



Region IV Public Health Training Center

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

AGENCY: Mississippi State Department of Health

POSITION TITLE: Mississippi State Department of Health Intern

LOCATION: 570 East Woodrow Wilson Drive Jackson, MS 39216

AGENCY WEBSITES: <https://www.msdh.ms.gov/>

NUMBER OF POSITIONS AVAILABLE: 1 (Fall 2025)

DESIRED START DATES: September 2025

* 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](#).

Note: This position will be 100% in person.

The Mississippi State Department of Health's mission is to protect and advance the health, well-being and safety of everyone in Mississippi.

Through a wide range of statewide services—including disease surveillance, environmental health, chronic disease and injury prevention, immunizations, comprehensive reproductive health, social services, vital records, and the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program—the department works to ensure healthier communities and improved quality of life across Mississippi.

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

This internship offers an opportunity for a student to support public health initiatives through program development, implementation, and research. The student will assist in planning and coordinating health programs, creating outreach materials, and supporting community engagement efforts.

As part of the research component, the student may assist with manuscript writing and the creation of academic posters for presentations at conferences or meetings. The internship also includes opportunities for participation in community engagement events and public health marketing.

This internship is ideal for students interested in a comprehensive experience that combines program work, research, communication, and community collaboration.

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

- Supporting the planning and coordination of program activities and events
- Assisting with data collection and analysis
- Reviewing and providing feedback on the program's website and social media presence
- Attending program awareness and outreach events
- Reviewing program policies and procedures
- Contributing to the preparation of program reports and documentation

PUBLIC HEALTH COMPETENCIES/SKILLS STUDENT MAY STRENGTHEN DURING PLACEMENT:

1. Policy Development/Engagement
2. Program Planning
3. Community Partnership /Engagement
4. Leadership and Systems Thinking/Strategic Thinking
5. Problem Solving
6. Data Analytics/ Assessment/Data- based Decision Making
7. Public Health Science
8. Effective Communication

TRAVEL: Yes (*The student may have the opportunity to travel for site visits to partner organizations throughout the internship.*)

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

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY:

Preference will be given to masters or doctoral level public health graduate students. Undergraduate public health students as well as graduate students studying social work may also be considered. [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 (Fall 2025)
 - 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
- Please also include the following with your application:
 - Unofficial Transcript
 - 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: \$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 15-20 hours a week for 10-12 weeks.

The program will accommodate varying availability while ensuring the student can contribute effectively to the Health Buddies program and meet their academic requirements.

**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 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/>

HOW TO APPLY

Please submit the required documents following specifications above (**unofficial transcript, writing sample, resume and cover letter indicating the agency name and citizenship/visa status**) to Elizabeth Kidwell, elkidwell@emory.edu with the subject line “**Fall 2025 Applicant: MSDH**”

*PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY