Paid Summer Internship Opportunity for Master-level Student with the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Epidemiology Center

The Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Epidemiology Center (GLITEC) is seeking applications for Master’s-level students for an internship.

GLITEC has served the Tribes, Indian Health Service Units, and Urban Programs in the Bemidji Area (Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, and the city of Chicago) since 1996. GLITEC assists Indian communities with data collection, analysis, community assessments, special projects, health research, evaluation, and epidemiology education.

GLITEC consists of a director, thirteen Masters-prepared epidemiologists or program managers, and three administrative staff. GLITEC’s headquarters is located in north-central Wisconsin on the Lac du Flambeau Chippewa Indian Reservation, at the offices of the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. Three epidemiologists work in a remote office at the University of Minnesota’s Department of Epidemiology and Community Health. Though situated in northern Wisconsin/Minneapolis, staff often work on site at Tribal locations and attend meetings throughout the three-state area.

This is a unique opportunity to engage in public health practice in rural, underserved and culturally-varied communities who experience disparate health, education, and economic conditions. Due to the consequences resulting from treatment of North America’s indigenous populations, potential interns need to be aware of the importance of building and maintaining trust with the American Indian/Alaska Native community for a successful experience.

Interns may work at either the Minneapolis or the Lac du Flambeau office. Inexpensive housing is available near the Lac du Flambeau office with a “Northwoods” ambiance many have come to enjoy. Interns based in Minneapolis will be required to visit the Lac du Flambeau office for an orientation. Regardless of site location, interns will be considered part of the GLITEC team and be included in meetings and ongoing communication.

Description of Potential Projects:

- Engaging in tasks that support the creation of Tribal/urban Indian Area specific environmental health reports
- Attending meetings or conference calls pertinent to environmental health
- Building cultural and Tribal environmental health competencies
- Supporting Tribal community health assessment (data analysis and report writing)
- Additional projects may be available depending on student interest, academic program requirements, and staff availability
Past GLITEC interns say:

“When I was first looking for an internship, I was specifically looking for an opportunity to work in health disparities and minority populations. I found GLITEC to be a wonderful place to gain exposure in these areas, and the staff was exceptional at encouraging my knowledge and growth in these areas: they answered my many questions, oriented me to Native American culture and important issues, and allowed me to tailor my experience to my interests.... My time with GLITEC has been irreplaceable, and further, it has been instrumental in helping me focus my interests and career path within public health.”

-Master of Public Health student, University of Michigan, Epidemiology

"Interning at GLITEC went beyond a mere educational experience. I learned the culture of the organization as well as the challenges they faced in their work, which came from all sides: the historical consequences of past actions by our country's government, the racism and prejudice of people and organizations, economic challenges, and collaboration with Tribal governments. Amidst all of the challenges, however, I could clearly see how GLITEC and even my work as an intern was making a difference in overcoming them. I hope that I was able to contribute a fraction of what they helped me experience.... For any student who is interested in policy, Native American health, health of underserved populations, or managing population health with limited and often unpredictable resources: I would highly recommend an internship with the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Epidemiology Center."

-MPH/MD joint degree student, University of Minnesota School of Public Health/ Mayo Medical School

Intern Qualifications:
Required: Master of Public Health, Master of Science, or Master of Healthcare Administration; Epidemiology concentration preferred. Individual must possess: Excellent verbal and written communication skills; professional demeanor and appearance; problem solving skills; ability to manage time effectively; self-motivation skills; ability to build positive work relationships; ability to address a wide range of intellectual and practical problems; apply statistical calculations to findings, and the ability to compose complex business correspondence (reports, health profiles.); requires a high level of confidentiality; and ability to travel domestically.

Interviews are expected to occur in May 2020. This is a fulltime internship and expected work hours are Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm for at least 10 weeks commencing sometime in May 2020; start date is flexible. Expected compensation is $18-$20/hr. Interns are temporary non-exempt employees not eligible for employment benefits such as dental or health insurance.

Students interested in an internship with GLITEC should email a cover letter and resume to German Gonzalez, GLITEC Director, at GGonzalez@glitc.org by April 10th, 2020.