

Internship/Practicum Title: Projects in Regional Public Health: Communicable Diseases, Region 8

Internship Location: San Antonio

Preceptor Name and Title: Elvia Ledezma, MPH

Brief Description

The purpose of this practicum is to build an appreciation for the variety of programs in public health, with an emphasis on communicable disease programs, and to allow students an opportunity to apply concepts and skills learned in school. The practicum student will work directly with a manager to learn about the communicable disease and preparedness programs (e.g., Zoonosis, HIV/STD, TB, Epidemiology, Preparedness and Response, Office of Border Public Health, and Immunizations), and to assist with related projects. The potential candidate is encouraged to explore the Region's website (<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/region8/default.shtm>) for an overview. Activities will be determined during development of the student work plan. The intern plan will be designed to optimize opportunities for learning new skills or applying skills and concepts learned in course work.

DSHS Division: Regional and Local Health Operations (RLHO)	Program: Public Health	Length: 1 Semester	Total Weekly Hours: 30 hours Must be available during M-F, 8am – 5pm	Unpaid <input type="checkbox"/>	
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Population Focus: All populations in Region 8

Functional Focus:

-Program Planning	-Program Evaluation	-Research	-Screening and Assessment
-Program Development	-Program Implementation	-Disease Surveillance	-Database Design and Development

Dimensions of Public Health

-Chronic Disease	-Prevention-Health Promotion	-Behavioral Health
- Infectious Diseases	-Environmental Health	-Zoonosis Control

DSHS Host Program Summary

RLHO provides public health services in areas unserved by local jurisdictions and works with local health departments as needed to provide public health services. Region 8 covers 28 counties—including Val Verde (Del Rio) and Maverick (Eagle Pass) on the western edge through Bexar (San Antonio) to Victoria and Calhoun on the eastern edge. The practicum will be located in San Antonio; however, in order to best experience the nature of our work the student may travel to Austin and field offices within Region 8.

Internship Details

Learning Objectives

- Expand personal knowledge of basic public health and health services practices.
- Increase awareness of the complexity of the problems and concerns involved in the public health and health services area.
- Develop stronger understanding of the relationships among public health organizations, other health services organizations, and other governmental entities.
- Develop opportunities for reference, job placement, and professional contacts.
- Gain experience applying knowledge learned in school via participation in and/or completion of short-term projects or other work assignments.
- Gain exposure to policies and statutes that govern the provision of public health services.

Intern Activities

- Develop surveys
- Collect, enter and analyze data
- Conduct site or community-based assessments
- Conduct literature reviews
- Organize and perform program evaluations
- Provide health education and community outreach
- Participate in epidemiological investigations and trainings
- Participate in discussion and provide input related to best practices & health policy.
- Participate in relevant meetings
- Participate in additional activities: tours, seminars, meetings, etc.
- Develop and give presentation of Intern's work

Intern Deliverables

- A personal experience journal. The journal will record thoughts and reactions, tasks completed, concepts and skills learned/applied, meetings/events attended, contact list of organizations, entities, and persons with whom the students had contact.
- Final presentation in PowerPoint or other medium

Applicant Qualifications

Required	Skill	Proficiency
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Microsoft Office: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Word <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excel <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PowerPoint	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intermediate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intermediate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intermediate
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statistical Analysis applications (SPSS, STATA, etc.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic
	Academic level and/or degree or field/discipline Graduate or Upper-Division Undergraduate	
	Other required qualifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course work in epidemiology, health policy and management, or other public health area • Basic mathematical and statistical knowledge and abilities 	
Preferred	Skill	Proficiency
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Microsoft Office: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Word <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excel <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PowerPoint	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intermediate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intermediate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intermediate
	Other preferred qualifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proficiency in the Spanish language 	

Application Instructions

Qualified and interested applicants must submit the following items to the contact below:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Letter of Interest	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resume
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Contact Information

Contact Name and Information	Name: Craig Gilden Title: Education Coordinator Email: internships@dshs.texas.gov
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