



**KENT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
ACADEMIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

PROJECT NAME: Applications of Epidemiology
SEMESTER: Winter 2017
PRECEPTOR: Brian Hartl, MPH

DESCRIPTION: During this internship, the student will be given a variety of experiences in the application of data analysis, interpretation and communication skills while working with data collected from multiple public health surveillance systems (laboratory, school-based, syndromic, etc.). The student will work closely with KCHD epidemiologists and communicable disease nurses to create infographics, charts, reports and other products to be shared with the community through postings to the Kent County Health Department website and presentations at meetings with KCHD community partners. The student will have the opportunity to explore a variety of public health topics (substance use behaviors, infant health, communicable and chronic diseases), take part in meetings with community partners and participate in an outbreak investigation (if one should occur during the project period). Familiarity with Microsoft Excel and SPSS for the management and analysis of data is required.

PROJECT DELIVERABLES: At minimum, the student will analyze data from the Michigan Disease Surveillance System and create a summary report of communicable diseases reported during 2016 and 5-year historical trends. The student will also conduct a number of additional epidemiologic analyses and create corresponding deliverables on health topics that will be determined throughout the course of the project period.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Students applying for this internship should be enrolled in a bachelor's or a master's degree program. Computer proficiency is required. Experience with Excel and SPSS is preferred.

COMPETENCIES: The student selected for this internship opportunity should expect to develop public health skills and competencies in the following categories:

- Analytical and Assessment Skills
- Policy Development and Program Planning Skills
- Communication Skills
- Community Dimensions of Practice Skills
- Public Health Science Skills