

Senior Scientist (Director)

National Institutes of Health
National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences
Division of Pre-Clinical Innovation
Early Translation Branch
Rockville, Maryland

<https://ncats.nih.gov/jobs#director-etb>

Description

The National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS), a major research component of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is seeking applications from exceptional scientists to serve as the director of the Early Translation Branch (ETB), Division of Pre-Clinical Innovation.

The ETB is home to approximately 60 scientists and trainees with diverse backgrounds, including biology, chemistry and informatics. ETB scientists enjoy access to state-of-the-art resources including robotic high-throughput screening facilities, sample management, cheminformatics and medicinal chemistry. The ETB is the successor to the NCATS Chemical Genomics Center, and ETB scientists seek to understand the underlying principles driving the translation of basic research discoveries into tangible improvements in human health by focusing on the early stages of this process. Efforts include the functionalization of the human genome through discovery of diverse tools—small molecules, antibodies, constrained peptides and others—by way of screening, directed evolution and rational computational design methods, including machine learning and artificial intelligence, development of innovative methods for assaying biological activity of novel gene targets and pathways, and derivation of general principles governing the interaction between the biological and chemical spaces.

Core Responsibilities

The incumbent is responsible for planning and directing a broad and comprehensive program in the discovery of pharmacological tools to probe the function of the human genome and to understand and improve the processes underlying this discovery. NCATS is seeking individuals with scientific, administrative and leadership credentials who can lead and manage research activities in the above-referenced areas, as well as consult with the NCATS scientific director on the future progress and growth of these research areas.

Qualifications

Applicants must possess a doctoral degree (M.D., Ph.D. or equivalent) and a strong background in the biomedical sciences, as well as a record of accomplishment in academic and/or biopharmaceutical pre-clinical translation, with demonstrated experience leading multidisciplinary research groups in technology and therapeutic/diagnostic/intervention discovery. The ideal candidate will be an internationally recognized and highly accomplished researcher in multiple aspects of pre-clinical translation, with particular interest and accomplishment in novel technology and paradigm development. He or she must have expertise and accomplishment in multiple aspects of pre-clinical translation, from target validation through early development of therapeutics, including but not limited to small molecules, biologics, antisense oligonucleotides and/or diagnostics.

Experience in the biotechnology, pharmaceutical or related industries is desirable but not required. The candidate must have demonstrated experience in directing and managing a large and scientifically diverse research program—along with well-honed administrative and interpersonal skills—to meet the demands of both research and program direction, and to be able to influence, inspire and empower scientists and administrative staff to be creative, self-motivated, entrepreneurial achievers who deliver on the mission of the organization through individual and collaborative initiatives. Finally, he or she must be a collaborative leader with demonstrated experience in engaging a broad range of stakeholders, such as scientists from different disciplines, government agencies, patient advocacy groups and other nonprofit organizations. This position is open to both U.S. and non-U.S. citizens.

Salary and Benefits

The salary range is commensurate with experience and accomplishments. A full civil service package of benefits (including retirement, health, life and long-term care insurance, Thrift Savings Plan participation, etc.) is available. NIH inspires public confidence in the agency's science by maintaining high ethical principles. NIH employees are subject to federal government-wide regulations and statutes, as well as agency-specific regulations described on the [NIH Ethics Program website](#)(link is external).

How to Apply

Please submit a cover letter describing your interest in the position, including a career synopsis (1–3 pages); statement of research interests (1–2 pages); a current curriculum vitae (CV) and complete bibliography; and the names and contact information of five references to ETBSeniorScientist@nih.gov(link sends e-mail). Please include in your CV a description of mentoring and outreach activities in which you have been involved, especially those involving women and persons from racial/ethnic or other groups that are underrepresented in biomedical research. Questions regarding the application process should be directed to the email listed above. Application packages will only be accepted electronically and must be received beginning January 27 through March 11, 2020.