

Organization Name: Association of Occupational and Environmental Clinics

Project Title: Occupational Health Internship Program (OHIP)

Project Description: The Occupational Health Internship Program (OHIP) is a national summer program dedicated to help students learn about the field of occupational safety and health (OSH) from those most at stake: working people. Since 2004, OHIP has played a key role in training, mentoring, and inspiring a new generation of OSH professionals to prevent job injury and disease through partnerships with worker and community based organizations. A project of the Association of Occupational and Environmental Clinics (AOEC), OHIP has training sites across the country including the San Francisco Bay Area, Los Angeles, Chicago, Boston, and New York City -- new sites may be announced for 2019.

Our 2018 projects included the examination of San Jose bus operators' health perspectives on split shifts, the investigation of health and safety hazards in the meatpacking industry in Southern California, a health and safety needs assessment of New York nurses, and the identification of health and safety hazards of Puerto Rican public sector workers post-hurricane Maria.

Position Description

Teams of two students are placed with a union or worker organization to investigate job-related health and safety problems among workers, often employed in an under-served or a high hazard job. Projects are designed to maximize interaction between workers and students. OHIP is an applied research experience, where students learn about the OSH field from the workers' perspective. Project work emphasizes worker interviews and worksite evaluations. At the end of the project, teams provide a "give back" product to the workers and their host union/worker organization, present their project at a national NIOSH web-conference, and produce a final report. Commitment is full-time, including possible evenings or weekends.

Student Characteristics: Graduate and undergraduate students can apply; some stipends are restricted to US citizens. Non-US citizens must supply documentation of permission to work in the US. Undergraduates must have completed two years, preferably in a field related to public health, environmental studies, or public policy. Graduate students in public health, medicine, nursing, or a related field are encouraged to apply. Recent graduates cannot be out of school for more than six months prior to the start of OHIP (i.e. students are not eligible if they graduated prior to December of 2018). We are looking for students with experience or interest in working with unions or social justice organizations, are organized and self-starting, have good team skills and ideally speak a second language such as Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese, etc.

Organization Background: Founded in 1988, AOEC is a membership organization of occupational and environmental health (OEH) clinics and professionals dedicated to providing the highest standard of patient care in a manner that is public health and prevention oriented as well as multidisciplinary and patient centered. Through the sharing of information and collaboration in research, the AOEC seeks to enhance the practice of clinical occupational and environmental medicine and to promote excellence in occupational and environmental health in the clinical setting. We currently represent over 60 OEH clinics throughout the US, Canada and Germany.

Where: Nationwide

Supervision: Depends on the site

Compensation/Benefits: Undergraduates=\$4,000 and Graduate students=\$5,200 for 9 weeks

Application Contact Information: For eligibility info, on-line application and program details go to www.ohipintern.org. Additional questions? Contact administrator coordinator Ingrid Denis (idenis@aoec.org, 1-888-347-2632).