

What kind of students are we looking for?

We're building out diverse college-to-work pathways in maternal and child health (MCH) epidemiology. We're looking for **currently enrolled graduate students with a strong, demonstrated interest in epidemiology and maternal and child health (inclusive of youth with special health care needs)**. Specifically, we want to expose students to three different career options for epidemiologists in the MCH field across all MCH population domains:

- Women/maternal health
- Perinatal/infant health
- Child health
- Children with special health care needs
- Adolescent health

Seeking a degree in maternal and child health and/or epidemiology *is not* required for this program. We want to open doors and pathways for people interested in maternal and child health epidemiology, no matter the degree they are seeking.

Steps required to apply for the 2024 Graduate Student Epidemiology Program:

1. Complete a student profile. Preview the [student profile questions here](#).
2. Complete the student application. Preview the [student application questions here](#).
3. Request one (1) letter of recommendation. Your recommender must upload their letter of recommendation before the application deadline of February 21, 2024 at 11:59 pm EST.

All three (3) steps listed above must be completed before 11:59 pm EST on February 21, 2024 in order for your application to be considered complete and move to the committee review process.

Letter of recommendation guidance for students:

We require one (1) letter of recommendation as part of the application process. When you submit contact information for the person you want to write your letter, they will receive an e-mail from our system with a unique link to contribute a one-page letter (.docx or .pdf format) to your application. Recommenders will not be able to view the content of your application. Please communicate with your letter writer in advance to make sure they're willing to submit something on your behalf before the application deadline of February 21, 2024 at 11:59 pm EST. Note that we will not accept more than one (1) letter of recommendation.

When thinking about the person you want to write your letter of recommendation, consider asking someone who knows about your skills, aspirations, and drive well enough to write about why you would be a great fit for all aspects of the program – and your potential to contribute to the field of MCH epidemiology.

You can share [this resource](#) with your recommender. It describes what they should consider while writing their letter of recommendation and the steps they will take to upload their letter.

Student eligibility

Student interns should have completed at least a full year of graduate coursework prior to the start of the internship. Students must be either currently enrolled or <12 months post-graduation from an accredited masters or doctoral level program in epidemiology, MCH, or related discipline(s).

To qualify for this program, interns must be one of the following:

1. A citizen of the United States: A person born in one of the 50 United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, or the Northern Mariana Islands; a person born outside of the U.S. to at least one U.S. parent; or naturalized citizen

2. A non-citizen national: A person born in an outlying possession of the U.S. (e.g., American Samoa or Swain's Island) on or after the date the U.S. acquired the possession, or a person whose parents are U.S. non-citizen nationals. All U.S. citizens are U.S. nationals; however, not every U.S. national is a U.S. citizen or
3. A permanent resident of the United States: A person who possesses a Permanent Resident Card ("Green Card")

If you do not meet the criteria outlined above, unfortunately, you do not qualify for this program at this time. For example, individuals with an F-1 student visa are not eligible. If you have any questions or need clarification regarding your eligibility, you can refer to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services [website](#) for more information.

Stipend

In 2024, each GSEP intern will receive a \$9,300 stipend, distributed over three (3) points on a predetermined schedule. This stipend amount aims to account for multiple factors, including the volume, anticipated quality, and potential impact of interns' efforts, the rising cost of living nationwide, and the amount interns will need to account for during tax season.



Graduate Student Epidemiology Program (GSEP)

Information for Potential 2024 **Interns**



Meet the Team



Mikayla Frye, MPH

mfrye@amchp.org

GSEP Program Coordinator

Program Manager,

Workforce Development & Capacity Building

Roles: Curriculum development and administration, intern check-ins, intern direct contact, speaker outreach, program evaluation



Ben Kaufman, MSW

bkaufman@amchp.org

GSEP Strategy & Impact Adviser

Associate Director,

Workforce Development & Capacity Building

Roles: Funder liaison, strategic storytelling, jurisdictional relationship building



Meet the Team



Candice Simon, MPH

csimon@amchp.org

GSEP Host Site Experience Coordinator

Program Manager,

Workforce Development & Capacity Building

Roles: Supervisor direct contact, supervisor check-ins, speaker outreach



Ellisa Alvarez, BA

ealvarez@amchp.org

GSEP Comms & Alumni Development Coordinator

Program Analyst for Community Defined Evidence,

Women's & Infant Health

Roles: Alumni engagement lead, social activities, program consultation, social media and marketing



Meet the Team



Meagan Robinson Maynor, DrPH

mmaynor@amchp.org

GSEP Subject Matter Expert for Jurisdictional Epidemiology

Senior Program Manager,
Epidemiology, Evaluation & Metrics

Roles: Provision of technical assistance, project guidance and coaching, curriculum development



What's Our "Why?"

