

Urban Labs Title: Public Health Analyst
Reporting to: Executive Director, Health Lab; Director, Chicago-High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)

Who We Are

By 2050, the global urban population will nearly double to 6.4 billion. This unprecedented growth in the global urban population creates incredible opportunities but also intensifies the most difficult problems cities face, such as concentrated poverty, crime, poor-quality schooling, and pollution. The University of Chicago founded Urban Labs to help address these challenges. Urban Labs is a set of highly synergistic labs focused on undertaking inquiry and having impact on five essential dimensions of urban life: *crime, education, health, poverty, and energy & environment*. Urban Labs partners with cities to identify and rigorously evaluate the policies and programs with the greatest potential to improve human lives at scale. Urban Labs' evidence-based approach gives policymakers and practitioners the knowledge they need to effectively achieve the greatest social good per dollar spent.

In sum, UChicago Urban Labs:

- Identifies promising solutions to urban challenges
- Tests the most promising urban policies and programs
- Scales-up the most effective and cost-efficient policies and programs

For more information about the UChicago Urban Labs, go to <http://urbanlabs.uchicago.edu/>

Who Is HIDTA

The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) program, created by Congress with the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, provides assistance to Federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies operating in areas determined to be critical drug-trafficking regions of the United States. The purpose of the program is to reduce drug trafficking and production in the United States by:

- Facilitating cooperation among Federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies to share information and implement coordinated enforcement activities;
- Enhancing law enforcement intelligence sharing among Federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies;
- Providing reliable law enforcement intelligence to law enforcement agencies needed to design effective enforcement strategies and operations; and
- Supporting coordinated law enforcement strategies which maximize use of available resources to reduce the supply of illegal drugs in designated areas and in the United States as a whole.

For more information about HIDTA, go to <https://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/high-intensity-drug-trafficking-areas-program>

The Role

The UChicago Health Lab is seeking embedded Public Health Analyst with strong technical and communication skills to work in close partnership with the Chicago High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) on a project to enhance HIDTA use of data to improve public health. The Analyst will work as a

part of a larger HIDTA/Urban Lab team to reduce the prevalence of heroin and other opioid use, abuse and trafficking in the United States. The Analyst will enable HIDTA to utilize the data at its disposal to make better-informed decisions on preventing fatal and non-fatal heroin and other opioid drug overdoses. The successful candidate will have experience analyzing data and presenting findings, must demonstrate a willingness to work alongside and assist HIDTA agents, and is able to work well both independently and as part of a larger team. This position offers the opportunity to work directly on addressing a pressing drug policy issue in close collaboration with academic and subject matter experts. The Analyst position is a one-year assignment, though there may be an opportunity to extend it subject to funding and project needs.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Prepare intelligence reports, bulletins and specialized reports dealing with criminal organizations, drug trends and patterns, and potential officer safety, public health or drug policy concerns focusing on heroin and other opioids.
 - Identify and develop undocumented areas of investigations and identify leads for follow-up criminal investigations and public health actions.
 - Collect, organize, and analyze large amounts of public health data, law enforcement information, and criminal intelligence.
 - Integrate various software/databases to facilitate the intelligence analysis process.
 - Prepare graphs, charts, and other illustrative devices for visual presentation of data.
 - Identify and research intelligence needs/trends/patterns related to the HRS
- Assist in identifying intelligence needs of the Chicago HIDTA law enforcement agencies, initiatives and HRS.
 - Develop and maintain liaisons with drug investigators, criminal intelligence officers, U.S State's Attorneys, and various public health officials.
 - Attend intra/inter-agency meetings/conferences to gather and share information.
 - Identify and prepare recommendations based on initiative and HRS needs to improve information and intelligence sharing.
 - Attend continuing education/training to remain current with all necessary intelligence analysis systems and procedures.
 - Provide training to assist in the transfer of analytical skills to new Chicago HIDTA analysts, initiative personnel, and area law enforcement.
 - Work with the Chicago HIDTA DIOs to facilitate collaboration between public health and public safety entities, including data sharing, joint initiatives, and policy considerations.
 - Promote the use of ODMAP and assist agencies in registering for this service.
- Work with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and possible other state and city agencies to analyze and synthesize large public health data relating to heroin and opioid overdoses and fatalities.
- Other applicable duties as assigned and deemed necessary by the HIDTA Director. Analyst will also receive direction/guidance from the HRS Public Health Coordinator.

Education

- Bachelor's degree in economics, public policy, public health, criminal justice, statistics, computer science, or a closely related field required; advanced degree preferred.

Experience

- A minimum of one year of relevant research experience required. Experience gained in school counts towards requirement.
- Experience working with Stata, SAS, R or other programming languages required.
- Experience working with GIS and mapping software preferred.
- Experience working with large and complex datasets strongly preferred.
- Experience working on field experiments preferred.

Competencies

- Strong interest in public health policy required.
- Strong quantitative skills required.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills required.
- Ability to meet tight deadlines required.
- Excellent organizational skills and attention to detail required.
- Excellent data visualization ability required.
- Ability to work both independently and as a team member required.
- Ability to work discretely with sensitive and confidential data required.
- Knowledge and understanding of drug policy and/or public health research literature preferred.

To Apply: Submit resume, cover letter, writing sample, and unofficial transcripts to **JR00105**.

The University of Chicago is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.