



Region IV Public Health Training Center

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

AGENCY: Tennessee Department of Health

POSITION TITLE: Tennessee Department of Health Intern

LOCATION: 710 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, TN 37243

AGENCY WEBSITES: <https://www.tn.gov/health.html>

NUMBER OF POSITIONS AVAILABLE: 1 (Summer 2024)

DESIRED START DATES: May 2024

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

Note: To apply to more than one posting, submit separate applications specifying the position title in the subject line. Please be specific in your email *and* cover letter.

DESCRIPTION:

The following position is offered as a field placement through the Region IV Public Health Training Center (<https://r4phtc.org/>).

Note: This placement has the option to be 100% remote or conducted on a hybrid basis.

The Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) serves as Tennessee's lead public health agency and is guided by its mission to Protect, promote, and improve the health and well-being of all people in Tennessee. TDH operates 126 facilities, including public health departments in 89 of Tennessee's 95 counties, as well as two state labs, seven regional health offices, two administrative offices and several health clinics. Six regional "metro" health departments are also part of the state's public health enterprise, as a function of their respective local government but collaborate closely with state, regional and local health departments.

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

The student will support the development of the Livability Indicators project, a set of health-related indicators for Tennessee created through a multi-agency collaborative process. The Tennessee Livability Collaborative, established 8 years ago as one of the first state-level Health in All Policies groups, identified the need for a single public platform for sharing data from multiple sectors on a range of topics that contribute to "livability" in all counties across the state. Over sixty indicators have been identified for inclusion and metadata have been collected (including data source). The indicators include data for a number of social drivers of health, including affordable housing, active transportation, employment and workforce, education, aging in place, and many others. The Collaborative is partnering with the East Tennessee State University's Center for Rural Health Research to host and develop an ArcGIS based platform to share and map the data. The student will work closely with this center and the Collaborative members to gather and format data, contribute to the development of a data maintenance and sustainability plan, and help identify uses and dissemination strategies for the

Livability Indicators. As there is currently no similar statewide data website available in Tennessee, this resource will fill a gap in data access for state and local government agencies, non-profit organizations, community groups, and academic researchers. The student will serve a critical role in this project by providing the capacity to gather data and launch the site to the public in 2024 by collaborating with internal and external partners on the multi-agency statewide effort.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Skilled at collaborating and communicating with others, both within and outside of the department of health.
- Experience working with data, including formatting and basic calculations using Microsoft Excel.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Experience working with Census data is strongly preferred.
- Experience working with ArcGIS is preferred but not required.

THE STUDENT WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ASSIST WITH THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

- Coordinate with partners to gather data in the required format.
- Work with academic partner to develop the website and interactive map to host the Livability Indicators data and related content.
- Assist with the development of a long-term sustainability and data management plan for the Livability Indicators project.
- Assist with dissemination and recommendations for projects to leverage the indicators.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMPETENCIES/SKILLS STUDENT MAY STRENGTHEN DURING PLACEMENT:

1. Program Planning
2. Cross-sector Partnerships
3. Leadership and Systems Thinking/Strategic Thinking
4. Problem Solving
5. Data Analytics/Assessment/Data-based Decision Making
6. Effective Communication
7. Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
8. Change Management

TRAVEL: No

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

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.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY:

Preference will be given to masters or doctoral level public health graduate students. Will also consider undergraduate public health students (juniors/seniors) and part-time students (graduate). Students must complete the program prior to graduation. [Past recipients of the Pathways to Practice Award are not eligible to apply again.](#)

- Please include a cover letter with the following:
 - The semesters you are applying for (Summer 2024)
 - The title of the position you are applying to
 - Citizenship or permanent resident visa status
- Please include a resume with the following:
 - The name and department of your degree program
 - Year of study
 - Expected graduation date

AWARD LEVEL: \$3,500 award

* Note: Travel costs will not be covered by the program beyond the total \$3,500 award.

APPROXIMATE HOURS PER WEEK & DURATION: Approximately 10-20 hours a week for 10-12 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 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: <https://r4phtc.org/field-placements/>

TO APPLY: Please submit the required documents following specifications above (**resume, and cover letter** indicating the agency name and citizenship/visa status) to Elizabeth Kidwell, elkidwell@emory.edu with the subject line “**Summer 2024 Applicant: TN- TDH**”

*PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY