



Region IV Public Health Training Center

A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH LEARNING NETWORK

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

AGENCY: Mississippi Public Health Institute

POSITION TITLE: Mississippi Public Health Institute - REACH Intern

LOCATION: 829 Wilson Drive, Suite C Ridgeland, MS 39157

AGENCY WEBSITE: www.msphi.org

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 mission of MSPHI is to engage in partnerships and activities that improve Mississippi's health. MSPHI was established in 2011, to protect and improve the health and well-being of Mississippians through multi-sector partnerships committed to program innovation, the increase of health resources, education, health awareness, formative research and policy development. MSPHI has significant experiences related to public health program implementation, such as: (1) needs assessment and formative data collection and analysis; (2) coalition development, support and evaluation; (3) management of multiple grants and contracts; (4) functioning as the fiscal agent to facilitate partner program activities; (5) and establishment and maintenance of organizational and community partnerships; (6) workforce development and (7) data collection, management and evaluation.

POSITION DESCRIPTION: The student will assist with implementation of the work plan for the Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) CDC-funded project. The goal of the program is to reduce health disparities and rates of chronic diseases among African Americans in Mississippi's three coastal counties of Jackson, Harrison, and Hancock. The overall purpose of the project is to reduce the burden of chronic disease among African Americans through implementation of evidence-based interventions supported by a strong community-level stakeholder coalition. Interventions aimed at African American women of child-bearing age and their families will improve birth outcomes, maternal health, and infant health and effectively influence the community to support improved nutrition with an emphasis on breastfeeding and support maternal and family tobacco free living. This project will engage partners through collaborative activities of a community coalition, enhance smoking cessation strategies for health care providers with an emphasis upon African American women of child bearing age and their families, and collaborate with partners to improve nutrition among African Americans through expanding Baby Cafes in the target area through a cluster model in an effort to improve health outcomes on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

THE STUDENT WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO:

1. Assist with conducting a community food needs assessment to determine food access for the priority population.
2. Assist with planning and conducting an environmental scan of local food programs and systems to identify existing resources to aid in planning coalition activities.
3. Review reports and findings from social climate surveys and formative research to help identify communication, social media opportunities, and related interventions for priority population.
4. Assist with identifying strategies for recruitment and engagement of coalition members and prioritizing community needs.

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) Program Planning
- 3) Public Health Science
- 4) Communication
- 5) Community Dimensions of Practice
- 6) Leadership and Systems Thinking
- 7) Cultural Competency

TRAVEL: The student may travel with mentor to the Mississippi Coastal counties. Travel could be up to three times per month for partner meetings, planning meetings, or coalition meetings.

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 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 qualification/skills for this position include:

1. Complex office duties, which includes composing, preparing, typing, editing, and proofreading documents for accuracy and professionalism
2. Experience with Word programs, PDF documents, PowerPoint, and Excel spreadsheets

Preferred qualifications for this position include:

1. Identifying data sources
2. Developing data collection tools and surveys
3. Knowledge about processes for conducting community needs assessments and action plans

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. In addition to a cover letter and resume, please include a writing sample and a statement of interest detailing general and specific skills that you are interested in acquiring through the summer placement.

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 10 weeks

APPROXIMATE HOURS PER WEEK: Approximately 20-25 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, writing sample, 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