Global Health Track

Master of Public Health (MPH)

Student Guidebook (created by students for students)

(Last Updated fall 2017)

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Overview:

This guidebook was created to answer questions students typically have as they complete their Master of Public Health (MPH) in the Global Health track at the University of Pennsylvania. It was created by students for students.

It contains global health-relevant internships, assistance with the job search, and other useful resources and tips for successful completion of the MPH and entry into the global health workforce. Also refer to the MPH website Global Health track pages for information.

http://www.cphi.upenn.edu/mph/MPHGlobalHealthTrack.html

The guidebook is an ongoing project that will be updated to ensure that internships, events, and workshops mentioned in it are active. Students are strongly encouraged to contribute to this guidebook with any resources they find helpful and would like to share with their peers. Please send any recommendations for additional information to include in this guidebook to Jason Hammer, MPH ’18 at hammerj@upenn.edu.

Global Health Offices at Penn:

a. Center for Global Health: The Center for Global Health coordinates global activities for the Perelman School of Medicine. Although its website currently caters to medical students, MPH students will find global health-relevant internship sites, external funding sources, planning timelines, and career resources

Website: http://www.med.upenn.edu/globalhealth/
Twitter: @UPennCGH

b. Penn Global: Penn Global coordinates global activities for the University of Pennsylvania. Following Penn Global on twitter and syncing their tweets to your mobile phone is a great way to stay up-to-date on global health offerings at Penn. This is also the site where students register their away internships/research and get information on Penn’s international SOS account and registry for emergencies abroad.

Website: http://www.med.upenn.edu/globalhealth/
Twitter: @PennGlobal

c. Perry World House: The Perry World House is the new global hub on campus, largely focusing on global policy research. It aims to advance interdisciplinary, policy-relevant research on the world’s most urgent global affairs challenges. The Perry World House is a gathering place for faculty and students from all twelve of Penn’s schools to engage with eminent international scholars and policymakers on pressing global issues, and holds frequent events, panels, and other activities throughout the year.

Website: https://global.upenn.edu/perryworldhouse
Twitter: @PerryWorldHouse
**MPH Timeline:**

The following are some student suggestions/recommendations based on a timeline for full-time students.

**First Semester (Fall)**

1. Meet with faculty advisor.*
2. Complete HIPAA and CITI trainings. Save your certificates of completion. You will need them for IRB approval and other research endeavors in the near future!
3. Join the Global Health Society and other student organizations that interest you.
4. Update your resume.
5. Begin search for a summer internship.
5. Attend Capstone Presentations at the end of the semester. This will help you acquire ideas for your own capstone and possibly do a follow-up of a past capstone.

*Meet repeatedly with your advisor as you feel necessary, especially before making big decisions such as electives or where to conduct your fieldwork or capstone.

**Second Semester (Spring)**

1. Consider taking Capstone I this spring and Capstone II the next spring. Starting your capstone early and giving yourself more than two semesters to complete it is encouraged if you plan to do something in the field internationally for your capstone.
2. Consider applying for a teaching assistantship (TA) position for next year/semester.
3. Attend Capstone Presentations at the end of the semester.

**Summer**

1. Consider taking Capstone I this summer and Capstone II next Spring or summer, depending on when you graduate.
2. Consider a summer internship.
4. Attend Capstone Presentations at the end of the summer.

**Third Semester (Fall)**

1. Search for a conference at which to present your capstone.
2. Attend Capstone Presentations at the end of the semester.

**Fourth Semester (Spring)**

1. Present your capstone to the MPH program
2. Graduate!
While completing your fieldwork, capstone, and courses, it is recommended by the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) that you develop the following competencies in global health:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competencies</th>
<th>Details</th>
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</table>
| **Capacity Strengthening** | 1.1 Design sustainable workforce development strategies for resource-limited settings.  
2.2 Promote inclusion of representatives of diverse constituencies in partnerships.  
2.3 Value commitment to building trust in partnerships.
| **Collaborating & Partnering** | 2.2 Develop procedures for managing health partnerships.  
2.3 Collaborate to build trust in partnerships.  
2.4 Communicate lessons learned to community partners and global constituencies.  
2.5 Promote integrity in professional practice. |
| **Ethical Reasoning & Professional Practice** | 3.1 Apply the fundamental principles of international standards for the protection of human subjects in diverse cultural settings.  
3.2 Analyze ethical and professional issues that arise in responding to public health emergencies.  
3.3 Explain the mechanisms used to hold international organizations accountable for public health practice standards.  
3.4 Communicate lessons learned to community partners and global constituencies. |
| **Health Equity & Social Justice** | 4.1 Apply social justice and human rights principles in public health policies and programs.  
4.2 Implement strategies to engage marginalized and vulnerable populations in making decisions that affect their health and well-being.  
4.3 Critique policies with respect to impact on health equity and social justice.  
4.4 Analyze distribution of resources to meet the health needs of marginalized and vulnerable groups. |
| **Program Management** | 5.1 Conduct formative research.  
5.2 Apply scientific evidence throughout program planning, implementation, and evaluation.  
5.3 Design program work plans based on logic models.  
5.4 Develop proposals to secure donor and stakeholder support.  
5.5 Plan evidence-based interventions to meet internationally established health targets.  
5.6 Develop monitoring and evaluation frameworks to assess programs.  
5.7 Utilize project management techniques throughout program planning, implementation, and evaluation.  
5.8 Develop context-specific implementation strategies for scaling up best-practice interventions. |
| **Socio-cultural and Political Awareness** | 6.1 Describe the roles and relationships of the entities influencing global health.  
6.2 Analyze the impact of transnational movements on population health.  
6.3 Analyze context-specific policy making processes that impact health.  
6.4 Design health advocacy strategies.  
6.5 Describe multi-agency policy-making in response to complex health emergencies.  
6.6 Describe the interrelationship of foreign policy and health diplomacy. |
| **Strategic Analysis** | 7.1 Conduct a situation analysis across a range of cultural, economic, and health contexts.  
7.2 Identify the relationships among patterns of morbidity, mortality, and disability with demographic and other factors shaping the circumstances of the population of a specified community, country, or region.  
7.3 Implement a community health needs assessment.  
7.4 Conduct comparative analyses of health systems.  
7.5 Explain economic analyses drawn from socio-economic and health data.  
7.6 Design context-specific health interventions based upon situation analysis. |
Summer Internships:

Many MPH students are interested in a summer internship or research experience after their first year. Global health-relevant experiences can be found with domestic and international organizations. MPH students desiring an international experience should strongly consider applying to Penn’s International Internship Program (IIP) which offers travel-funded internships with partner organizations in several countries. Domestic experiences can be found with global development organizations or organizations that reduce health disparities within the U.S. Students can apply to established internships or conduct research projects of their own. Summer projects can often be used towards the fieldwork requirement or capstone with advance preparation. In this section of the guide, you will find a selection of international, domestic, established, and capstone internships to consider when looking for a summer internship.

a. Local Internships

If you would like to complete a summer internship in Philadelphia, consider applying to any of the organizations listed under the Capstone section of this guide.

b. International Internships

Penn International Internship Program (IIP)

The University of Pennsylvania offers a fully funded 8 to 12 week summer internship for Penn students at organizations that are affiliated with Penn Abroad. There is a wide variety of placement organizations to choose from that are mainly nongovernmental organizations located in Latin America, Africa, Asia, and other regions. The Botswana-UPenn Partnership (BUP), Guatemala Health Initiative, and Center for Advanced Study of India (CASI) are examples of placements that are great for students interested in working with local organizations. The full list of placements can be viewed on Penn Global’s website. The application to apply to any of these internships through the International Internship Program (IIP) common application opens in November, with the deadline to apply in mid-January. There are information sessions held weekly from November to January.

If you find an Independent International Internship (I3) to apply to, you may apply for funding through IIP. Be advised that preference is given to undergraduate applicants and priority consideration to unpaid internships outside of Western Europe, Australia, and New Zealand.

For more information, visit: https://global.upenn.edu/gip

Botswana-UPenn Partnership (BUP)- http://www.med.upenn.edu/botswana/

Guatemala Health Initiative- http://www.med.upenn.edu/ghi/

Center for Advanced Study of India (CASI)- https://casi.sas.upenn.edu
Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children (FIMRC)

FIMRC is an organization dedicated to improving the health of families in the developing world through the implementation of innovative and self-sustainable health improvement programs. Through its network of outpatient clinics and partnerships, FIMRC asserts a multidimensional strategy that includes clinical services, extensive community outreach efforts and health education programs. Headquartered right here in Philadelphia, students can apply to a variety of opportunities year round, including flexible volunteer positions abroad, as well as more hands-on internship experiences in countries such as Ecuador, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Peru, Uganda, India, and the Philippines. Please review their website below for more information on applying and their many opportunities.

Contact: 1518 Walnut St. Philadelphia PA 19102
Website: [www.FIMRC.org](http://www.FIMRC.org)
Email: internshipprogram@fimrc.org

Arlington Academy of Hope

The Arlington Academy of Hope has a vision to transform villages in rural Uganda into vibrant, self-sustaining communities through quality education and health care. Public Health Interns will have the opportunity to assist with the Beatrice Tierney Health Center as a part of the non-medical staff. This position may be responsible for research, data collection and management in the community as well as assist in areas of HIV, infectious diseases, health and sanitation, reproductive and maternal health, family planning and nutrition. Please email info@aahuganda.org if you’d like more information.

Website: [http://aahuganda.org/take-action/internships/](http://aahuganda.org/take-action/internships/)

Tulane School of Public Health Summer Abroad Programs:

Graduate Study Abroad Program in Cuba:

Tulane University's School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine offers a two-week graduate summer study abroad program in Cuba. The course addresses how the Cuban government has prioritized the development of universal health care, with a special emphasis on the efforts to strengthen primary health care and to articulate it with more complex levels of care. Living in Havana, the program includes ten days of lectures and visits to health facilities in Havana and in rural areas. Non-Tulane students are welcome to apply to this program but should confirm with Penn that their credits will transfer. The application period opens in October and closes in February. For further details on the application process and cost information, please visit the website below.

Website: [http://cuba.tulane.edu/pages/detail/253/Public-Health-in-Cuba](http://cuba.tulane.edu/pages/detail/253/Public-Health-in-Cuba)

Tulane’s School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine also offers a number of summer abroad programs in countries such as China, Taiwan, and Haiti. Please visit the website below for more information.

Website: [http://www.sph.tulane.edu/publichealth/academics/summer_abroad_programs.cfm](http://www.sph.tulane.edu/publichealth/academics/summer_abroad_programs.cfm)
Unite for Sight Global Impact Corps

Unite for Sight trains fellows to volunteer abroad in Ghana, India, and Honduras. Fellows work with local doctors who provide healthcare in villages, slums, and refugee camps year round. Volunteers assist local doctors with visual examinations, patient education, and observe eyesight-restoring surgeries performed by ophthalmologists. The trips are 1-10 weeks long, depending on the availability of the volunteer. For more information please visit the Unite for Sight website.

Website: http://www.uniteforsight.org/volunteer-abroad

World Health Organization (WHO)

The WHO offers 6 to 12-week unpaid summer internships at its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. A list of the global health projects offered by the WHO can be found in the information sheet on their website. The application opens in December.

Website: http://www.who.int/employment/internship/WHOInterns/en/

Alternatively, to apply to the limited number of internships at the WHO regional offices email afrgohrinterns@who.int (Africa), interns@paho.org(Americas), interns@euro.who.int (Europe), emrgohrs@who.int (Eastern Mediterranean), seinterns@who.int (South-East Asia), or interns@wpro.who.int (Western Pacific).

International Exchange Program for Minority Students

Mt Sinai offers 11-12 week research experiences with faculty in one of seven countries. These projects include funding for roundtrip airfare, housing, orientation in NY, and monthly stipend ($1200-$2000). Applications open in November and can be submitted through their website before January 31st.

Website: http://icahn.mssm.edu/departments-and-institutes/preventive-medicine/programs-and-services/international-exchange-program-for-minority-students

Multidisciplinary International Research Training (MIRT) Program

The Multidisciplinary International Research Training (MIRT) program is a national program designed to encourage underrepresented students to pursue careers in biomedical and behavioral science research careers. The program provides support for undergraduate and graduate students to do research work overseas at academic institutions including Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, Republic of Georgia, Peru, Mexico, Ecuador, Chile, and Australia. Students spend 8-12 weeks (beginning mid-June) at the foreign research site. For additional information, please visit the website below.

Website: https://sites.sph.harvard.edu/mirt/

Other countries/organizations: See website of Global Health Center, Perelman School of Medicine

Each year about 80 to 100 medical students from Penn pursue global health internships in 15 to 30 different countries. The internships are arranged by the students with local organizations in these countries. Activities range from clinical and shadowing to research and public health. A full list of internship sites where students have rotated can be found in the Global Health Center’s website.

Website: http://www.med.upenn.edu/globalhealth/where-we-work/
International Travel Award for Capstone or Fieldwork

The Perelman School of Medicine’s Center for Global Health provides funding for international travel to 5 MPH students each year. The travel must be to support the completion of a global health-relevant capstone or fieldwork for a minimum of 4 weeks. Applications for the travel award are submitted to the MPH office by the cycle deadlines of December 1st or March 1st. Students are encouraged to use this travel award to complete international capstone projects in collaboration with Penn faculty. The Global Health Programs office in the school of Medicine can assist with research internships in Botswana and Guatemala as well as provide suggestions for other sites/faculty to consider.

More information on the capstone travel award can be found in the Global Health Track section of the MPH website: [http://www.med.upenn.edu/publichealth/CapstoneTravelAward.html](http://www.med.upenn.edu/publichealth/CapstoneTravelAward.html)

d. Domestic Internships

DC-Based Internship with Global Health Fellows (USAID)

The Global Health Fellows Program at the US Agency for International Development (USAID) offers summer internships at USAID’s headquarters in Washington, D.C. Internship areas range from HIV/AIDS to nutrition to maternal and child health. Depending on the internship area, application deadlines vary. To apply for a Global Health Fellows summer internship register through the online recruitment system and apply for internships as they become available.

Website: [https://www.ghfp.net/participant/interns](https://www.ghfp.net/participant/interns)

DC-Based Internship with the World Bank

The World Bank offers a paid summer internship for graduate students interested in learning about global development. The application opens December 1st and closes January 31st. The program can be found on the World Bank’s website.


Centers for Disease Control (CDC) – Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) Internships

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Association of Schools and Program of Public Health (ASPPH) offer 10 week paid summer internships at their headquarters in Atlanta, GA (CDC) and Washington, DC (ASPPH). The CDC internship entails working on a scientific project of public health importance with a technical expert in a chosen field. The ASPPH internship involves marketing, research and project management pertaining to public health curriculum. Additional information on the CDC-ASPPH internship can be found on the website.

Website: [http://www.aspph.org/study/fellowships-and-internships/](http://www.aspph.org/study/fellowships-and-internships/)

James A. Ferguson Emerging Infectious Diseases Fellowship Program

The Dr. James A. Ferguson Emerging Infectious Diseases Fellowship Program is a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)-funded, nine-week summer program providing educational and
professional development opportunities for fellows interested in infectious diseases research and health disparities. Fellows receive a $4,000 stipend as well as housing and round-trip coverage. Applications are typically due in January. For further information, please visit the website below.

Website: https://www.kennedykrieger.org/professional-training/professional-training-programs/center-for-diversity/ferguson-fellowship

**Colorado-Based Internship with Village Earth**

Village Earth is an intermediate NGO that helps small community organizations (CO) in developing countries build capacity by providing financial, technical, and networking assistance. Village health is currently looking for interns with Web 2.0, graphic design, web design, database management, writing, or video editing skills. 

Website: http://www.villageearth.org/join-us/volunteer-and-intern

**United Nations Association of Greater Philadelphia**

UNAGP hires students for pay (work study) and volunteer to work on global projects throughout Philadelphia in global health, global justice, nuclear proliferation, women’s issues, global water, global education, environmental issues and other issues depending on the interests of students.

Contact: 3401 Market St Philadelphia PA 19104
Website: www.una-gp.org
Email: Christiaanmo@yahoo.com

**African Family Health Organization**

AFAHO is a non-profit community-based organization founded to provide culturally and linguistically sensitive health, human and educational services to African and Caribbean immigrants and refugees in the greater Philadelphia area. There are a number of potential internship opportunities, so please visit the website below for further information.

Contact: 4415 Chestnut St 2nd Floor Philadelphia PA 19104
Website: www.afaho.net
Email: Kiera@afaho.net

**Refugee Health Partners**

The goal of the Refugee Health Partners is to improve and advocate for the health and well-being of refugees living in Philadelphia. Over the past two years, Refugee Health Partners has initiated yearly community outreach programs including flu clinics, health fairs, English as a Second Language and health education classes, picnics with refugee communities, and adopt-a-refugee.

Website: http://www.jefferson.edu/university/jmc/departments/family_medicine/community/refugee_health_partners.html
IV. Fieldwork

MPH students must complete 125 hours of fieldwork before graduation. This can be with local or global organizations. After determining which sites you are interested in, you should connect with Sara Solomon (sarasol@upenn.edu) prior to reaching out to the organization. When ready to contact the organization, your resume, cover letter, availability, contact information, and other relevant details should be included in the email.

a. Fieldwork agencies by topic

The MPH Student Home Base page on Canvas contains a list of local agencies offering the most up to date fieldwork opportunities. The listings contain a description of volunteer positions and contact information for applying. Aside from established fieldwork sites, students can conduct fieldwork at any organization that is willing. Work-study jobs can also qualify as fieldwork as long as you work on something above and beyond the regular duties of your job (refer to Work-Study section of this guidebook).

Below are a few fieldwork agencies listed by topic area:

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<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Agencies</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS</td>
<td>• Penn Center for Community Health Workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOMELESS</td>
<td>• Homeless Health Initiative (HHI) at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUTRITION</td>
<td>• Sunday Suppers <a href="http://sundaysuppersphilly.org/">http://sundaysuppersphilly.org/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS) City Harvest</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Urban Creators <a href="http://phillyurbancreators.org/about/">http://phillyurbancreators.org/about/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The Food Trust <a href="http://thefoodtrust.org/">http://thefoodtrust.org/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Urban Nutrition Initiative <a href="http://www.urbannutrition.org/">http://www.urbannutrition.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHRONIC DISEASES</td>
<td>• Health Promotion Council <a href="http://www.hpcpa.org/">http://www.hpcpa.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Division of Chronic Disease Prevention, Philadelphia Department of Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYSICAL ACTIVITY</td>
<td>• Dance for Health <a href="http://pennmemorycenter.org/programs-services/dance-for-health/">http://pennmemorycenter.org/programs-services/dance-for-health/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Philly Play <a href="http://www.phillyplay.org/">http://www.phillyplay.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES</td>
<td>• ServiceLink <a href="http://www.cphi.upenn.edu/servicelink.html">http://www.cphi.upenn.edu/servicelink.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Resources for Human Development <a href="https://www.rhd.org">https://www.rhd.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>AIDS/HIV/STD</td>
<td>• ACT UP: <a href="http://www.actupphilly.org/">http://www.actupphilly.org/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• AccessMatters <a href="http://accessmatters.org/what-we-do/about-us/">http://accessmatters.org/what-we-do/about-us/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMMIGRANT HEALTH</td>
<td>• The Welcoming Center for New Pennsylvanians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS & ORGANIZATIONS** | • Sayre Health Center [http://www.sayrehealth.org/](http://www.sayrehealth.org/)  
• Prevention Point Clinic [http://ppponline.org](http://ppponline.org)  
• Puentes de Salud [http://www.puentesdesalud.org](http://www.puentesdesalud.org)  
• List of Community health centers by neighborhood: [http://www.phila.gov/health/services/Serv_MedicalCare.html](http://www.phila.gov/health/services/Serv_MedicalCare.html) |
| **HOSPITALS, MEDICAL & RESEARCH CENTERS**    | • Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics [http://ldi.upenn.edu/about](http://ldi.upenn.edu/about) |
| **MATERNAL, CHILD HEALTH & YOUTH SERVICES**   | • Maternity Care Coalition [http://maternitycarecoalition.org/](http://maternitycarecoalition.org/)  
• The Penn Breast Health Initiative [https://www.pennmedicine.org/for-patients-and-visitors/find-a-program-or-service/radiology/breast-imaging/breast-health-initiative](https://www.pennmedicine.org/for-patients-and-visitors/find-a-program-or-service/radiology/breast-imaging/breast-health-initiative)  
• Healthy NewsWorks [http://healthynewsworks.org](http://healthynewsworks.org)  
• Build a Bridge [http://buildabridgeworksamples.blogspot.com/p/artists-work.html](http://buildabridgeworksamples.blogspot.com/p/artists-work.html)  
• St. Christopher’s Foundation for Children [http://www.scfchildren.org](http://www.scfchildren.org)  
• Rapping About Prevention [http://www.nopuffdaddy.com/about.shtml](http://www.nopuffdaddy.com/about.shtml)  
• PolicyLab at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) [http://policylab.chop.edu/about-us](http://policylab.chop.edu/about-us)  
• Healthy Huey Wellness Council, Huey Elementary School  
• Minds Matter Philadelphia [http://www.mindsmatterphilly.org](http://www.mindsmatterphilly.org)  
• Achieving Independence Center (AIC) [https://www.valleyyouthhouse.org/programs/life-skills-development/achieving-independence-center-aic/](https://www.valleyyouthhouse.org/programs/life-skills-development/achieving-independence-center-aic/) |
| **MENTAL HEALTH**                           | • Center for Family Intervention Science (CFIS) at Drexel [http://www.drexel.edu/familyintervention](http://www.drexel.edu/familyintervention)  
• Center for Family Intervention Science (CFIS) at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) [http://www.research.chop.edu/programs/cfis/](http://www.research.chop.edu/programs/cfis/) |
• The Philadelphia Foundation [https://www.philafound.org/](https://www.philafound.org/) |
| **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**                    | • UPenn Center for Excellence in Environmental Toxicology (CEET) Community Outreach and Engagement Core [http://ceet.upenn.edu/community-outreach-engagement/](http://ceet.upenn.edu/community-outreach-engagement/) |
| **INJURY PREVENTION**                       | • Center for Injury Research and Prevention at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) [http://injury.research.chop.edu/](http://injury.research.chop.edu/) |
| **DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**              | • AJ Drexel Autism Institute [http://drexel.edu/autisminstitute/](http://drexel.edu/autisminstitute/) |
V. Capstone

MPH students must complete a capstone project before graduation. Students can perform a policy analysis, conduct research, implement a program, evaluate a program, compose a manual, or design a surveillance system among other activities. Students brainstorm, implement, and complete the write-up while taking two semesters of PUBH 508 and 509 (Capstone 1 and 2). PUBH 508 can be taken at any time. The capstone projects can be undertaken in Philadelphia or other sites around the globe.

a. Past Capstone Projects

For assistance in brainstorming ideas for your global health capstone, please visit the following link, which provides examples of types of projects that alumni have worked on in the past: (http://www.cphi.upenn.edu/mph/assets/user-content/documents/Global%20Health%20Capstones.pdf)

A list of recent general capstone projects and their abstracts of can be found on the MPH website (http://www.cphi.upenn.edu/mph/Capstone.html).

Attending MPH Capstone Presentations held at the end of each semester is a great way to learn about your colleagues’ capstones in depth and contemplate the possibility of conducting a capstone that is a follow-up of a previous capstone project.

b. Capstone agencies by topic

Please refer to the Fieldwork section of this guidebook for a list of local agencies organized by topic area. In addition to these agencies, students can reach out to other organizations to partner with.

c. Capstone mentors database

MPH faculty and Center for Public Health Initiatives (CPHI) fellows can serve as capstone mentors. However, other willing Penn staff can work in conjunction with an MPH/CPHI fellow to serve as mentors for capstone projects. The full list of CPHI fellows can be found here: http://www.cphi.upenn.edu/mph/Faculty.html

Students interested in working with Botswana UPenn Partnership (BUP) faculty should refer to a list of available projects that will be circulated by the Global Health Center (contact Megan Doherty-megand@upenn.edu). Internships with local organizations in Botswana are also offered by BUP through the Penn International Internship Program (IIP).

There are also potential projects in La Romana, Dominican Republic though CHOP’s partner Clinica de Familia.

Students interested in working with faculty from the Penn Guatemala Initiative faculty should contact the faculty listed on their website: http://www.med.upenn.edu/ghi/
VI. Careers

a. Penn Canvas

The **MPH Home Base page** on **Canvas** contains current employment opportunities under “Job and Internship Opportunities.”

b. Global Health Job Sites

International Development Jobs:

*DevNetJOBS.org* ([http://devnetjobs.org](http://devnetjobs.org))

*Comminit.com* ([http://www.comminit.com/job_vacancies](http://www.comminit.com/job_vacancies))

*Reliefweb* ([http://reliefweb.int/jobs](http://reliefweb.int/jobs))

*Eldis* ([http://www.eldis.org/go/jobs#.VAfFZPldXG9](http://www.eldis.org/go/jobs#.VAfFZPldXG9))

*Emory School of Public Health Job Database* ([http://cfusion.sph.emory.edu/PHEC/](http://cfusion.sph.emory.edu/PHEC/))

*International Organization* ([http://iocareers.state.gov/Main/Jobs/Search](http://iocareers.state.gov/Main/Jobs/Search))


c. Postgraduate Fellowships

**USAID Global Health Fellows II**

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) offer a 2 year fellowship based in Washington D.C. and in developing countries with the option of extending the fellowship for an additional two years. The fellowships occur across a variety of global health competencies and must be individually applied. Specific fellowship opportunities are updated on a regular basis and can be found on the Global Health Fellows website ([https://www.ghfp.net/participant/fellows](https://www.ghfp.net/participant/fellows)).

