



Region IV Public Health Training Center

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

AGENCY: Durham County Department of Public Health

POSITION TITLE: Durham County Department of Public Health Intern

LOCATION: 414 East Main St. Durham, NC 27701

AGENCY WEBSITES: www.dcopublichealth.org

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: A hybrid option may be available for this position.

The mission of the Durham County Department of Public Health (DCoDPH) is partnering with the community to advance health equity, protect the environment, and promote health and wellness for all. DCoDPH is committed to:

- Providing leadership and education for patients and community at large.
- Enabling our patients and community to make informed and reasonable health choices.
- Creating an environment that promotes satisfaction and pride among staff.
- Responding to the needs and expectations of the community.
- Providing excellent customer services, dedicated to the belief that every citizen deserves to be treated with respect, dignity, and quality, irrespective of their race, religion, economic status, age, gender, national origin, physical ability, sexual orientation, health status or ability to pay.
- Making available training and workshops to keep staff up-to-date in their field of expertise.

DCoDPH Vision-Collaborating with our community to advocate, empower, and protect the health and environment for all Durham County residents.

The Durham County Department of Public Health (DCoDPH) is responsible for public health programs for the entire community. Major services include education, communicable disease control, maternal and child health services, dental health, laboratories, and vital statistics. The Department also regulates sanitation in food-handling establishments, monitors solid waste disposal and conducts disease prevention programs. Regional and local efforts are also being directed towards bioterrorism, disaster preparedness and pandemic response.

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

Currently, the department is going into its second year of implementing the agency's strategic plan. The four strategic priority areas of the plan are:

- Community Focus and Engagement
- Workforce Development and Engagement
- Advance Racial & Health Equity
- Continuous Quality Improvement

The intern would assist with the implementing and evaluation of the progress made towards these priorities. In addition, the intern will have the opportunity to participate in several ongoing projects at the health department with multiple committees. The intern will conduct research around best practices for workforce development, quality improvement, and creating an equitable workplace.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Knowledge of quality improvement and process improvement.
- Strong writing skills.

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

1. Research best practices for creating an equitable workplace to implement into our racial equity action plan.
2. Identify best practices for communicating strategic plans with internal and external stakeholders.
3. Assist with implementing and evaluating strategic plan initiatives by providing technical assistance to strategy leads.
4. Review and analyze employee survey results to provide recommendations for improving the agency's employee experience.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMPETENCIES/SKILLS STUDENT MAY STRENGTHEN DURING PLACEMENT:

1. Policy Development/Engagement
2. Community Partnership/Engagement
3. Leadership and Systems Thinking/Strategic Thinkin
4. Problem Solving
5. Data Analytics/Assessment/Data-based Decision Making
6. Effective Communication
7. Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

TRAVEL: Yes *(There may occasionally be meetings that may require travel that the intern would have the option to attend.)*

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

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY:

Students must be masters or doctoral level public health graduate students. 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

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 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: NC-Durham County**”

*PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY