



## Region IV Public Health Training Center

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

**AGENCY:** Chatham County Public Health Department

**POSITION TITLE:** Chatham County Public Health Department Intern

**LOCATION:** 80 East Street, Pittsboro, NC 27312

**AGENCY WEBSITE:** <https://www.chathamcountync.gov/government/departments-programs-i-z/public-health>

**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](mailto: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: Though 100% in person is ideal, a hybrid or fully remote option may be available.*

The mission of the Chatham County Public Health Department is to build a healthy Chatham County through community partnerships and a commitment to equity. The Chatham County Health Department includes 4 divisions with various roles:

- Environmental Health – education and enforcement of state and local mandates related to food, lodging, institutions, lead poisoning prevention, septic systems, and well water.
- Clinical and Community Services- assist clients in maintaining healthy lifestyles through preventive health screenings and exams and connecting clients to appropriate human service providers. Programs include diabetes prevention, breast & cervical cancer, child passenger safety, immunizations, newborn home visiting program, nutrition counseling.
- Health Promotion & Policy: supports and initiates activities designed to favorably influence knowledge, attitudes, practices and policies related to public health.
- Administration: provides support to various divisions of the department.

**POSITION DESCRIPTION:** Chatham County Environmental Health has proposed a new water sampling initiative to the Board of Commissioners for FY 25 budget. The initiative is in response to the community assessment that demonstrated the top area of focus for Chatham County residents is water quality, including wells. Additional surveys have shown that well owners either did not know that the well should be sampled routinely or could not afford to sample the well.

This project is twofold:

1. Develop a program within the approved budget to offer free or sliding scale well water sampling to remove cost as a barrier for all residents.

2. Develop an educational campaign to encourage well owners to sample their wells routinely.

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Adaptable
- Dependable
- Positive attitude

**PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS**

- Interest in protecting public health through environmental health interventions.
- Bilingual in Spanish/English.

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

- Research budget and procedures of other low-cost water sampling programs across the country.
- Develop a budget for program.
- Create a program policy.
- Develop educational campaign encouraging well owners to sample their wells.

**PUBLIC HEALTH COMPETENCIES/SKILLS STUDENT MAY STRENGTHEN DURING PLACEMENT:**

1. Policy Development/Engagement
2. Program Planning
3. Budgeting and Financial Management
4. Community Partnership/Engagement
5. Effective Communication
6. Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

**TRAVEL:** No

**POSITION TYPE:** Region IV Public Health Training Center Field Placements (for MPH/MSPH students)

**QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY:**

Preference will be given to masters or doctoral level public health graduate students. Undergraduate public health students may also be considered. [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:
  - Unofficial transcript
  - Writing sample

**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.

**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 10 hours a week for 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 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 (**unofficial transcript, writing sample, resume, and cover letter indicating the agency name and citizenship/visa status**) to Elizabeth Kidwell, [elkidwell@emory.edu](mailto:elkidwell@emory.edu) with the subject line “**Summer 2024 Applicant: Chatham Health Department**”

\*PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY