



Region IV Public Health Training Center

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

AGENCY: South Carolina Department of Public Health- Communicable Disease Epidemiology Section

POSITION TITLE: South Carolina Department of Public Health Intern

LOCATION: 400 Otarre Parkway Cayce, SC 29033

AGENCY WEBSITE: <https://dph.sc.gov/>

NUMBER OF POSITIONS AVAILABLE: 1 (Fall 2025)

DESIRED START DATE: 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 through the [Region IV Public Health Training Center's Pathways to Practice Scholars Program](#).

The South Carolina Department of Public Health (DPH) was established through the DHEC Restructuring Act of 2023 (Act 60) and officially launched on July 1, 2024. As the health-focused successor to DHEC, DPH remains committed to protecting, promoting, and improving the health and well-being of all South Carolinians.

With a workforce of over 2,900 employees across approximately 90 locations statewide, DPH embraces a people-first approach in its services, ensuring that every resident has access to the resources, information, and care needed to lead a healthier life. The agency plays a critical role in public health services, including disease prevention and control, healthcare facility inspections, emergency response, nutrition support, and vital records management.

Guided by its vision of healthy people living in healthy communities, DPH fosters service, innovation, teamwork, excellence, and equity to build a healthier South Carolina.

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

The student intern will have the opportunity to contribute to the development of *EpiNotes* articles focused on both vaccine-preventable diseases (VPD) and respiratory diseases (RD). *EpiNotes* is a newsletter published two to four times annually by the South Carolina Department of Public Health (SC DPH), featuring articles on the epidemiology, surveillance, prevention, and treatment of reportable conditions and other topics of public health importance.

In addition to writing and editing content, the intern will assist in updating the VPD and RD sections of the SC DPH website to ensure accurate and current public health information is available online. The intern will also support a project aimed at integrating data from the state immunization registry with the

infectious disease surveillance system, enhancing data connectivity and public health response capabilities.

Furthermore, the intern will contribute to the development of a case report form specifically for pediatric COVID-19 deaths, helping to improve data collection and inform future public health strategies.

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

- Assist with connecting data from the state immunization registry to the infectious disease surveillance system
- Update VPD and RD webpages
- Research and write articles on VPDs and RDs for EpiNotes newsletter
- Develop a case report form for the pediatric COVID deaths

PUBLIC HEALTH COMPETENCIES/SKILLS STUDENT MAY STRENGTHEN DURING PLACEMENT:

1. Community Partnership/Engagement
2. Cross Sector Partnerships
3. Data Analytics/Assessment/Data-based Decision Making
4. Public Science
5. Effective Communication

TRAVEL: No

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 (juniors and seniors) 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 17-20 hours a week and 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 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, 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: SC DPH Epi**”

*PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY