



Region IV Public Health Training Center
Pathways to Practice Scholar Field Placement Program
Summer Scholar Position

AGENCY: North Alabama Area Health Education Center

POSITION TITLE: AL NAAHEC Intern

LOCATION: Alabama A&M University - Carnegie Hall, 4900 Meridian Street North, Normal, AL 35762

AGENCY WEBSITE: www.na-ahec.org

DESIRED START DATE: Between June 1 and 6, 2016

DESCRIPTION:

The following position is offered as a field placement through the Region IV Public Health Training Center (<http://www.sph.emory.edu/r4phtc>).

Mission: Our mission is to enhance access to quality healthcare, particularly primary and preventive care, by improving the supply and distribution of healthcare professionals in underserved Alabama communities through community/academic educational partnerships.

Services: We provide community-based student education opportunities, which include clinical rotations, shadowing and observation experiences, limited housing stipends and mileage reimbursement, CEUs/CMEs, promotion of open positions for Family Physicians in Alabama. We also promote and support other Alabama statewide programs that align with our mission, including the Rural Health Scholars Program, Rural Minority Health Scholars Program, Huntsville Rural Pre-Medical Internship, Rural Medical Scholars Program and the Rural Medicine Program.

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

The field placement will have a diabetes prevention and self-management education focus. Alabama has the unfortunate distinction of leading the nation in prevalence rates for diabetes. The vision of the North Alabama AHEC involves eliminating health disparities, and we are committed to doing our part to ensure that healthcare providers have training opportunities that address this health issue.

The student will be part of an interprofessional team of 3 members. The team will provide a patient-centered approach to patients who are at increased risk for type 2 diabetes, and/or those living with type 2 diabetes. Patients will be provided with the needed resources and support to better management their health to prevent the onset of type 2 diabetes and/or resultant complications. The students will gain an understanding that chronic disease prevention and management must be comprehensive and individualized.

The learning outcomes are as follows:

Community Health

- Students will adopt an ecological perspective in considering the cause, treatment and prevention of type 2 diabetes.

Patient Care

- Students will develop the scientific and analytical foundations required to make evidence-based informed decisions.
- Students will assess and integrate individual, family and community factors in designing effective strategies for patients.
- Students will apply strategies that engender a positive patient-provider relationship in order to optimize diabetes self-management and/or prevention outcomes.

Medical/Health Knowledge and Practice-based Learning

- Students will recognize that a interprofessional approach is required to successfully manage or prevent type 2 diabetes.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

- Students will increase their awareness of the importance of interprofessional collaboration and develop skills to engage in such collaboration.
- Students will communicate more effectively with patients from a wide diversity of cultural, socioeconomic, and educational backgrounds.

Professionalism

- Students will demonstrate their ability to work as an interprofessional team by working on a group project.
- Students will demonstrate their ability to be a culturally competent health educator/health provider by maintaining patients' confidentiality.

Systems-based Practice

- Students will work with the health center's clinical team to improve patients' diabetes self-management skills.

THE STUDENT WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO:

1. Provide diabetes self-management education and coaching to patients
2. Complete Group Projects:
 - Community Assessment via Windshield Tour & Photovoice Project
 - Develop a Resource Tool
 - Interview 2 community members (per each student)
 - Complete an "Experience Paper" and
 - Prepare and conduct a PowerPoint presentation
3. Maintain a journal of at least 5 entries (one entry per week)
4. Complete Student Assessments/Evaluations
 - Pre and Post Skills Assessments
 - Evaluations of the Clinical and Interprofessional Experiences

PUBLIC HEALTH COMPETENCIES/SKILLS STUDENT MAY STRENGTHEN DURING PLACEMENT:

1. Analytic/Assessment
2. Policy Development/Program Planning
3. Communication

4. Cultural Competency
5. Community Dimensions of Practice
6. Public Health Science
7. Financial Planning and Management
8. Leadership and Systems Thinking

HOUSING INFORMATION: If the candidate is selected, the student is responsible to search for summer housing.

TRAVEL: Home visits (not more than once per week) may be necessary to keep patients engaged, if transportation challenges are deemed to be a factor.

POSITION TYPE: Region IV Public Health Training Center Field Placements (for MPH/MSPH students)

QUALIFICATIONS

Required:

- Interest in chronic disease prevention and management
- Interest in working in rural or medically underserved area of Alabama
- Self starter
- Great interpersonal skills
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Proficient in Microsoft: Word, PowerPoint, Excel

Preferred:

- Proficient in Microsoft Publisher
- Spanish as a second language

REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY:

Candidates must be masters-level graduate public health students from accredited schools and programs of public health located in Region IV PHTC states: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, and South Carolina.

Students graduating before August 2016 are not eligible for this position.

Your cover letter should include the agency name, position title, and citizenship or visa status.

Please provide an unofficial transcript, writing sample, and a one-page essay about your career plans.

WORK AUTHORIZATION: U.S. Citizen, Permanent U.S. Resident

Citizenship statement: The Region IV Public Health Training Center is a federally-funded program which has a citizenship requirement. To be eligible to apply for this position, you must be either a U.S. citizen, a non-citizen U.S. national, or a foreign national having in your possession a visa permitting permanent residence in the U.S.

AWARD LEVEL: \$1500 AWARD

* NOTE: STUDENT HOUSING AND TRAVEL COSTS WILL NOT BE COVERED BY THE PROGRAM BEYOND THE TOTAL \$1500 AWARD.

DURATION: June-July 2016 - The project should be completed by the end of the 6th week.

APPROXIMATE HOURS PER WEEK: 40 hours per week during 6 weeks

**Students may be limited in the minimum or maximum number of hours they can work per semester based on their university, school or degree's policies. If this work will be also be used as a practicum experience, the student should verify those requirements. Students should abide by their university policies.*

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Please read the “*Student Scholar Field Placement Guidebook*” for more details about the Pathways to Practice Scholars Program and requirements. It is located on the Field Placements page of the Region IV PHTC website: <http://www.sph.emory.edu/r4phtc>.

CONTACT INFORMATION: Please submit the required documents including a resume and cover letter indicating the agency name, title position, and citizenship/visa status to:

Michelle Carvalho, MPH, CHES
Program Manager/Coordinator
Region IV Public Health Training Center
Rollins School of Public Health | Emory University
m.carvalho@emory.edu

* PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY