Graduate Student Epidemiology Program
To promote training in MCH Epidemiology

Real-World Experience in:

• Data Analysis and Monitoring
• Needs Assessment
• Program Evaluation

2015 Program Guide
Submit your application for 2015 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 (MCH) 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 2015. All projects fall into the following three focus areas:

- Data Analysis and Monitoring
- Needs Assessment
- Program Evaluation

Please visit our site www.mchb.hrsa.gov/gsep to view the full GSEP catalog of projects and apply online. Students may apply for up to three projects of interest. Qualified students will be matched with appropriate opportunities based on their qualifications and brief essay; please note that student location will not be a deciding factor in your placement.

Deadline
The submission deadline for student applications is February 13, 2015. Students will be contacted with information about placements beginning in April of 2015.

Eligibility
Master’s and doctoral degree candidates in U.S. schools of public health (accredited by the Council of Education for Public Health) are eligible to apply. Applicants must be enrolled in MCH studies and must not graduate before the internship ends. Only U.S. 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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“GSEP offered me the opportunity to apply the epidemiologic skills I have learned in school to a real life epidemiology project. After completing my internship, I know that I am capable of working as an epidemiologist at a state or local public health department.”

–2014 GSEP Participant
Full descriptions of these projects can be found at www.mchb.hrsa.gov/gsep
2015 Data Analysis and Monitoring

Projects with a data analysis and monitoring 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.

American Indian Tribal WIC Program Trend Data Analysis, Arizona
Department: Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona
Purpose: Examine longitudinal data on tribal WIC programs across the state of Arizona

MCH Health Equity Report Card Project, Los Angeles County, California
Department: Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Purpose: Develop an equity report card/index reflecting data relevant to maternal, child, and adolescent health

Analysis of Barriers and Facilitation of Early Entry and Continuation in Prenatal Care, Washington, District of Columbia
Department: District of Columbia Department of Health
Purpose: Identify barriers to prenatal care start and continuation among high-risk mothers, including identifying sub-populations who may be disproportionately impacted

Analysis of Birth Outcomes with a Focus on Disparate Populations, Hawaii
Department: Hawaii Department of Health
Purpose: Evaluate data for key maternal and child health indicators and associated disparities and develop guidelines to improve birth outcomes for families in Hawaii

Childhood Lead Poisoning Places for Prevention, Cook County, Illinois
Department: Cook County Department of Public Health
Purpose: Analyze surveillance data to identify risk factors for lead exposure and complete a literature review of evidence-based practices for lead poisoning prevention

Assessing Overweight and Obesity in Children 2-4 Years of Age, DuPage County, Illinois
Department: DuPage County Health Department
Purpose: Understand the prevalence of overweight and obesity among at risk children aged 2-4 years in DuPage County

Kansas Maternal and Child Health: Life Course Indicators, Kansas
Department: Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Purpose: Identify the Life Course Indicators available in Kansas and produce a report related to reducing risk factors for infant mortality in Kansas

Massachusetts PRAMS Analysis 2015, Massachusetts
Department: Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Purpose: Conduct analyses of quantitative and qualitative data to examine issues faced by new mothers in the early postpartum period using PRAMS

Mapping Maternal and Child Health Life Course Indicators, Maine
Department: Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
Purpose: Map select life course indicators at the county or census tract level and examine their relationship to core MCH outcomes, such as low birth weight

Home Visiting Referrals System Analysis and Evaluation, Montana
Department: Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services
Purpose: Conduct an analysis and evaluation of Montana’s Maternal and Early Childhood Home Visiting program referral system and make recommendations regarding data quality improvement

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2015 Data Analysis and Monitoring (cont)

Improving Data and Enhancing Access to MCH Data for Northwest Tribes, Oregon
Department: Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board
Purpose: Conduct an analysis of infant mortality or pregnancy risk factor and birth outcomes data to provide Northwest area tribes with up-to-date reports at the local level

MCH Data Analysis for Healthy Start Infant Mortality Investigations, San Antonio, Texas
Department: San Antonio Metropolitan Health Department Healthy Start Program
Purpose: Complete perinatal periods of risk (PPOR) analyses and report findings to the Healthy Families Network for action planning aimed at reducing infant mortality

Choking Game Analysis OR Economic Analysis of School Based Health Centers, Oregon
Department: Oregon Public Health Division
Purpose: Conduct analysis on Choking Game surveillance data of Oregon teens or Develop economic analysis of impact of School-Based Health Centers giving immunizations to youth

Using Data to Inform the Essentials for Childhood Initiative, Washington
Department: Washington Department of Health
Purpose: Support the Essentials for Childhood initiative data activities by analyzing and summarizing shared measurement data using the Collective Impact framework

2015 Needs Assessment Projects

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

MCH Differences between Urban and Rural Geographies, Wisconsin
Department: Wisconsin Division of Public Health
Purpose: Analyze data to identify unmet maternal and child health needs in urban and rural geographies

County Level Vital Statistics Report, Wyoming
Department: Wyoming Department of Health
Purpose: Complete a comprehensive descriptive analysis of birth certificate data by county and summarize data into a series of fact sheets

Full descriptions of these projects can be found at www.mchb.hrsa.gov/gsep
2015 Program Evaluation

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

Title V Needs Assessment, Mississippi
Department: Wyoming Department of Health
Purpose: Coordinate a comprehensive Title V MCH Needs Assessment for the state of Mississippi and produce a high quality scientific document relating the findings of the needs assessment

Infant Safe Sleep Needs Assessment, Texas
Department: Texas Department of State Health Services
Purpose: Examine sleep-related deaths and infant safe sleep practices in Texas and make recommendations for safe sleep prevention activities

Evaluation of Alaska Infant Safe Sleep Activities, Alaska
Department: Alaska State Department of Health and Social Services
Purpose: Evaluate the impact of interventions conducted in the state of Alaska to promote infant safe sleep practices with the goal of preventing sleep-related infant mortality

Evaluation of Home Visiting and Family Support Services, Alameda County, California
Department: Alameda County Public Health Department
Purpose: Measure the impact and effectiveness of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting and Family Support System of Care

Assessing the Accuracy of Georgia’s Maternal Mortality Review Committee in Reviewing Pregnancy-Related Deaths
Department: Georgia Department of Public Health
Purpose: Assess the effectiveness of the current process for reviewing maternal mortality case reports in identifying pregnancy-related deaths

Internal Data Redesign for Kentucky’s Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs, Kentucky
Department: Kentucky Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs
Purpose: Redesign data collection efforts in order to accurately measure services to Kentucky children and youth with special health care needs and their families.

Evaluation of the Child Death Review Program, Louisiana
Department: Louisiana Office of Public Health
Purpose: Complete an evaluation of Louisiana’s Child Death Review Program and present findings and recommendations to stakeholders

Louisiana Birth Defects Monitoring Network Program Evaluation, Louisiana
Department: Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
Purpose: Conduct a program evaluation for Louisiana Birth Defects Monitoring Network Program, which tracks birth defects and syndromes in newborns and children

Evaluating Participant Enrollment/Recruitment for the Healthy Start Program, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Department: Minneapolis Health Department
Purpose: Evaluate the enrollment/recruitment of Healthy Start participants to ensure that the program is serving women with the highest risk for poor birth outcomes

Birth Defects Registry Surveillance System Evaluation, Nebraska
Department: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
Purpose: Complete an evaluation of the Nebraska Birth Defects Registry surveillance system, prioritize improvement opportunities, and determine best practices for evaluation of our other systems

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A Study of Breastfeeding Continuation among Mothers Receiving Support from the Newborn Home Visiting Program, New York City, New York

*Department: New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene*

*Purpose:* Assess breastfeeding continuation and intensity at 2 months post partum among women receiving breastfeeding support from the Newborn Home Visiting Program

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Evaluation of the Maternal Health High Risk Prenatal Program, New Mexico

*Department: New Mexico Department of Health*

*Purpose:* Evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of the High Risk Prenatal Fund and compile findings and recommendations into a report that addresses weaknesses and sustainability of the Fund

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Preconception Health and Early Childhood Development-Focused Community Health Improvement Process, Buncombe County, North Carolina

*Department: Buncombe County Health & Human Services*

*Purpose:* Develop evaluation plans of Buncombe County organizations working to improve preconception health and early childhood development, primarily by using a new interactive site for collective impact

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Transition Outcomes for Hispanic/Latino Youth with Special Health Care Needs, Texas

*Department: Texas Department of State Health Services*

*Purpose:* Research the current state of transition outcomes for Hispanic/Latino youth with special health care needs in Texas

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