



National Institutes of Health

Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research



OBSSR Updates

September 20, 2022

Applications for the below positions (NIH-wide and open to NIH and outside NIH applicants) will be accepted through the NIH Global HSA, SBSA and HSPA announcements on USAJOBS (usajobs.gov). The HSA and SBSA positions are expected to post mid-September and mid-October, respectively. The timing of the HSPA posting is to be determined but please note that all grades will be covered in each announcement.

GS15 Supervisory HSA/SBSA position

GS 12/13/14 HSA/SBSA position

GS 15 Supervisory HSPA position

GS 12/13/14 HSPA position

OBSSR is located within the Division of Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives, Office of the Director. OBSSR is responsible for coordinating the health-relevant behavioral and social sciences and identifying challenges and opportunities to advance these sciences at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The mission of OBSSR is to 1) enhance the impact of health-related behavioral and social sciences research; 2) coordinate behavioral and social sciences research conducted or supported by the NIH and integrate these sciences within the larger NIH research enterprise; and 3) communicate health-related behavioral and social sciences research findings to various stakeholders within and outside the federal government. See the [OBSSR Strategic Plan](#).

If you are ready for an exciting scientific opportunity and would like to know more about this position and how to apply, please contact: Dr. Wendy B. Smith, Associate Director, OBSSR at smithwe@mail.nih.gov.

Applicants must be U.S. Citizens and the position is subject to a background check. NIH is dedicated to building a diverse community in its training and employment programs.

GS15 Supervisory HSA/SBSA position

[OBSSR](#) seeks one (1) social or behavioral scientist to serve as a supervisory Health Science Administrator (HSA)/Social and Behavioral Science Administrator (SBSA). This position requires an HSA/SBSA who has subject matter expertise in the social and behavioral sciences as they relate to health. The HSA/SBSA will help coordinate and accelerate innovative behavioral and social science research across diseases and the lifespan. The supervisory HSA/SBSA will lead the Scientific Program Development staff and serve as first line supervisor for the HSA/SBSA staff in the office. The supervisory HSA/SBSA will participate in and lead cross-NIH scientific meetings and initiatives and provide expert scientific guidance to the OBSSR Director as well as the internal and external behavioral and social science community. The supervisory HSA/SBSA will also evaluate, plan, and coordinate

high priority research opportunities that are cross-NIH in nature and are vital to achieving the mission of OBSSR and the NIH. Through coordination and liaison activities across NIH, the supervisory HSA/SBSA will enhance information exchange, integration, and coordination of behavioral and social science research activities at the NIH. The applicant should have a doctoral degree in the behavioral or social sciences and research experience relevant to behavioral and social processes and health. Desired qualifications include but are not limited to:

- Strong project management skills and demonstrated ability to manage multiple priorities and projects simultaneously.
- Strong critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Strong interpersonal skills and demonstrated ability to cultivate partnerships and maintain relationships at all levels across an organization to develop and implement program priorities.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills with demonstrated ability to convey complex information to a variety of audiences.

GS 12/13/14 HSA/SBSA position

[OBSSR](#) seeks one (1) social or behavioral scientist to serve as a Health Science Administrator (HSA)/Social and Behavioral Science Administrator (SBSA). This position requires an HSA/SBSA who has subject matter expertise in the social and behavioral sciences as they relate to health. The HSA/SBSA will help coordinate and accelerate innovative behavioral and social science research across diseases and the lifespan. The HSA/SBSA will participate in and lead cross-NIH scientific meetings and initiatives and provide expert scientific guidance to the OBSSR Director as well as the internal and external behavioral and social science community. The HSA/SBSA will evaluate, plan, and coordinate high priority research opportunities that are cross-NIH in nature and are vital to achieving the mission of OBSSR and the NIH. Through coordination and liaison activities across NIH, the HSA/SBSA will enhance information exchange, integration, and coordination of behavioral and social science research activities at the NIH. The applicant should have a doctoral degree in the behavioral or social sciences and research experience relevant to behavioral and social processes and health. Desired qualifications include but are not limited to:

- Strong project management skills and demonstrated ability to manage multiple priorities and projects simultaneously.
- Strong critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Strong interpersonal skills and demonstrated ability to cultivate partnerships and maintain relationships at all levels across an organization to develop and implement program priorities.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills with demonstrated ability to convey complex information to a variety of audiences.

GS 15 Supervisory HSPA position

[OBSSR](#) seeks one (1) social or behavioral analyst to serve as a supervisory Health Science Policy Analyst (HSPA). This position requires an HSPA who has subject matter expertise in the social and behavioral sciences as they relate to health. The supervisory HSPA will lead the Scientific Program Planning, Evaluation and Analysis staff and serve as first line supervisor for the HSPA staff in the office. The supervisory HSA/SBSA will help coordinate and perform analyses using expertise in areas such as portfolio analyses, NIH administrative data, policy and evaluation projects related to behavioral and social science research across diseases and the lifespan. The HSPA will participate in and lead cross-NIH scientific meetings and activities and provide expert guidance to the OBSSR leadership as well as the internal and external behavioral and social science community. The HSPA will evaluate, plan, and coordinate high priority analytic work, strategic planning and similar projects that are vital to

achieving the mission of OBSSR and the NIH. Through coordination and liaison activities across NIH, the HSPA will enhance information exchange, integration, and coordination of behavioral and social science research activities at the NIH. The supervisory HSPA will advise the OBSSR leadership on analysis, research policy, and legislative affairs as related to OBSSR's mission and interests. The supervisory HSPA may contribute or oversee the production of appropriate congressional reports, justifications, responses to questions for the record, and appropriations briefs. The applicant should have a background in the behavioral or social sciences and experience relevant to behavioral and social processes and health. Desired qualifications include but are not limited to:

- Strong project management skills and demonstrated ability to manage multiple priorities and projects simultaneously.
- Strong critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Strong interpersonal skills and demonstrated ability to cultivate partnerships and maintain relationships at all levels across an organization to develop and implement program priorities.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills with demonstrated ability to convey complex information to a variety of audiences.

GS 12/13/14 HSPA position

OBSSR seeks one (1) social or behavioral scientist to serve as a Health Science Policy Analyst (HSPA). This position requires an HSPA who has subject matter expertise in the social and behavioral sciences as they relate to health. The HSPA will help coordinate and perform analyses using expertise in areas such as portfolio analyses, NIH administrative data, policy and evaluation projects related to behavioral and social science research across diseases and the lifespan. The HSPA will participate in and lead cross-NIH scientific meetings and activities and provide expert guidance to the OBSSR leadership as well as the internal and external behavioral and social science community. The HSPA will evaluate, plan, and coordinate high priority analytic work, strategic planning and similar projects that are vital to achieving the mission of OBSSR and the NIH. Through coordination and liaison activities across NIH, the HSPA will enhance information exchange, integration, and coordination of behavioral and social science research activities at the NIH. The HSPA will advise the OBSSR leadership on analysis, research policy, and legislative affairs as related to OBSSR's mission and interests. The HSPA may contribute to the production of appropriate congressional reports, justifications, responses to questions for the record, and appropriations briefs. The applicant should have a background in the behavioral or social sciences and experience relevant to behavioral and social processes and health. Desired qualifications include but are not limited to:

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