

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS:

US Government-supported fellowships for short-term study in Epidemiology & Biostatistics at the University of California at Berkeley and the University of California at San Francisco

Under the US President's Emergency Plan for HIV/AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Vietnam—in collaboration with the Fogarty International Center at the National Institutes of Health (NIH)—is pleased to announce **an innovative fellowship program to support an eight (8) week summer course for Vietnamese public health professionals** at the University of California at Berkeley (UCB) (<http://sph.berkeley.edu/>) and at San Francisco (UCSF) (<http://medschool2.ucsf.edu/>), United States.

To strengthen skills among Vietnam public health professionals in epidemiology, evidence-based planning, data use and interpretation, and utilization capacity, PEPFAR Vietnam, CDC and NIH is collaborating with key US-based universities to establish a **scholar exchange program that will focus on building capacity in epidemiology and biostatistics.**

This program will support the cultivation of an innovative generation of public health specialists engaged in the implementation and evaluation of public health programs related to HIV care, treatment and prevention. The primary objective of the fellowship is to assist in educating committed individuals in acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary to lead the implementation of evidence based interventions to address the HIV epidemic in Vietnam

What is it?

CDC Vietnam and PEPFAR, will **provide full support to 5-8 competitively selected public health professionals to attend a series of intensive short courses in the key areas described above at UCB and UCSF in summer 2010.** This eight (8) week summer fellowship will consist of a series of progressive courses in epidemiology, biostatistics, and public health research; it is designed to further the professional development of Vietnamese public health practitioners in applied data use. UCB and UCSF will provide on-going project mentorship to the students upon return to Vietnam. Successful applicants will have an opportunity to gain further knowledge in epidemiology, biostatistics, operational research, program management, monitoring and evaluation.

Who is Eligible?

- This program is open to early and mid-career public health professionals from Vietnam who are currently working in the public health sector. This program will competitively identify and support the highest qualified applicants to attend courses at UCB and UCSF. Preference will be given to those currently working in HIV/AIDS related activities.
- Eligible applicants **must have been engaged in public health work in Vietnam for a minimum of 1 year prior** to the application date and committed to returning to public health work in Vietnam after completing the program.

- As the courses will be taught in English, **applicants must demonstrate English proficiency** (Level 3) by a standardized test that will be administered during the screening process.

How does one apply?

Candidates will be chosen based on a rigorous application and evaluation process that will assess technical skills, personal motivation, professional experience, and their potential contribution to the Vietnamese health system.

Applicants are required to submit the following:

- Curriculum vitae/resume adequately describing relevant work experience, education, and skills.
- 750-word essay clearly describing in English how the applicant plans to apply the knowledge gained through this educational fellowship experience in supporting and enhancing the public health system in Vietnam.
- All application materials must be received no later than **March 5, 2010**.
- Please email the above materials to: Ms. Thao Dinh (dinhtp@vn.cdc.gov).

Applicants will be further **screened by a project committee for final selection** into the program.

What is included in the scholarship?

Financial support will cover tuition, fees, travel and per diem to cover basic costs of living while attending the courses in the US.

Should you have any questions about the application process or the fellowship, please email Patrick Nadol (nadolpj@vn.cdc.gov) or Jodi Charles (CharlesJ@vn.cdc.gov).