



Region IV Public Health Training Center
A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH LEARNING NETWORK
Funded by the Health Resources & Services Administration

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

AGENCY: Tennessee Department of Health

POSITION TITLE: Office of Primary Prevention Intern

LOCATION: 710 James Robertson Parkway, 5th Floor, Nashville, TN 37243

AGENCY WEBSITE: www.tn.gov/primaryprevention

NUMBER OF POSITIONS AVAILABLE: 1

DESIRED START DATES: SUMMER – May 2019

* Interested students should apply as soon as possible. Applications are reviewed and considered in the order they are received. Submit to Michelle Carvalho at MLCARVA@emory.edu.

Note: To apply to more than one posting, submit separate applications specifying the position title in the subject line.

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's mission is to protect, promote and improve the health and prosperity of the people in Tennessee.

POSITION DESCRIPTION: The Tennessee Department of Health recently adopted 12 Vital Signs to measure and track the health and well-being of our state. These Vital Signs include a number of measures related to the social determinants of health, including economic, education, and built environment indicators that influence the health of communities. One of Tennessee's Vital Signs, *Access to Parks and Greenways*, is an important indicator of opportunities for physical activity, mental health, and social well-being. However, statewide data on parks and greenways is currently limited, making it difficult to determine existing conditions, assess need, and measure improvements over time. In order to address this need, the Tennessee Department of Health's Office of Primary Prevention seeks to partner with other divisions within the department, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, and the Tennessee Department of Transportation to co-develop and co-manage a comprehensive statewide parks and greenways inventory and database. This database would be valuable for the work of all partners related to parks and greenways and help align efforts between the departments on increasing access to greenspace and health-promoting built environments. The project will involve 1) the development of a database, including a spreadsheet and corresponding GIS layers, 2) determination of responsibilities for data collection and the creation of the database and GIS layers, 3) determination of responsibilities for long-term database access, updates, and maintenance, and 4) determination and alignment of definitions/parameters for parks and greenways. We are seeking a student to help compile the data collected from the field on parks and greenways and develop the database spreadsheet and corresponding GIS layers.

Tennessee is one of only two states in the nation that has adapted the National Academy of Medicine's Vital Signs and is the only state currently using the Vital Signs as metrics from the implementation of the Tennessee State Health Plan. The State Health Plan is unique in that it is manifested at the community level in the form of a County Performance Plan, currently developed in a new process that includes a Community Health Assessment. This student will have the opportunity to be a part of the State Health Planning process and may have the opportunity to present to senior leadership at the TN Department of Health, the National Academy of Medicine and multiple offices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

THE STUDENT WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN:

- 1) Parks and Greenways inventory

- 2) Creation of a cross-department working group
- 3) Presentation of database to the TN Livability Collaborative
- 4) Summary of data responsibilities and definitions

The student will be given a workspace (i.e. desk, computer) for the duration of the internship.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMPETENCIES/SKILLS STUDENT MAY STRENGTHEN DURING PLACEMENT:

- 1) Analytic/Assessment
- 2) Communication
- 3) Leadership and Systems Thinking

TRAVEL: No travel is required for this position.

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

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY:

Candidates must be masters-level graduate public health or sociology students or undergraduate public health students (juniors/seniors) 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 in August 2019 can still apply, but must complete the program prior to graduation. [Past recipients of the Pathways to Practice Award are not eligible to apply again.](#)

Required qualifications for this position include GIS skills, communication skills, and ability to work on a team.

Your cover letter should include the title of the position you are applying to and citizenship or permanent resident visa status. In your resume, include the name of your degree program, department, year of study (e.g. 1st year MPH student), and expected graduation date. Please send an unofficial transcript. Please include an example of a GIS project that you have completed.

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: \$3500 award

* Note: Travel costs will not be covered by the program beyond the total \$3500 award.

DURATION: Approximately 8 weeks

APPROXIMATE HOURS PER WEEK: Approximately 30-40 hours

**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 graduation requirement, the student should verify those requirements and 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>.

TO APPLY: Please submit the required documents following specifications above (unofficial transcript, resume, and cover letter indicating the agency name and citizenship/visa status) to:

Michelle Carvalho, MPH, MCHES® - Program Manager
Region IV Public Health Training Center - Rollins School of Public Health | Emory University
Email: MLCARVA@emory.edu | Phone: (404) 712-2606

* PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY