



Eastern Europe and South Caucasus FETP Intermediate Announcement for Mentors Recruitment

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and ICAP at Columbia University announce the recruitment of mentors for the new cohort for the Eastern Europe and South Caucasus (EESC) Field Epidemiology Training Program Intermediate (FETP-I). The program will commence in **May 2025**, and will include **20-22** residents representing the Ministries of Health (MOH) and Ministries of Agriculture (MOA) from Armenia, Moldova and Ukraine and representatives of private health sector in Georgia. We expect to recruit up to two mentors from each country, including one from the MOH and one from the MOA to embrace the OneHealth approach.

Eligibility Criteria for Mentors

1. FETP graduate (FETP-Advanced or equivalent program)
2. Minimum five years of work experience in governmental sector including those affiliated with the Ministry of Health or Ministry of Agriculture/Food Safety
3. Sufficient time and willingness to coach mentee, ability to dedicate at least 4 hours per week to FETP mentorship activities
4. Fluency in Russian is required, and intermediate level of English is desirable. Fluency in English is an advantage.
5. Basic digital and software application skills.
6. Signed Supervisor agreement letter to provide the applicant access to surveillance data and time to participate in the required program activities.
7. Strong interpersonal communication skills, effective problem-solving techniques, practicing logical structuring and encouraging critical thinking.

Expected responsibility of the FETP mentors

National mentors selected from among former FETP graduates will guide the FETP-I residents through the training program, share their knowledge, give constructive feedback, and provide residents with professional and personal advice into and out of the program. Specific assignments include:

1. Attend in-person one-weeklong workshop for mentors to discuss mentor's roles and responsibilities and assist in developing of required competencies.
 2. Attend and co-facilitate five one or two-weeklong workshops for residents.
 3. Serve as a mentor to 2-3 residents through the entire 12-month course and during the fieldworks.
 - Build and sustain relationships by building and maintaining resident trust

- Advise mentees and share their professional and personal experience with FETP program
- Provide emotional and moral encouragement and support, help resolve any conflicts, demonstrate concern for the personal well-being of their mentees
- Provide actionable, constructive, and timely feedback
- Aid mentees in obtaining professional opportunities
- Guide field projects, review epidemiologic concepts as necessary using epidemiological expertise and demonstrating knowledge in field epidemiology practices
- Provide progress reports and evaluations of the residents to the FETP directorate.

Travel and accommodation will be coordinated and funded by the EESC FETP-I program. Mentors will also receive a modest performance-based financial compensation for their work.

Mentor's application procedures

Step 1. All interested and qualified candidates should submit their applications **by February 15, 2025** through ICAP's website. As part of the application process, candidates will be asked to:

1. Fill in the application form
2. Upload the following documents:
 1. Curriculum vitae (CV)
 2. 2. Copies of diplomas and certificates
 3. A recommendation letter from the applicant's current direct supervisor clearly assuring and confirming their support of the application and the candidate's active participation in the program
 4. Personal statement of motivation to participate in the FETP-I (no more than **1 page/800 words**), covering the following areas:
 - What is your motivation to participate in the program?
 - How have your education and professional experiences prepared and encouraged you to participate in the FETP-I?
 - What are your professional goals and vision of your career development in the coming years?

Step 2. Based on the application review, all qualified candidates will be invited to complete an online Entry Competency Test to evaluate their basic competencies as a mentor.

Step 3. Candidates who have successfully passed the Entry Competency Test and will be invited for the online interview.

The final decision will be based on the professional qualifications, background, Entry Professional Test results, as well as interview results.

Clarifying questions in Russian or English regarding the FETP-I program can be sent in writing by February 14, 2025 to FETP@CUMC.COLUMBIA.EDU