



Region IV Public Health Training Center

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

AGENCY: Sumter County Health Department

POSITION TITLE: Sumter County Health Department Intern

LOCATION: 105 North Magnolia Street Sumter, SC 29150

AGENCY WEBSITES: www.dhec.sc.gov

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 placement.

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) is charged with promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment in South Carolina. With more than 3,400 employees working in approximately 100 locations across the state, DHEC instills a people-first approach to all that we do. This includes working with our partners, communities, and others to help every South Carolinian have the access, resources, and information they need to improve the environment in which they live, make decisions that enhance their health, and have access to the highest quality healthcare. This work is implemented by our talented and dedicated team of employees who serve within DHEC's four core divisions:

Vision: Healthy people living in healthy communities

Mission: To improve the quality of life for all South Carolinians by protecting and promoting the health of the public and the environment.

Core Values:

- **Embracing Service:** We embrace our responsibility to reliably serve our communities, customers, and each other in a respectful manner, relying upon clear and uncompromised commitments to integrity, trust, dependability, and responsiveness.
- **Inspiring Innovation:** We encourage and empower our teams to find creative, science- and data-driven solutions to promote and protect the health of the public and the environment.
- **Promoting Teamwork:** We cultivate inclusive and collaborative teams that value the diverse thoughts, experiences, and expertise of every team member, our stakeholders, and our communities.

- Pursuing Excellence: We are steadfast in our commitment to the highest achievable standards of quality and professionalism.
- Advancing Equity: We are committed to giving all South Carolinians the opportunity to attain optimal environmental and health outcomes by fostering a culture of fairness, equity, and inclusion for everyone.

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

This internship experience is designed to provide an opportunity for the student to interact with public health professionals, participate in activities related to community health and apply public health theory in real world scenarios. The student will gain experience using relevant technology in healthcare and increase understanding of cultural competency, confidentiality, and diversity in healthcare.

The student will be working with the regional Community Engagement teams that cover 16 counties. The student will have the opportunity to work with internal and external partners to identify opportunities to expand existing services and assess opportunities for additional services. During the experience, the student will have the opportunity to develop an improvement project within the region that identifies a problem, presents an extensive literature review on the problem, collect, and analyze data to describe the extent of the problem, propose an intervention or plan to improve based on the evidence gathered from the literature review and findings from data analysis, and develop an implementation and evaluation plan. The student will present the project to the internship preceptor and team at the conclusion of the internship period.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Personal initiative
- Familiarity with Microsoft programs (Word/Excel/Outlook/PowerPoint/SharePoint/Teams)

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

- Work with Community Engagement staff to identify and address barriers to service in rural/low income/underserved populations.
- Participate in activities to develop and maintain external partnerships.
- Review and identify opportunities to expand existing services and assess opportunities for additional services.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMPETENCIES/SKILLS STUDENT MAY STRENGTHEN DURING PLACEMENT:

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

TRAVEL: Yes *(student may have the opportunity to travel through the region to participate in meetings, partnership projects and/or training.*

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
- Please also include the following with your application:
 - Brief summary of your learning objectives and goals for the internship

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 30 hours a week for 10-20 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 (**summary, 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: SC-Conway County**”

*PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY