

Perinatal Data Center 2008 Internship Program

Background: The March of Dimes Perinatal Data Center (PDC) offers internships (20 hours/week minimum) for students in graduate or professional school for spring, summer and fall semesters. The PDC provides resources and technical support to the Foundation, which identify relevant and timely maternal and infant health priorities and focus on the use and interpretation of national, state and local perinatal data sources.

Program: Internship activities will involve epidemiologic and statistical analysis of national and some state and local perinatal data, assisting PDC staff with development of publications and products and providing March of Dimes national and field staff, other health professionals, and the public, access to national and state vital statistics, survey data, and outcome and associated risk factor data. Interns will have the opportunity to analyze individual and/or community level data from national data sets including the National Center for Health Statistics' natality and linked-birth infant death files, the Area Resource File and Census data files.

Purpose: To provide graduate or professional school students, interested in maternal and infant health, with field experience in perinatal epidemiological and statistical analyses for use in guiding public policy and planning maternal and infant health programs.

Criteria: Applicants should be currently enrolled in a Masters or Doctoral program in a health-related discipline and completed coursework in biostatistics and epidemiology. Intermediate-level experience with computer applications including Microsoft Office and SPSS or SAS is required and experience analyzing national data sets is preferred. Interns must have excellent written and communication skills and a strong interest in the application of maternal and infant health research to applied social programs. Interns will work in the March of Dimes National Office in White Plains, New York.

Compensation: Graduate student interns will earn \$15/hour.

Application: Interested graduate students should submit a detailed vitae providing information about educational background, planned date of graduation, thesis topic, and professional experience including; familiarity with computerized database development and statistical analysis. Candidates will be interviewed at the National Office. Following the interview, finalists will be asked to present two letters of reference from persons who are in a position to judge the applicant's professional and scholarly abilities and experiences, including one from the applicant's department indicating that they are enrolled in good standing with the college/university.

Questions about the internship can be directed to Joann Petrini, Director, Perinatal Data Center, 914.997.4515 or jpetrini@marchofdimes.com. Application materials may be emailed or sent to:

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