



Posting date: 5/9/2011

Tri-County Health Department (TCHD) MPH Practicum Announcement

Name of Project/Practicum Experience: Environmental Health Program Assessment Survey

General Focus: Comparison of Environmental Health programs that serve to prevent and control hazards.

TCHD Division: Environmental Health

TCHD Office Location of project/practicum experience: Administration

Note: All practicums are unpaid, unless otherwise noted.

Type of Project/Practicum (check all that apply):

Epidemiology/ Biostatistics (projects involving study design, survey development and implementation, data analysis, surveillance of diseases, etc)

Community/Behavioral Health (projects assessing community health needs and health disparities, health education, health communication and promotion, community health policy issues, planning and evaluation of public health programs/policies/interventions, etc)

Environmental/Occupation Health (projects involving environmental risk assessments, control of environmental and occupational hazards, understanding regulatory issues and policies related to environmental/occupational health, etc)

Health Care Systems, Management, Finance and Policy (projects assessing access to health care or utilization of health care, assessment of policy/legal issues related to public health practice or healthcare, etc)

Emergency Preparedness (writing/updating plans and protocols related to emergency preparedness, building databases/systems/presentations and/or assisting with exercises that further TCHD preparedness, etc)

Public Health Informatics (application of information and technology to public health practice, research, and learning)

General Public Health/Other (please specify _____)

Project/Practicum timeline and student hours

Approximate timeframe for project/practicum completion: 3 months, start anytime

Number of hours per week that student will be expected to work on project/practicum: Flexible

Estimate total number of student hours this project/practicum will require: 120-150



Project/Practicum Description: : Develop and implement a questionnaire to determine what Environmental Health (EH) programs are implemented by other local or county health departments to prevent and control environmental health hazards that pose a risk to the public's health. The goal is to determine what EH programs other health departments, which are similar in size and geography to TCHD, maintain to serve the public. Tri-County Health Department (TCHD) would benefit by having this data to guide program changes, or validate current programs. This could provide outside views of what other departments believe are essential county Environmental Health programs.

Student job duties: The student will be asked to find a validated survey tool or develop one (that would be approved by TCHD) to determine what EH programs are implemented at county health departments across the country. Other variables to be included on the survey include (in part) the scope of services, funding and rationale (basis) for these programs (state statute, county code, grant based, etc) The student will identify and contact a set number (15- 20) similar sized county health departments and complete the questionnaire via phone. They will summarize each EH program, analyze the data from the survey and provide rational detailing program scope and why each county health department implements the specific EH programs operated. The student will present the results to the EH management group at TCHD.

Skills required for student to work on this project/practicum (check all that apply):

- Basic computer skills (email/internet, typing, etc)
- Researching information (searching for and summarizing research articles, evidence-based model practices, etc)
- Writing Skills (creating reports, summaries, presentations, etc)
- Presentation Skills
- Interviewing/ Client-Relations Skills (talking to clients regularly, administering questionnaires, etc)
- Foreign Language Skills. If checked, specify language(s)
- Clinical skills (i.e. giving vaccinations, drawing blood, anthropometrics (height, weight), etc). If checked, specify
- Data or geographic analysis/statistical skills. If checked, specify what types of software packages the student should have experience with (i.e. SAS, GIS, SPSS, etc)



- Other software competence. If checked, specify type of software (i.e. Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, etc)

- Other skills (Please specify)