

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INTERNSHIP  
SCOPE OF WORK**

<b>Internship Objectives:</b> 1) Expose students to environmental health programs and services so they can increase their knowledge of environmental health programs and services and the role they play in protecting public health and safety; 2) Engage students in a 3-4 week environmental health project(s) which will allow them to practice skills that will make them employable in the environmental health field.	
<b>Orientation to the Agency:</b> The purpose of the orientation period is to introduce and familiarize students (at the beginning of their internship) with the agency, staff, policies and procedures, and the organizational structure. During the orientation period, the student will be introduced to the following concepts:	
Orientation to Multnomah County Health Department	Approximately 10% of interns time
General orientation to Multnomah County Environmental Health Services and the organizational structure: food safety program, food handler education, lead poisoning and prevention program, drinking water program, communicable disease team, vital records, grants and contracts, community health education, vector and nuisance control.	
Introduction to Environmental Health	
Online HIPPA training	
Review policies on confidentiality, safety in the workplace, emergency evacuation, safety in the field.	
Introduction to diversity in the work place including cross-cultural communication and training in intercultural settings.	
Orientation to staff and environment where internship will be located	
<b>Health Education:</b> The intern will engage in one or more interactive projects that will allow the student to observe, practice, and use learned academic classroom theory on real work projects. Under the guidance of their internship supervisor, the student will be oriented to a project(s), develop project goals, objectives, outcome and outputs, produce and/or achieve tangible project outcomes and outputs, and receive project feedback. During their project experience, student will learn the following Health Education concepts and professional skills:	
<b>Health Education Concepts:</b>	Approximately 60% of interns time
Ability to describe the role of Environmental Public Health	
Introduction to Environmental Health educational materials.	
Determining target audiences and strategies for outreach and education.	
How to alter/develop educational materials based on target population needs.	
Building partnerships with trusted community members, church leaders, civic organizations, neighborhood associations and other groups affiliated with target populations.	
Developing evaluation tools to assess achievement of trainings and outreach activities.	
Develop PowerPoint presentation and other community collateral for health promotion activities.	
Delivering health education presentations and health promotion activities about Multnomah County Environmental Health programs and services to target populations.	
Gathering and analyzing demographic and cultural information about target populations.	
Understand the role of regulation in a social justice environment (social justice environment is comprised of people, community, culture, prevention and intervention).	
Evaluating health education activities.	
<b>General Professional Skills:</b>	

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Communication skills to effectively work with the general public, governmental agencies, community-based organizations, businesses, and other job related contacts.	
Problem solving skills to learn how to apply ideas and academic theory to meet desired outcomes.	
Analytical skills to learn how environmental health services are developed and implemented based on relevant, measurable data.	
Organizational skills necessary to work on multiple tasks and ideas simultaneously so that deadlines are met.	
Interpersonal skills to work collaboratively with fellow employees and management.	
Academic environmental health theories to increase understanding of how such concepts apply to real life situations	
<b>Orientation to Environmental Health Specialist Field Work:</b> By observing and shadowing Environmental Health Specialists as they conduct their field work, an intern will gain an understanding of the following concepts:	
Understand Food-borne Illness and Communicable Disease concepts.	Approximately 20% of interns time
Introduction to Environmental Health regulations and enforcement (codes, laws, statues).	
Introduction to Environmental Health Specialists role in food, water and public health safety.	
Student will be exposed to field work which may including inspection of restaurants, pools, mobile units, temporary events, childcare centers, drinking water systems, and lead risk assessments.	
Understand how Environmental Health Specialists work to minimize health risks and protect public health. The student will learn how to work with facility owners, state agencies DHS, Oregon Department of Agriculture, federal agencies such as Food and Drug Administration.	
Informational interview with Epidemiologist, Communicable Disease Team or other public health role as needed	
<b>Orientation to Vector and Nuisance Control Field Work:</b> By observing and shadowing Public Health Vector Specialists, Public Health Ecologists, and Code Enforcement Officer as they conduct their field work, an intern will gain an understanding of the following concepts:	
Introduction to vector-borne diseases, vector surveillance and control.	Approximately 10% of interns time
Student will be exposed to vector field work including mosquito and rodent surveillance, mosquito and rodent control work, and nuisance enforcement.	
Understand what constitutes a nuisance and the role that rules and regulations play in abating them.	
Collecting and analyzing field-based data and how it contributes to implementing environmental health programs and services and protecting public health.	
Understand how the Multnomah County Vector and Nuisance Control agency works to minimize health risks and protect public health.	
<b>Evaluation of the Internship Experience:</b>	
Student will evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of their internship experience. MCEH staff will provide the student with a written evaluation of their performance during the internship so that they can use the feedback to improve performance in future jobs.	Included in orientation hours