



IPHCA Emergency Management Internship Opportunity

Student Internship

Indiana Primary Health Care Association (IPHCA) would like to partner with a qualified student internship program in order to accept one (1) student internship per year. IPHCA is a local non-profit organization located in downtown Indianapolis with membership of health care centers in Indiana. Our website is here: www.indianapca.org

Public Health/Emergency Preparedness Student Intern

Our proposal is to offer one internship position constituting the 240-hour requirement by most approved programs, in either a 32 hr. per week format, or another acceptable alternative that will be mutually agreed upon by the preceptor and student. IPHCA understands the need for flexibility around student schedules, but is looking for a student who can commit to the 240 hours. IPHCA understands that the most likely scenario for this intern will be May-August when student schedules are most flexible, but will consider alternate arrangements.

IPHCA is looking for a public health or emergency management student currently enrolled in MPH-track (or related) program interested in the field of public health preparedness and emergency management principles. This student will work closely with the Emergency Management Program Director on the various projects that help the health centers in Indiana prepare for disasters, emergencies, and public health incidents. The student will learn the workings of a typical Primary Care Association (PCA) and how a PCA interacts with the State Health Department, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, Indiana Rural Health Association, Indiana Office of Public Health Practice, the Indianapolis Chapter of the Red Cross, area hospitals, large healthcare organizations, and community health centers (CHCs) in order to prepare Indiana's healthcare environment for the inevitable disaster or public health emergency.

Further, the student will learn how IPHCA prepares its member organizations for such healthcare topics as MRSA, Tuberculosis, Smallpox, Anthrax, West Nile Virus, and other pertinent communicable diseases that threaten the public's health and well-being. The student will learn public health emergency management principles and how they are applied in a healthcare setting, such as NIMS, emergency management standards and bioterrorism response.

At the end of the student internship experience, the student will have successfully completed coursework relevant to emergency management and have an understanding of how a typical community health center is organized and operated.

Approximately 90% of the intern's work will be completed within the IPCHA office. 5% of the work could include travel with the preceptor to various hospitals and CHCs in order to assess and respond to their unique public health preparedness needs. Another 5% of the intern's work could involve travel to the Indiana State Health Department (ISDH), the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS), and possibly to one or two conferences or similar networking opportunities within Indiana. The student is responsible for travel to and from these events.

The student intern candidate must complete an IPHCA employment application and should have an understanding of basic emergency management principles and an understanding of epidemiology, healthcare administration and healthcare policy.