international public health and research institutions;
- Performing advanced statistical analyses of epidemiological and other health related data, developing and applying data analysis algorithms and contributing to infectious disease surveillance reports, scientific advice and other public health outputs;
- Writing and documenting code using statistical analysis software;
- Providing statistical consultation and recommending appropriate statistical analyses, developing and reviewing protocols and analysis plans/descriptions;
- Contributing to the assessment of gaps in the application of statistical methods in ECDC activities and outputs and the development and delivery of methodological guidance and training in statistics;
- Keeping abreast of scientific, methodological and policy developments in the area of statistics, modelling and infectious disease epidemiology, prevention and control;
- Any other tasks related to their area of work as requested;
- Contribute to other activities of ECDC, as required, in his/her field of expertise;
- May be asked to contribute to the 24/7 duty system of ECDC.

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 3 years attested by a diploma¹;
- 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 and personal characteristics/interpersonal skills. These are:

Professional experience/knowledge:

- At least 5 years professional experience (following the award of the diploma), of which at least 3 years' experience acquired in positions relevant to the job description;
- University degree in statistics, biostatistics, mathematics or related field, preferably a Master's degree;
- Excellent knowledge in advanced statistical methods (including study and survey design, sample size calculation, trend and time series analysis, regression and sensitivity analysis, meta and meta-regression analysis), and experience with both, frequentist and Bayesian statistics, applied to health related data;
- Experience with large and complex health related datasets;
- Good understanding of infectious disease epidemiology and surveillance;
- Excellent experience and knowledge of standard statistical packages and programming language, such as Stata and R;
- Proven skills in communicating scientific results orally and in writing to different audiences;

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).

In addition, in order to be eligible for a promotion through an annual promotion exercise the staff members have to have a working knowledge of a third EU language, as described in the applicable Staff Regulations and Implementing Rules.

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.

- Excellent level of English, both written and spoken.

Personal characteristics/interpersonal skills:

- Quality driven and service minded;
- Strong analytical, computational, and problem solving skills;
- Ability to work collaboratively in a multi-disciplinary and multi-cultural team and build strong working relationships;
- Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate effectively with persons from other disciplines and scientific areas;
- Results-oriented with good project management and organisational skills and ability to work under pressure.

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 Temporary Agent, pursuant to article 2f) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union, for a period of five years which may be renewed. The appointment will be in grade **AD 5**.

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 **09 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.