

Principal Investigator for BTMed

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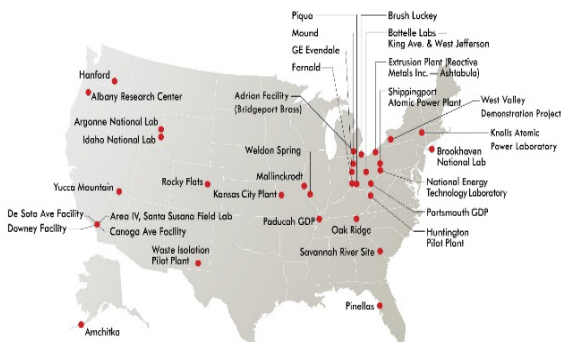
CPWR – The Center for Construction Research and Training (www.cpwr.com) is seeking a new Principal Investigator (PI)¹ for The Building Trades National Medical Screening Program – BTMed (www.btmed.org). BTMed provides free medical screening services to construction workers formerly employed at Department of Energy (DOE) nuclear weapons sites, who may be at risk for occupational illnesses. BTMed is national in scope with a coordinating staff of 40 and 225 medical providers under contract. The program serves a dynamic cohort of 30,000 older construction workers, the largest of its kind in the world. The PI is responsible for assuring that the program is ethically and technically sound and that its data are used to understand the adverse health outcomes of construction workers and how such outcomes can be prevented in the future.

CPWR – The Center for Construction Research and Training (www.cpwr.com) is a nonprofit dedicated to reducing occupational injuries, illnesses and fatalities in the U.S. construction industry. Through our research, training, and service programs, we serve the industry nationwide by collaborating with key partners, including workers, contractors, project owners, health and safety professionals, researchers, key government agencies, unions, and associations.

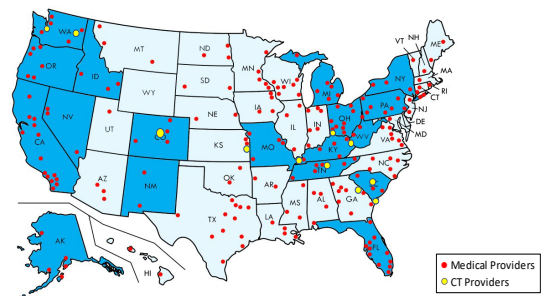
In 1993, Congress authorized² what has grown into the U.S. Department of Energy’s Former Worker Medical Screening Program (FWP)³ to determine if workers within the nuclear weapons facilities are at significant risk for work-related illnesses and if so, to provide them with medical screening.

In 1996 DOE awarded CPWR responsibility for providing medical screening services to construction trades workers employed at its nuclear sites, and the BTMed program now covers 35 DOE sites and 225 medical providers delivering services under contract. BTMed conducts over 2,000 occupational medical exams and 1,000 early lung cancer detection exams annually; in addition, CPWR provides participants with assistance in obtaining follow-up medical care and guidance with compensation for occupational illnesses through a separate federal program.

Covered DOE Sites



Provider Locations



¹ Current PI is retiring in January 2025.

² Section 3162 of the Defense Authorization Act of 1993.

³ [Former Worker Medical Screening Program | Department of Energy](https://www.energy.gov/former-worker-medical-screening-program)

The principal investigator, along with the CPWR program director, leads BTMed with technical expertise from the University of Maryland (occupational medicine) and Duke University (epidemiology and industrial hygiene). Administration is provided by Zenith-American Solutions, a leading national third-party healthcare administrator. BTMed is headquartered at CPWR in Silver Spring, MD, and there's an administrative office in Seattle, WA, a medical review team in Oak Ridge, TN, and several outreach offices located in areas close to DOE sites.

Qualifications of the Principal Investigator

The investigator should be qualified by education, training, and experience to assume responsibility for the proper conduct of the program. The ideal candidate for this job is mid-career. This person is either a physician with good public health and research skills or a public health scientist with good clinical and health services delivery skills. The position requires a mix of expertise in medical service delivery, exposure/risk assessment, occupational health, and epidemiology.

BTMed has two distinct functions, and the PI should be able to lead both. First and foremost, it is a service delivery program. BTMed must deliver medical services to its participants to the best of its ability, and the PI makes sure procedures are followed. Second, BTMed has important research and development functions: to learn from the adverse health outcomes it records from the services it delivers and to publish findings in the scientific literature. The PI needs to be able to straddle these two functions.

