Farm to Fork Internship Information

Background: The California Farm to Fork Office is an interagency initiative that works to help all Californians eat healthy, well-balanced meals. Housed within the California Department of Food and Agriculture, many Farm to Fork Office activities grew out of the California Health in All Policies Task Force. In partnership with the Public Health Institute, the California Farm to Fork Office is seeking a graduate student in public health, public policy, nutrition, or a related field, to assist with projects that support the State of California’s health objectives.

Internship Description: The Farm to Fork Intern will assist the Farm to Fork Office with projects focusing on increasing food access among low income communities in California. The Intern would primarily focus on work relating to school meals, but would be exposed to a variety of different topics areas relating to food and nutrition policy and have the opportunity to meet many different stakeholders working on these issues, including school food service directors and non-governmental groups (such as food banks and advocacy organizations). The intern will have the opportunity to participate in Health in All Policies Task Force activities as appropriate.

Projects

Work with Farm to School staff and Pittsburg (California) Unified School District to increase the amount of locally produced food served in Contra Costa schools by:

- coordinating meetings between farmers and school food service directors
- researching and evaluating the feasibility of a buyer’s collaborative among Contra Costa Schools
- drafting materials (may include a toolkit, case study, or tip sheet) to assist other California schools interested in implementing a similar program

Help California farmers connect directly to nearby schools by:

- attending and participating in key stakeholder interviews
- developing a list of recommended features for a “Farm to School” database
- collaborating with IT database staff around database development

Additional activities may include:

- writing blog pieces for Farm to Fork’s Tales from the Field Blog on issues relating to food access, school meals, and other Farm to Fork priorities
- participating in Health in All Policies Task Force meetings
- other activities as required

Desired Qualifications

- Strong analytical and research skills
- Strong verbal, interpersonal, and written communication skills; high comfort level writing in a compelling way to different audiences
- Ability to work independently
- Ability to communicate data findings so they can be understood by a variety of audiences
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office programs and other basic email and web software
- Demonstrated interest in food access

Supervision: Supervision from recent MPP/MPH graduate(s) who understand need for product deliverables, leadership and networking opportunities.

Please submit: Cover Letter, Resume, 3-5 Page Writing Sample, 3 References
Location: Sacramento, CA, with option of working from Contra Costa one day/week
Compensation Details: $17-$20/Hour
Contact: Karen Ben-Moshe, hiap@cdph.ca.gov, 916-445-7769

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