

Organization Name: **Desert Sky Spine and Pain**

Organization Background: Desert Sky Spine and Pain is a multidisciplinary chronic pain clinic focused on evidence-based, patient-centered care. Established in Tucson, Arizona, the organization serves a diverse population experiencing chronic pain and related conditions. In addition to clinical care, we invest heavily in community-based education, chronic pain self-management, and interdisciplinary approaches that include behavioral health, physical therapy, and public health promotion. We are a growing organization with a commitment to innovation, sustainability, and addressing health disparities.

Internship Project Title: **Interdisciplinary Public Health and Pain Science Internship Project**

Description: Desert Sky Spine and Pain offers a flexible internship experience for students passionate about health education, pain science, and the broader healthcare system. Interns may be placed in one of several focus areas depending on their interests and skills:

- Patient Education & Pain Science: Assist in delivering or developing chronic pain workshops, educational materials, and program evaluation tools.
- Health Administration & Systems Planning: Support internal program development, workflow analysis, and evaluation of clinic operations.
- Community Outreach & Public Health: Help coordinate community workshops, gather and interpret patient data, and contribute to outreach campaigns.
- Healthcare Business & Strategy: Collaborate on billing workflows, insurance research, and sustainability plans.

Highly motivated interns may also propose and develop their own projects, pending supervisor approval. Ideal candidates are curious, reliable, self-motivated, and excited to apply public health theory to real-world healthcare delivery.

Deliverables may include educational resources, research reports, or internal toolkits depending on placement and individual specific projects Internship project keywords (check all that apply).

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| ☒ Health Disparities | ☐ Environmental Health |
| ☒ Public Health Preparedness | ☐ Maternal/Infant Health |
| ☒ Collaborations with Community | ☐ Tobacco Use |
| ☐ Collaborations with University | ☐ Injury/Violence Prevention |
| ☒ Community health service | ☐ Immunization |
| ☐ Physical Activity | ☐ Infectious Disease |
| ☒ Substance Abuse | ☐ Oral Health |
| ☒ Mental Health | ☐ Evaluation |
| ☒ Access to care | ☐ Policy Development |
| ☐ Nutrition | ☒ Program Planning |
| ☐ Reproductive/Sexual Health | ☒ Data Analysis |

When: ☒ Fall Semester ☒ Spring Semester ☐ Summer Term ☒ I want this listing to remain active indefinitely and we will accept applications from students for any upcoming semester.

Where: Organization Mailing Address: 6585 N Oracle Rd Tucson, AZ 85704

Address where Student will work: 6585 N Oracle Rd and/or 1241 N Wilmot Rd

☒ Check here if the student may have the option to work remotely from a site not listed above for all or part of this project.

Student Characteristics: This position is ideal for a student who is curious, self-motivated, and eager to contribute original ideas to real-world public health work. Interns at Desert Sky Spine and Pain are encouraged to take ownership of their projects—whether enhancing patient education materials, streamlining clinic workflows, or launching new outreach initiatives. Students who thrive in this role are not only detail-oriented and adaptable but also committed to seeing goals through from concept to execution. Strong verbal and written communication skills are essential, as much of the work involves patient-facing materials, interdisciplinary collaboration, and documentation. This is an excellent opportunity for a student who values creativity, accountability, and the chance to make a tangible impact in a growing healthcare setting.

Level of Expertise Needed: Undergraduate: The internship for undergraduates should provide an experience that allows students to incorporate classroom learning into public health practice. Both experiences prepare students for future employment. ☐ MPH ☒ Undergraduate ☐ Either

Supervision Internship will be managed by preceptor Sophia Kent, Public Health and Outreach Coordinator

Development Compensation/Benefits/Professional Development:

While this internship is currently unpaid, Desert Sky Spine and Pain offers a range of professional development opportunities designed to support student growth and future career readiness. Interns will receive priority consideration for future paid positions or grant-funded projects based on performance and clinic needs. Students will also have access to shadowing opportunities, including health providers, office operations, and other departments to better understand the clinical-public health interface. Those who complete the term in good standing will be provided with strong letters of recommendation from providers, administration, and leadership. Interns are encouraged to take ownership of their work, and any materials or projects created by students will be credited by name as an intern-led initiative. Additionally, students will benefit from networking opportunities with local healthcare professionals, community partners, and clinic leadership.

Interested students should complete the questionnaire below and apply via email to Sophia Kent at skent@desertskymedicine.com

Desert Sky Spine and Pain Internship Application – Interdisciplinary Public Health and Pain Science Internship Contact Information

Full Name: _____

Pronouns(optional): _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Degree Program & Year : _____

Expected Graduation Date: _____

Preferred Semester(s) for Internship: ☐ Fall ☐ Spring ☐ Summer ☐ Open/Flexible Applicable

Skills & Experience

Please identify any relevant interests and skills.

Check all that apply:

- ☐ Public health education
- ☐ Community outreach
- ☐ Patient communication
- ☐ Health systems/administration
- ☐ Data entry/analysis
- ☐ Creative tools (e.g., Canva, Adobe Express)
- ☐ Program development
- ☐ Administrative skills
- ☐ Writing educational materials
- ☐ Pain science interest

List any tools, experiences, or relevant coursework:

Short Answer Questions (Please respond thoughtfully in 3–6 sentences each)

1. What excites you about the intersection of public health and chronic pain care? What draws you to this internship and what would you like to learn?
2. Tell us about a time you started a project or idea and saw it through. What motivated you to follow through?
3. What kind of working environment helps you thrive? Are you more independent, collaborative, structured, exploratory, etc.?
4. What does “patient-centered care” mean to you? Feel free to share a personal experience or observation.
5. Is there a particular skill, topic, or challenge you’re hoping to build or explore during this internship? We may tailor your placement to your interests, so be thoughtful and honest!

Attachments:

- Your resume (PDF preferred)
- Writing sample, project sample, or portfolio item. Include a document you feel highlights your interests, skills, and communication abilities.

Submission Instructions:

Submit this completed application to: Sophia Kent, Public Health and Outreach Coordinator at skent@desertskymedicine.com