Duties of the Principal Investigator:

The PI is responsible for the ethical and technical conduct of BTMed. The detailed requirements are outlined in Federal regulations⁴ and the Guideline for Good Clinical Practice, Rev 2, Section 4 (2016).⁵ These duties include:

- **Maintaining current program protocol(s).** The investigator is responsible for establishing and maintaining protocols for all procedures performed.
- **Assuring adequate resources.** The investigator is responsible for assuring that the program can access the target population and has the resources needed to assure that it is beneficial to the participants.
- **Ensuring informed consent.** The investigator is responsible for assuring that informed consent procedures are accurate, complete and comprehensible to the study participants, and that they are administered for the benefit of the participants.
- **Looking after the welfare of the participants.** The investigator is responsible for assuring that participants receive the benefits they have been offered and that they are not harmed from their participation.
- **Communicating with the Institutional Review Board (IRB).** The investigator is responsible for assuring that annual review and approval from the IRB has been obtained and that communication with and reporting to the IRB adheres to (and preferably exceeds) established minimum requirements.
- **Overseeing collaborating entities.** The investigator is responsible for assuring that any collaborating entities, whether by contract or otherwise, adhere to the program protocol(s), and that procedures are in place to monitor for deficient performance. While BTMed is a national program, it functions locally in the areas of the DOE sites and the medical providers. BTMed is supported by local advisory committees and the PI should ensure that ties to these committees remain strong.

⁴ 21 CFR 312.60

⁵ [ICH: E 6 \(R2\): Guideline for good clinical practice - Step 5 \(europa.eu\)](#)

- **Suspending procedures or services.** The investigator is responsible for suspending any procedure or any collaborating provider if these are found to pose unacceptable risks to the participants.
- **Reporting.** The investigator is responsible for assuring that regular and as needed reporting is made to the Department of Energy and to the IRB, and that such reports are timely and accurate.
 - **Periodic progress reports** focus on accomplishments and problems and are submitted on a schedule required by DOE and/or or IRB(s), including any important findings that can be used to improve occupational safety and health procedures.
 - **Safety reports** focus on potential and reportable adverse and/or unanticipated events that may occur during the operations of BTMed.
 - **Research reports** focus on scientific evaluations of BTMed’s findings using de-identified data.
- **Institutional Review Board.** BTMed reports to the Central DOE Institutional Review Board, and the PI is responsible for maintaining good relations with it, by reporting as required and seeking guidance when necessary.
- **Travel/Meetings.** Periodic travel, such as participation in mandatory annual DOE PI meetings and BTMed advisory board and team meetings, is required.
- **Research/evaluation research:** Author or co-author peer-reviewed journal articles as well as lay audience publications about screening program results and construction safety research findings. (Approximately one study/year.)
- **Synergies.** BTMed is an integral part of CPWR, and the PI is expected to optimize the potential synergies that exist between it and CPWR’s other programs and resources.

Examples of PI’s Work in Previous Years

Since 1996, there have been numerous instances when the PI has been required to communicate challenges with the program to the sponsor and the IRB(s).

- **Potential or significant adverse events.** BTMed maintains a robust system of monitoring for potential adverse events and adheres to a policy of “when in doubt, report.”
- **National security v. medical requirements.** In the early stages of the program, we had to resolve how to get a complete occupational history when provisions of the National Security Act prohibited participants from disclosing details of their work history. We were able to establish that the national security requirements could be relaxed because (1) the program could not be conducted as intended by Congress without a detailed occupational history, and (2) the confidentiality of the patient-physician relationship provided protection against breaches of security information.
- **Protection of participants from retaliation or discrimination.** We were able to establish that participants should have medical removal protection, and that our informed consent was sufficient to warn about possible retaliation by employers or insurers.
- **Introduction of investigational procedures.** We began testing for effects from beryllium exposure and for early signs of lung cancer before these procedures were fully validated. We worked with the IRB to develop informed consent procedures to address the uncertainties.
- **Suspension of program during COVID.** In early March 2020 BTMed suspended services due to the spread of COVID and the lack of preparedness among our providers. We worked with the IRB, our participants, and our providers to navigate the pandemic with new temporary protocols, informed consents and communications.

Job Location

It is preferred that candidate selected lives in the Washington, DC metro area, with easy access to the CPWR office in Silver Spring, MD to facilitate integration with other CPWR activities. However, a hybrid arrangement would be considered.

Timing

The position will be filled as soon as possible, allowing overlap with current PI to ensure program continuity and continued excellence.

Compensation Package

Salary is based on qualifications and prior experience.

CPWR offers an exceptional benefits package including:

- Employer paid participation in the United Healthcare medical, dental, vision and life insurance plan for employee and all dependents
- Employer paid participation in the AFL-CIO defined benefit pension plan (vesting after 3 years)
- Participation in the AFL-CIO 401(k) plan with Employer match
- Paid vacation and sick leave
- 13 paid holidays each calendar year
- Flexible work schedule, relaxed work environment
- 35-hour work week

Equal Employment Opportunity.

How to Apply

Email resume, CV/Biographical sketch and cover letter to jobpostings@cpwr.com. Include "BTMed PI" and applicant name in the subject line.

The cover letter must describe your experience relevant to the job duties outlined above and the expected salary range. CPWR will contact eligible candidates.