Kentucky Community and Technical College System & Local Health Department Internship

Spring 2027

January 12 – May 15, 2027

Application closes on November 27, 2026

Kentucky Public Health
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KHDA
Kentucky Health Departments Association

Partnership Overview

The Kentucky Department for Public Health's (KDPH) Student Internship Program (SIP) has partnered with the Kentucky Community & Technical College System (KCTCS), the Kentucky Health Departments Association (KHDA) and Local Health Departments to offer paid internship opportunities for two-year degree-seeking students.

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Connecting Communities, Measuring Impact

Local Health Department: Todd County Health Department

Address: 617 West Main ST, Elkton, KY 42220

Supervisor: Rachel Hudson, Administrative Specialist

Desired Skills: Proficiency with Microsoft Office and basic graphic design or social media platforms is preferred. Strong written, verbal, and interpersonal communication skills are desired. Candidates from all academic and professional backgrounds are encouraged to apply; healthcare experience is welcome but not required.

Project Description: Interns will gain hands-on public health experience while helping connect people with valuable health information and resources. As a Todd County Health Department Intern, students will work alongside health educators and public health professionals to create engaging educational materials, support community events and help promote healthy lifestyles. This internship offers a unique opportunity to build real-world skills in health communication, community engagement, program planning and public health evaluation.

Project Deliverable 1: Design educational materials such as flyers, brochures, posters, social media content and presentations that help inform and empower community members.

Project Deliverable 2: Participate in community outreach events, health fairs, workshops and other public health activities. Plan events, interact with participants and distribute resources that make a positive impact.

Connecting Communities, Measuring Impact (Continued)

Project Deliverable 3: Develop innovative ways to track program participation and community engagement. Create tools such as surveys, sign-in systems, and data collection forms to help measure the reach and effectiveness of health department programs.

To apply for the Connecting Communities, Measuring Impact project, use this application link.

Enhancing Social Media Outreach to Promote Public Health Outcomes

Local Health Department: Kentucky River District Health Department

Address: 441 Gorman Hollow Road, Hazard, KY 41701

Supervisor: Melissa Sloane, Chief Operations Officer

Desired Skills: Computer skills (Word, PowerPoint, Canva), social media knowledge, community-based experience and public speaking experience.

Project Description: Help strengthen public health communication by creating engaging social media content that connects communities with trusted health information. As an intern, you'll develop multimedia content, support targeted outreach campaigns and use data to evaluate audience engagement. This internship offers a unique opportunity to build real-world skills in health communication, digital marketing, content creation, data analysis and community outreach.

Project Deliverable 1: Student will assist in the development of health education information to be shared in various formats on social media.

Project Deliverable 2: Student will work with program coordinators to create targeted messaging around services.

Project Deliverable 3: Student will assist with the development of Alpha Gal allergy information resources to be shared within the communities.

To apply for the Enhancing Social Media Outreach to Promote Public Health Outcomes project, use this application link.

CommUNITY for Lawrence County Youth

Local Health Department: Lawrence County Health Department

Address: 1080 Meadowbrook Lane, Louisa KY 41230

Supervisor: Debbie Miller, Public Health Director

Desired Skills: Computer skills (Word, PowerPoint, Outlook, Excel), community-based experience, communication and analytic skills

Project Description: Lawrence County Health Department is seeking a dedicated intern for our CommUNITY for Lawrence County Youth project funded by the Kentucky Opioid Abatement Advisory Commission. The project is focused upon implementation of the Icelandic Prevention Model, in consultation with Planet Youth, a global initiative located in Iceland. Using data as a guide, the project puts prevention into action by involving the entire community. Substance use prevention interventions - out-of-school activities, will be tailored to meet the needs of the community as determined through the youth survey.

Project Deliverable 1: Student will assist in the youth survey data collection, analysis and dissemination in collaboration with Planet Youth.

Project Deliverable 2: Student will assist in the design of targeted youth intervention activities.

Project Deliverable 3: Student will assist in the recruitment of organizations and volunteers to establish partnerships to start new youth programs.

To apply for the CommUNITY for Lawrence County Youth project, use this application link.

Full Scale Point of Distribution (POD) Exercise

Local Health Department: Marshall County Health Department

Address: 267 Slickback Rd. Benton, KY 42025

Supervisor: Wendy Rose, Assistant Director

Desired Skills: Computer skills (MS Office), strong organizational skills, self-motivation, attention to detail

Project Description: Join the Marshall County Health Department team and gain hands-on experience in public health emergency preparedness and response. Interns will support a full-scale Point of Distribution (POD) exercise, assist with reviewing and updating the Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) and help revise mental health and quick reference directories.

Project Deliverable 1: Full-Scale POD exercise implementation and After-Action Report (AAR).

Project Deliverable 2: Review and revise MCHD COOP plan.

Project Deliverable 3: Review and revise MCHD mental health directory.

Project Deliverable 4: Review and revise MCHD quick reference directory.

To apply for the Full-Scale POD Exercise placement, use this application link.

Montgomery County Health Department - Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Outreach Project

Local Health Department: Montgomery County Health Department

Address: 108 E Locust St, Mount Sterling, KY 40353

Supervisor: Virginia Allen, RN, Director of Nursing

Desired Skills: Computer skills (Microsoft Word, Power Point and Excel), comfortable communicating with community partners (doctor's offices, schools, HeadStart), outgoing literature review (compile WIC outcomes for outreach materials), work with social media.

Project Description: Join the Montgomery County Health Department team and help connect families with valuable public health programs and resources.

Project Deliverable 1: Develop/Compile Outreach Materials.

Project Deliverable 2: Develop Facebook Campaign for WIC Page.

Project Deliverable 3: Connect with and Disseminate Materials to Local Partners.

To apply for the MCHD WIC Outreach Project, use this application link.

Barren River Harm Reduction

Local Health Department: Barren River District Health Department

Address: 1109 State Street, Bowling Green, KY 42101

Supervisor: Cally Stuart, Harm Reduction Coordinator

Desired Skills: Data tracking experience, database familiarity, computer skills, verbal and written communication skills, self-motivation.

Project Description: Interns will gain hands-on experience supporting programs that improve community health and well-being. Interns will help streamline data systems and reporting processes, work alongside staff in the Syringe Services Program (SSP) and assist with community outreach events.

Project Deliverable 1: Update public naloxone storage box spreadsheet. This includes ensuring accuracy of the tracking system, checking expiration dates of current locations and contacting community partners.

Project Deliverable 2: Create a new data form for tracking non-SSP supplies for better data reporting.

Project Deliverable 3: Assist in improving all harm reduction services and outreach.

To apply for the Barren River Harm Reduction project, use this application link.

Environmental Health Applied Practice Internship

Local Health Department: Allen County Health Department

Address: 107 N Court Street, Scottsville, KY 42164

Supervisor: Deanna Boberg, Health Environmentalist II

Desired Skills: Applicants should have foundational academic and technical knowledge (biology, public health, or environmental science concepts), professional and communication skills, observation and analytical skills, interpersonal and public-facing abilities, practical field readiness (including the ability to work outdoors in changing environments), proficiency with Microsoft 365 (Word, Outlook, and Excel) and the personal qualities needed for success.

Project Description: The Allen County Health Department seeks an intern with a passion for environmental health protection. The Environmental Health Applied Practice Internship provides students with hands-on exposure to environmental public health practices within a local health department. Interns will shadow a Health Environmentalist, gaining direct insight into real-world applications of environmental regulations, public health protection and field inspection procedures. The project is designed to build a foundational understanding of environmental health operations, regulatory decision-making and professional practice in a community setting. This internship is perfect for students who enjoy hands-on learning, want to explore environmental health careers and are excited to see public health in action.

Environmental Health Applied Practice Internship (Continued)

Project Deliverable 1: The intern will complete a structured orientation introducing them to: The Allen County Health Department Environmental Services office operations, Kentucky environmental health regulations, local inspection procedures and documentation systems. Outcome: Intern demonstrates understanding of the department's structure, mission and regulatory framework.

Project Deliverable 2: The intern will accompany the Health Environmentalist on routine and advanced inspections, including: Food service inspections, complaint investigations, septic system site evaluations and permitting, water sampling or environmental monitoring, public interactions and regulatory communication. Outcome: Intern can describe inspection processes, field protocols and the purpose of each environmental health program.

Project Deliverable 3: During the final weeks, the intern will: Observe complex inspections or follow-up investigations, review case documentation and inspection reports, participate in discussions on environmental health career pathways, complete a final reflection meeting with the supervising Environmentalist. Outcome: Intern articulates key learning experiences and demonstrates growth in environmental health knowledge and professional readiness.

To apply for the Environmental Health Applied Practice Internship, use this application link.

Environmental Health Internship

Local Health Department: Lexington-Fayette County Health Department

Address: 650 Newtown Pike, Lexington, KY 40508

Supervisor: Amy Sullivan, Environmental Health Assistant Team Leader

Desired Skills: Computer skills (Word, PowerPoint, Outlook, Excel, Statistical Software, GIS), good communication skills, administrative skills, community-based experience

Project Description: Interns will gain hands-on experience protecting the health and safety of the Lexington community. Environmental health interns will assist with field investigations, support food service establishment inspections and participate in rabies control, animal bite investigations and mosquito abatement activities. This internship offers a unique opportunity to build real-world skills in environmental health, regulatory inspections, disease prevention, public health investigation and community outreach.

Project Deliverable 1: Rabies Control: Animal Bite Investigations

Project Deliverable 2: Complaint Investigations: Mosquito abatement (reduction)

Project Deliverable 3: Establishment Inspections

To apply for the EH Internship, use this application link.

Grayson County Health Department Marketing Improvement Initiative

Local Health Department: Grayson County Health Department

Address: 124 E White Oak St, Leitchfield, KY 42754

Supervisor: Joshua Horton, Public Health Director

Desired Skills: Marketing, technical skills (Facebook, Instagram, Tik Tok, Canva), administration, computer skills, communications

Project Description: Interns will have the opportunity to help enhance how public health information is shared with the community. As a Marketing and Communications Intern, you'll create engaging content for social media, support website improvements and assist with developing marketing materials that promote health programs and services. This internship offers a unique opportunity to build real-world skills in health communication, digital marketing, content creation and community engagement.

Project Deliverable 1: Create (4) videos for social media that will help the department engage with the community.

Project Deliverable 2: Enhance our overall social media presence.

Project Deliverable 3: Create a flu shot marketing campaign.

Project Deliverable 4: Work with our emergency management coordinator.

To apply for the Marketing Improvement project, use this application link.

Pike County Health Department Environmental Health Auditor

Local Health Department: Pike County Health Department

Address: 119 River Drive, Pikeville, KY 41501

Supervisor: Raymond (Jackie) Cole, Environmental Health Director

Desired Skills: Computer skills (scanning item into a web-based system), attention to details, social skills and good communication skills

Project Description: Join the Pike County Health Department team and gain hands-on experience in environmental health auditing. Interns will be given a rubric to conduct mock environmental audits, review departmental files to ensure environmental staff are completing documentation as required and assist with updating the in-house on-site storage system. This internship offers a unique opportunity to build real-world skills in environmental health compliance, auditing, record review and organizational systems improvement.

Project Deliverable 1: Conduct file audits on work performed by the Pike County Environmental Staff.

Project Deliverable 2: Scan incomplete sewage records into the Pike County sewage database.

Project Deliverable 3: Work with staff in the Environmental Department to get a better knowledge of the field work. This will aid in the audit process.

To apply for the Environmental Health Auditor project, use this application link.

Public Health Outreach & Chronic Disease Prevention Initiative

Local Health Department: Martin County Health Department

Address: 136 Rockcastle Rd, Inez, KY 41224

Supervisor: Courtney Walker, Health and Wellness Intern Director

Desired Skills: Applicants should have computer skills (Word, PowerPoint, Outlook, Excel, statistical software), administrative and community-based experience, strong communication skills, knowledge of research methodology (including study design, sample size, sampling methods, epidemiology and literature reviews), familiarity with database management (data aggregation, cleaning, standardization and matching), analytical skills, including descriptive and advanced statistics and evaluation methodologies.

Project Description: In-person at the Martin County Health Department, the intern will support the Mountain Wellness Collaborative, a newly launched regional initiative uniting five Eastern Kentucky health departments (Floyd, Johnson, Magoffin, Martin and Pike counties) to address a chronic disease epidemic affecting the Big Sandy region. The collaborative focuses on holistic, community-centered approaches to tackling heart disease, diabetes, obesity, hypertension and smoking at a population level.

Project Deliverable 1: Student will assist in developing community outreach and health education materials addressing chronic disease prevention (heart disease, diabetes, obesity, hypertension and smoking cessation) across the five-county Big Sandy region.

Public Health Outreach & Chronic Disease Prevention Initiative (Continued)

Project Deliverable 2: Student will create educational and promotional content utilizing Canva and Microsoft 365, including social media graphics, fact sheets and presentations to support collaborative programming and community awareness campaigns.

Project Deliverable 3: Student help plan the Mountain Wellness Summit (fall 2026), a regional public health event bringing together community members, healthcare providers and partner organizations across the Big Sandy region. Responsibilities will include coordinating with vendors and venues, managing event timelines and logistics, supporting speaker and presenter scheduling, preparing event materials and signage and assisting with day-of execution to ensure a successful and impactful community wellness event.

Project Deliverable 4: Student will conduct research on evidence-based public health interventions targeting social determinants of health in Appalachian communities, identifying strategies and programs that can be adapted for use across the Mountain Wellness Collaborative's five partner counties.

To apply for the Public Health Outreach & Chronic Disease Prevention Initiative, use this application link.

Harm Reduction Outreach Services Internship

Local Health Department: Louisville Metro Department of Public Health & Wellness

Address: 400 E Gray St, Louisville, KY 40202

Supervisor: Lauren Passmore, Community Health Manager, Health Services

Desired Skills: Applicants should demonstrate a willingness to learn and apply harm reduction philosophy, an understanding of person-centered approaches to health care, strong written and verbal communication, critical thinking and time management skills, professionalism, the ability to work independently and as part of a team, the ability to complete work in a timely manner, and the ability to lift up to 30 pounds. Lived experience with substance use is considered an asset.

Project Description: This field placement will be a Harm Reduction Outreach Services (HROS) Internship focused on providing direct services, education and community-based outreach to individuals impacted by substance use. The primary purpose of this placement is to support evidence-based harm reduction initiatives that improve health outcomes, reduce risk and increase access to resources within the community. The student will contribute to ongoing outreach efforts by assisting with the distribution of harm reduction supplies, engaging community members in nonjudgmental education around safer use practices and connecting individuals to health and social services. In addition, the student will support the development and dissemination of educational and training materials, which may include resource guides, informational handouts and workshop content tailored to diverse audiences.

Project Deliverable 1: A knowledge exchange between the student and HROS.

Harm Reduction Outreach Services Internship (Continued)

Project Deliverable 2: The student will experience the diverse programmatic goals of the Harm Reduction Outreach Services Program and provide day-to-day support.

Project Deliverable 3: Resource development and community training (such as Narcan, Fentanyl and Xylazine Test Strips, Safe disposal training).

To apply for the Harm Reduction Outreach Services Internship, use this application link.

Lincoln County Health Department - Health Education Internship

Local Health Department: Lincoln County Health Department

Address: 44 Health Way Stanford, KY 40484

Supervisor: Jessica Fibbe, Health Educator

Desired Skills: Must have experience with Microsoft Word, Excel, and Canva and be comfortable with public speaking.

Project Description: Join the Lincoln County Health Department team and gain hands-on experience in health education and community outreach. As a Health Education Intern, you'll shadow and teach school-based classes, support program evaluation through Excel tracking, create materials and social media content using Canva and assist with community outreach events. This internship offers a unique opportunity to build real-world skills in health education, program evaluation, health communication and community engagement.

Project Deliverable 1: Student will shadow and eventually teach classes in the schools.

Project Deliverable 2: Student will help evaluate programs through longitudinal tracking with Excel.

Project Deliverable 3: Student will use Canva to create and update program materials and social media content.

Project Deliverable 4: Student will assist setting up at events as part of outreach.

To apply for the Health Education project, use this application link.

Environmental Records Management and Organization Project

Local Health Department: Fleming County Health Department

Address: 194 Windsor Dr, Flemingsburg KY 41041

Supervisor: Bryce Gooding, Registered Environmental Health Specialist

Desired Skills: Computer skills, administrative skills, ability to effectively communicate orally and in writing, organized, possess problem solving and analytical skills

Project Description: Join the Fleming County Health Department Environmental Health team and gain hands-on experience in improving public health records systems. This internship offers a unique opportunity to build real-world skills in records management, environmental health administration, organization and systems improvement.

Project Deliverable 1: Student will review, sort, and organize existing environmental program files into a standardized, logical filing structure for efficient retrieval and records management.

Project Deliverable 2: Student will develop an inventory of index of environmental files.

Project Deliverable 3: Student will create a written filing guide that documents the standardized filing system, naming conventions and procedures for maintaining organized records going forward.

Environmental Records Management and Organization Project (Continued)

Project Deliverable 4: Student will shadow health department environmentalist in the field to make connections between program activities and the project.

To apply for the Environmental Records project, use this application link.

Thank you.

Amy Wininger, MS, CPH

Student Internship Program Administrator

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Scan the QR Code to Visit the Student Internship Program Website

https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/Pages/sip

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