- Diversify the pipeline of early career professionals entering MCH epidemiology careers and tracking into state/territory/local leadership positions.
- Provide opportunities to learn and practice skills needed for successful leadership in state/territory/local MCH epidemiology.
- Expose students to different epidemiology emphasis areas (needs assessment, data analysis, program monitoring, and evaluation) across all MCH population domains.



This is a leadership program for aspiring epidemiologists. We want participants to understand the breadth and depth of career opportunities that maternal and child health can provide, particularly in the public sector, and be excited about the role they can play in using evidence to bend the systems in which they'll be working toward justice.

Funding and Program Support

- Funded by the federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau's (MCHB) Office of Epidemiology and Research through a five-year cooperative agreement between AMCHP and the MCHB Division of State and Community Health.
- Guided by a Steering Committee comprised of AMCHP staff, federal (i.e., HRSA and CDC) partners, state/territory/local MCH epidemiologists, youth and family leaders, and former interns.



GSEP Overview

- 15 masters or doctoral students from MCH, epidemiology, or related disciplines selected annually and matched with approved host sites for ten (10) weeks.
- Interns spend 35 hours/week completing a project at their host site and 5 hours/week participating in a "menu" of enrichment activities facilitated by AMCHP.
- The experience is guided by a joint agreement that outlines expectations for and is signed by each intern, their primary supervisor, and the AMCHP project director.



Program Components

- Intern responsibilities
- Host site responsibilities
- AMCHP responsibilities
- Logistics



Intern Responsibilities

- Attend an orientation session with supervisor
- Complete all project deliverables in a professional manner as a representative of AMCHP and their matched host site
- Actively participate in AMCHP enrichment activities, e.g., Friday sessions, office hours, and small peer groups
- Be receptive to and learn from supervisor's feedback
- Complete weekly progress reports and required evaluations
- Present project results and implications



Host Site Responsibilities

- Attend an orientation session with interns
- Ensure access to necessary hardware, software, and datasets
- Provide thoughtful, resonant, and consistent mentorship
- Create learning and skill development opportunities
- Host an optional, in-person site visit
- Communicate regularly with AMCHP
- Review weekly intern progress reports
- Complete the required supervisor evaluation
 - Including 3-week evaluation



AMCHP Responsibilities

- Facilitate matching and introductions
- Provide a comprehensive program orientation
- Deliver an engaging, relevant enrichment curriculum
- Communicate regularly with interns and supervisors
- Ensure completion of all program evaluation components
- Make responsive program changes
- Support resolution of conflicts as needed



Logistics

- Internships are conducted 100% remotely, with the option for a two-day, in-person site visit; AMCHP covers all costs for interns and will provide guidance/planning support to sites.
- AMCHP administers stipends to interns in three installments: (1) upon commitment, (2) upon completion Week 3 progress report, and (3) upon completion of project presentation and final evaluation.
- Interns will meet every two (2) weeks with the Program Coordinator from AMCHP.



Student eligibility

- Current graduate student or recent graduate (Fall/Winter 2023, Spring 2024)
- Complete at least one full year of graduate coursework before start of internship
- U.S. citizen or permanent resident



To be eligible, students must be currently enrolled or less than 12 months post-graduation at the start of the internship from an accredited masters or doctoral level program in epidemiology, MCH, or related discipline(s).

Student interns should have completed at least a full year of graduate coursework prior to the start of the internship.

Due to the funding source for stipends, Trainees or

fellows receiving a stipend must be a citizen or a non-citizen national of the United States or have been lawfully admitted for permanent residence, as evidenced by a currently valid Permanent Resident Card [USCIS Form I-551] or other legal verification of such status, by the start of the training grant, fellowship or traineeship, or award. A non-citizen national is a person who, although not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the United States.

Ready to apply?

