



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

**AGENCY:** Tennessee Department of Health

**POSITION TITLE:** TN TDH Health Policy Intern

**LOCATION:** 710 James Robertson Parkway, Andrew Johnson Tower, Nashville, TN 37243

**AGENCY WEBSITE:** <http://health.state.tn.us/index.htm>

**DESIRED START DATE:** Mid to Late May 2016 (exact dates are flexible)

**DESCRIPTION:**

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

The Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) was created in February 1923. There are 95 counties in the state of Tennessee, 89 of those counties contain a local health department (LHD) that is led by one of the seven Regional Health Offices in the state. The other six counties have a metro health department serving their populations. The state is divided into seven regions, with a regional health office located in each one.

**Mission:** Protect, promote, and improve the health and prosperity of people in Tennessee.

**Vision:** A recognized and trusted leader, partnering and engaging to accelerate Tennessee to one of the nation's healthiest states

**POSITION DESCRIPTION:**

**Project 1: State Innovation Model (SIM) Episodes of Care Analysis**

- Objective: identify opportunities for prevention and increased clinical quality in Tennessee's value-based payment reform strategy
- Purpose: gain understanding of how acute episodes can be used to prevent additional need for health care services for the same or unrelated health conditions
- Tasks: Analyze completed and proposed designs, interview subject matter experts, present findings in a written report and oral presentation

**Project 2: Author Policy Briefs on Sensitive Public Health Issues**

- Objective: compile and synthesize research on issues such as medical marijuana into accessible policy briefs for a general audience
- Purpose: help the Department of Health communicate scientific understanding of complicated issues
- Tasks: synthesize research on topic(s), design message outline and visual communication, author and present policy brief(s)

**Project 3: Summarize and Apply *The Practical Playbook* to help integrate public health and primary care**

- Objective: Draft a digest of the Practical Playbook's principles and ideas and identify opportunities for application in Department of Health services, programs, and initiatives
- Purpose: help the Department of Health understanding current thinking on the integration of public health and primary health care
- Tasks: summarize The Practical Playbook, interview subject matter experts to determine opportunities for application, and develop a written report and oral presentation

**PUBLIC HEALTH COMPETENCIES/SKILLS STUDENT MAY STRENGTHEN DURING PLACEMENT:**

- 1) Analytic/Assessment
- 2) Policy Development/Program Planning Skills
- 3) Communication
- 4) Leadership and Systems Thinking

**HOUSING INFORMATION:** If the candidate is selected, the agency can provide informational resources or contacts to search for summer rental housing.

**TRAVEL:** The student may be required to attend meetings in and outside of Nashville as appropriate.

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

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

Preferred: MPH level or higher with a concentration in health policy

Required: Demonstrated ability to think critically and work independently; conduct systematic interviews; to perform program analysis; conduct a systematic literature review. Must have excellent oral and written communication skills.

**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 and citizenship or visa status.

Interested students should include an unofficial transcript and a writing sample.

**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:** May-August - Project should be completed by August 2016.

**APPROXIMATE HOURS PER WEEK:** 37.5 hours per week during 8-10 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 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](mailto:m.carvalho@emory.edu)

\* PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY