Graduate Student Epidemiology Program
To promote training in MCH Epidemiology

Real-World Experience in:

• Data Analysis and Monitoring
• Needs Assessment
• Program Evaluation

2014 Program Guide
Submit your application for 2014 today!!
www.mchb.hrsa.gov/gsep
The Graduate Student Epidemiology Program (GSEP) provides technical assistance to States and localities while offering graduate students hands-on training in maternal and child health epidemiology. For over 10 years, GSEP participants have had the opportunity to work with health agencies across the country to address specific, defined data or analytic issues with the aim of developing or enhancing MCH and Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) information systems.

This brochure includes a brief synopsis of the 30 GSEP summer projects available in 2014. All projects fall into the following three focus areas:

**Data Analysis and Monitoring**

**Needs Assessment**

**Program Evaluation**

We are now accepting applications. Please visit our site [www.mchb.hrsa.gov/gsep](http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov/gsep) to view the full GSEP catalog of projects and apply online. Students may select up to three positions of interest. Qualified students will be matched with appropriate opportunities regardless of student or location.

**Deadline**

The submission deadline for student applications is February 14, 2014. Matches will be announced beginning in April of 2014.

“My GSEP internship has been a fantastic learning experience. The project allowed me to use my epi research and analysis skills in a supportive environment and helped me to learn the difference between theory and practice, and how to navigate between the two.”

-2013 GSEP Participant

**Eligibility**

Master’s and doctoral degree candidates in U.S. schools of public health (accredited by the Council of Education for Public Health) are qualified to apply. Applicants must be enrolled in MCH studies and must not graduate before the internship ends. Only US citizens or foreign nationals who possess a visa permitting permanent residence in the United States are eligible.

**Time and Stipend**

The GSEP project is completed over a 12 week period, to begin in May, June or July. GSEP participants will receive a stipend of at least $4,000 over 3 months to cover housing and daily living expenses.

If you have any questions about the projects or the application process, please contact:

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Participating Sites

Full descriptions of these projects can be found at www.mchb.hrsa.gov/gsep
Projects with this focus may include monitoring of diseases, injuries, and health conditions for their frequency, risk factors, consequences, and health service requirements, and analysis of epidemiological data sets.

Maternal and Child Health Equity Report Card Project, Los Angeles County, California

Department: Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Program

The purpose of this project is for the student to develop an equity report card/index reflecting data relevant to maternal, child and adolescent health. As part of the MCAH data dissemination efforts, the intern will also be involved in developing health briefs, and presenting project findings to key community stakeholders.

Maternal Mortality Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) Cycle, Georgia

Department: Georgia Department of Public Health, Maternal and Child Health Section

The purpose of this project is to assess the true number of maternal deaths throughout the state. The student will assist in determining recommendations from the work of the maternal mortality review committee and will work with hospitals to implement and analyze the recommendations using the PDSA method.

Life Course Indicator Project with a Focus on Disparate Populations, Hawaii

Department: Hawaii Department of Health, Family Health Services Division

The purpose of the project is to explore associations between Life Course indicators and measures with a particular emphasis on disparate population groups.

Identifying Factors Associated with Rapid Weight Gain in High Risk Infants Enrolled In WIC, Cook County, Illinois

Department: Cook County Department of Public Health, Community Epidemiology, and Health Planning Unit

The purpose of this project is to examine data from high-risk infants identified through the Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes Reporting System (APORS) who are also enrolled in WIC for evidence of rapid infant weight gain.

Children with Special Health Care Needs in Kansas: A Profile of Key Issues, Kansas

Department: Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Bureau of Family Health

The purpose of the project is to analyze data from the 2009/10 National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) to provide a profile of demographic characteristics, physical, mental, and social functioning, and health and community service needs of CSHCN in Kansas.

Identification of potential selection bias in Louisiana Pregnancy Risk Assessment Surveillance and Monitoring (PRAMS) 2011 data, Louisiana

Department: Louisiana Office of Public Health, Bureau of Family Health, Epidemiology Data Action Team

The purpose of the project is to assist the Louisiana Bureau of Family Health in assessing the likelihood of selection bias in the 2011 Louisiana PRAMS data.

Measuring Progress towards Using a Life Course Approach to Maternal and Child Health, Maine

Department: Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Population Health

The purpose of this project is to identify the Life Course indicators available in Maine and produce a report that includes analyzed data on the available indicators or a subset of these indicators.

Massachusetts Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) Analysis, Massachusetts

Department: Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Office of Data Translation

The purpose of the project is to expose students to a variety of Maternal and Child Health data. A variety of opportunities are available for students to conduct data collection, analyses, program evaluation, and surveillance depending on the student’s skill, experience, and interest.

Analyzing Life Course Indicators and the Impact on Maternal, Infant, and Child Health, Michigan

Department: Michigan Department of Community Health, Life Course Epidemiology, and Genomics Division

The purpose of this project is to use data analysis and interpretation to provide a comprehensive report of maternal, infant, and child health in Michigan based on life course indicators.

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Linked Medicaid-Birth Certificate Data Analysis, Mississippi
Department: Mississippi State Department of Health, Office of Epidemiology and Health Services
The purpose of the project will be to provide experiential learning in population-level data analysis and maternal/infant health surveillance using Medicaid enrollment and claims data. The results from these analyses will be used to develop and modify policies affecting the care of pregnant women insured by Medicaid.

Building a Stakeholder Group in Conjunction with an Analysis of Adverse Childhood Experiences, Nebraska
Department: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology, Lifespan Health Services Unit
The purpose of this project is to produce and disseminate a stakeholder-driven Nebraska Pregnancy Risk Assessment Surveillance and Monitoring (PRAMS) fact sheet/issue brief on adverse childhood experiences.

Epidemiology of Fertility Assistance in NYC Births, New York City, New York
Department: New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Bureau of Maternal Infant and Reproductive Health
The purpose of this project is to describe the epidemiology of fertility treatment in NYC live births. Students will analyze fertility treatment practices among women with a live birth in NYC and characteristics of women treated.

Maternal and Child Health Indicators for County Trend Reports, North Carolina
Department: North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics
The purpose of the project is to analyze trend data on maternal and child health indicators at the local level for use in community health assessments, state of the county reports, program evaluation and assessment and quality improvement initiatives.

American Indian Maternal and Child Health, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Department: Oklahoma City Area Inter-Tribal Health Board
The purpose of this project is to develop the first of a series of lifespan health reports on American Indians in Oklahoma. The first report will be a focus on Maternal and Child health among American Indian woman and children in Oklahoma.

Prevalence of Pregnancy Risk Factors, Birth Outcomes, and Disparities for Northwest American Indians/Alaska Natives, Portland, Oregon
Department: Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board
The purpose of this project is to provide Northwest tribes and the public health community with up-to-date and accurate information on pregnancy risk factors, outcomes, and disparities for AIAN in Oregon, Idaho, and Washington.

Comparison of Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) and non-CSHCN using Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) and PRAMS 2, Oregon
Department: Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs
The purpose of this project is to evaluate outcomes for Oregon CSHCN, specifically using the most recent Oregon PRAMS and PRAMS 2 surveys to compare differences between CSHCN and their mothers and Non-CSHCN and their mothers.

Wisconsin Life Course Metrics Report, Wisconsin
Department: Wisconsin Division of Public Health, Bureau of Community Health Promotion
The purpose of the project is to construct a Life Course Indicators Report for Wisconsin that will be used to assess the State’s health outcomes and determinants across the life course and inform the MCH program’s Title V Needs Assessment and ongoing life course work.

A Descriptive Analysis of Childhood Injury, Wyoming
Department: Wyoming Department of Health, Public Health Division, Public Health Sciences Section, Chronic Disease and MCH Epidemiology Unit
The purpose of the project is to complete a comprehensive analysis of the burden of injury in Wyoming children. The results of the analysis will be used by the student to create a series of fact sheets or issue overviews detailing the burden of different types of injuries by age group.

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2014 Needs Assessment Projects

Project with this focus may include the systematic analysis, assessment, and projection of health needs and resources in a given population or community.

Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Issue Briefs, Colorado
Department: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Prevention Services Division
The purpose of the proposed project is to identify, collect, and describe relevant data on select Maternal and Child Health issues to inform the 2015 needs assessment process.

Assessment of Obstetrical Care Workforce, Iowa
Department: Iowa Department of Public Health, Bureau of Family Health
The purpose of this project is to more accurately determine the number of physicians and certified nurse midwives in active practice who provide obstetrical care, including prenatal care and deliveries, in Iowa.

Needs Assessment for Kentucky’s Children with Special Health Care Needs, Kentucky
Department: Kentucky Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs
The purpose of the proposed internship is to conduct a quantitative overview of the characteristics and needs of Kentucky children and youth with special health care needs and their families.

Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) Needs Assessment Survey Analysis, New Hampshire
Department: New Hampshire Special Medical Services
The primary purpose of this project is to conduct in-depth analysis of the New Hampshire CSHCN Needs Assessment survey to determining statewide trends in family strengths and needs to set priorities as the state enters into Medicaid Managed Care, embarks on department reorganization, and implements aspects of the ACA.

Title V Needs Assessment, New Mexico
Department: New Mexico Department of Health, Family Health Bureau
The purpose of the project is to assist the Bureau with the statewide needs assessment by identifying unique deficits and racial disparities related to maternal and child health care access.

National Survey of Children’s Health Needs Assessment, North Dakota
Department: North Dakota Department of Health
The purpose of this project is to analyze North Dakota quantitative data from the National Survey of Children’s Health and produce a report that identifies components related to physical and mental health status, access to quality health care, and information on the child’s family, neighborhood and social context.

Birth Certificate Reporting, Washington
Department: Washington State Department of Health, Office of Healthy Communities
The purpose of this project is to develop a summary of the processes and tools used by hospitals in Washington to collect and report demographic and medical information recorded on the birth certificate, and to develop recommendations for best practices for collecting and reporting information collected on the birth certificate.

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2014 Program Evaluation Projects

Projects with this focus may include the monitoring, collection, and analysis of data to determine the effectiveness or outcomes of a particular program or project.

Care Coordination, Iowa
Department: Iowa Department of Public Health, Division of Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention, Bureau of Family Health
The primary purpose of this project is to analyze data related to care coordination in maternal and child health programs in Iowa. These data will be used to understand best practices for Care Coordination in Iowa as well as how MCH Care Coordination can be improved.

Early Childhood Systems Evaluation, Montana
Department: Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services
The purpose of this project is to conduct an evaluation and social network analysis of early childhood coalitions and partnerships and an analysis of the maternal and early childhood home visiting referral system.

Evaluation of the Fetal Infant Mortality Review Maternal Interview Process, Douglas County, Nebraska
Department: Douglas County Health Department
The purpose of this project is to assess the process used by Douglas County in obtaining maternal interviews and recommend innovative changes to improve that process.

Evaluation of the Adolescent Parenting Program, North Carolina
Department: North Carolina Division of Public Health, Women’s Health Branch
The purpose of this project is to review and refine the Adolescent Parenting Program evaluation plan by determining appropriate indicators for each goal in the logic model and developing appropriate measurement plans for revised indicators.

Preconception-Focused Community Health Improvement Process, Buncombe County, North Carolina
Department: Buncombe County Department of Health
The primary purpose of the project is to assist implement and improve a large-scale local project aiming to improve outcome-data utilization for a wide variety of partners collectively working to improve preconception health.

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