1. Complete a student profile
2. Complete the student application
3. Request a letter of recommendation

<https://tinyurl.com/GSEPStudentApply>



There are 3 primary steps to the application – all of these will be done on our internship management platform. If anyone wants to submit their application over the phone, we can arrange for that. Please note that all three of these things must be done by the application deadline of February 22, 2023 at 11:59pm EST. It is your responsibility to ensure that your recommender has uploaded their letter

so that you can submit your application.

1. You need to complete a student profile. You can preview all of the student profile questions on the GSEP website.
2. You need to complete the student application. You can preview all of the student application questions on the GSEP website.
3. You need one letter of recommendation. We have guidance for students about what to think about in a recommender; we also have a resource that you can share with your recommender about what content should be included in the letter. The letters of recommendation are new to the application process this year and are intended to help paint a fuller picture of an applicant, so that reviewers have a better understanding of your commitment to the MCH epidemiology field and why an

applicant is someone that program should make an investment in.

Timeline

Student application review & notifications: (March 2024)

- Student applications will first be reviewed by the GSEP Steering Committee and other public health professionals. Applicants will be scored on several criteria including interest in health equity, epidemiology, MCH, and letter of recommendation.
- The top applications will proceed to a final review stage from which 15 interns will be selected.
- Notifications (accepted, not accepted, waitlisted) are scheduled to go out to applicants on March 20, 2024.

Matching: April 2024

- Interns review up to 35 host site projects: April 12, 2024
- AMCHP matching with host sites based on intern ranking: April 23, 2023
- Host sites review proposed match: April 26, 2024

Final review for fit and placement: May 1, 2024



For the intern review – selected interns won't be reviewing the full host site applications, but will include the project description, deliverables, required statistical experience & what a host site can train on.

Before making matches, AMCHP will communicate with the host site to ensure the proposed intern is a good fit for the project and vice versa.

The 10-week AMCHP curriculum will run from June 3 – Aug 9. We encourage students & host sites to try and align internships with these dates but there is some flexibility. For those interested in in-person site visits, those would happen during the first 3 weeks of the internship.

What information are host sites providing?

- Organizational profile
- Supervisor information
- Project description

What information are we asking about the proposed project?

- Primary and secondary focus of the project
- Population domain(s) the project will focus on
- National Performance Measure(s) the project will address
- MCH Leadership Competencies the project will address



What information are we asking about the proposed project?

- Project description (2 – 5 paragraphs)
- Product(s) the intern will have produced by the end of the internship
- Protected Health Information and/or IRB approval
- Skill sets, statistical package experience, etc., that are necessary to complete the project AND those that you are willing to train/support the intern on
- Backup plans in case of primary supervisor leave/unexpected project lulls



2022 GSEP Project Examples

- Community-Engaged Epidemiology to Build the African American Maternal and Child Health Data Book
- Data Analysis of Preconception Health and Syphilis from PRAMS Maternal Health Care from Doulas' Perspectives: A Qualitative Analysis
- Needs Assessment and Environmental Scan Monitoring Health-Related Indicators for Sickle Cell Disease (SCD)
- Data Analysis of Maternal and Child Health Disparities in US- affiliated Pacific Islands



Intern Benefits

- Explore projects and diverse career pathways in MCH epidemiology
- Work with state and local public health agencies without relocating
- Receive thoughtful mentorship from practicing applied epidemiologists
- Learn practical skills and expand professional networks in ways that will give you an advantage as you enter the MCH epidemiology workforce
- Potential for post-graduation hiring



Testimonials

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I knew taking a racialized lens to the MCH work was important, but rarely did I see others doing the same or felt truly supported in doing so. GSEP reinforced for me that the curriculum I created for myself and the perspective that I was taking in my work was important, needed, and legitimate. This experience showed me that I have the tools and knowledge I need to be successful in this field and has boosted my confidence in my expertise.



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For more testimonials, visit

<https://amchp.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/GSEP-Testimonials.pdf>

Frequently Asked Questions

- How competitive is the application process?
- If I'm selected, am I guaranteed to get matched with a project in my #1 interest area?



Answers:

- 1) Competitive! Last year (2022) the acceptance rate was ~10%
- 2) Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee a match with your #1 project. We will do our best to match you with one of your top 3 projects, however.