**CDC Public Health Associate Program (PHAP)**

The CDC offers a 2 year public health training program for recent bachelor’s and master’s graduates. The program qualifies fellows to compete for positions at the CDC and other public health organizations upon completion of the two-year assignment. The application cycle opens in January and can be accessed on the PHAP website ([http://www.cdc.gov/phap/](http://www.cdc.gov/phap/)).

**Peace Corps**

The United States Peace Corps is a service opportunity that would allow you to fully immerse yourself in a community abroad, working side by side with local leaders to tackle some of the most pressing challenges in the world today. Health volunteers work within their communities to promote important topics such as nutrition, maternal and child health, basic hygiene, and water sanitation, as well as HIV/AIDS education and prevention programs. The two-year volunteer position is only open to US citizens and you should start your application approximately 9-12 months prior to your desired departure. Students with nursing or medical degrees can also apply to the Global Health Service Partnership (GHSP), which sends physicians and nurses to countries with critical health care professional shortages.

Website: [https://www.peacecorps.gov/apply/](https://www.peacecorps.gov/apply/)
d. Career Podcasts


*This Week in Global Health* is a video series published by Greg Martin (Editor-in-Chief of Globalization and Health) that includes informational videos on how to find careers in global health among other topics. Featured videos include “Finding a Job in Global Health,” “Getting a Job at the World Health Organization” and “Finding a Job at a United Nations (UN) Agency.” Website: [https://www.youtube.com/user/drgregmartin/videos](https://www.youtube.com/user/drgregmartin/videos)

Volunteer & Work-Study Opportunities

a. **Penn Jobs Center**: Full-time and part-time jobs at the University of Pennsylvania can be found at the Penn Jobs Center website. Website: [https://jobs.hr.upenn.edu/postings/search](https://jobs.hr.upenn.edu/postings/search)


VII. Global Health Workshops

a. **APHA global health resources**

The American Public Health Association (APHA) provides workshops on global health diplomacy, community-based newborn health care delivery, and other global health competencies for its members. Recordings of global health-relevant sessions from the Annual APHA conference can also be found on the APHA website ([https://www.apha.org/topics-and-issues/global-health/global-health-events](https://www.apha.org/topics-and-issues/global-health/global-health-events)).

VIII. Global Health Conferences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Consortium of Universities for Global Health</strong> (CUGH)</td>
<td>Spring annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website: <a href="http://www.cugh.org/">http://www.cugh.org/</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Children Hospital of Philadelphia’s Annual Pediatric Global Health Conference</strong></td>
<td>Fall annual Philadelphia, PA Website: <a href="http://www.chop.edu/events/pediatric-global-health-conference">http://www.chop.edu/events/pediatric-global-health-conference</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting &amp; Exposition</strong></td>
<td>Fall annual Website: <a href="https://www.apha.org/events-and-">https://www.apha.org/events-and-</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IX. Funding

You’ll want to plan out expenses for international projects and travel and search for potential funding sources.

a. Funding

Penn Global provides housing and flight stipends for students participating in their internships through the International Internship Program (IIP). Students pursuing capstone and fieldwork projects can look to the following sources: MPH Program’s International Travel Award and GAPSA.

**International MPH Travel Award:**

The Perelman School of Medicine’s Global Health Center provides funding for international travel to 5 MPH students each year. The travel must be to support the completion of a global health-relevant fieldwork or capstone for a minimum of 4 weeks. Applications for the travel award are submitted to the MPH office by the cycle deadlines of December 1st or March 1st. Students are encouraged to use this travel award to complete international capstone projects in collaboration with Penn faculty. More information on the travel award can be found in the Global Health Track section of the MPH website: http://www.cphi.upenn.edu/mph/CapstoneTravelAward.html

b. Sample budget

The following is a sample budget for an international global health internship, as taken from the Emory School of Public Health’s website (https://www.sph.emory.edu/rollins-life/community-engaged-learning/global-field-experience/costs/index.html):
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost (Average)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International Flight</td>
<td>$1,670 ($500 - $1800)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>$1,010 ($300 - $1000/month)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>$600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>$170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incidentals</td>
<td>$120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet &amp; Phone</td>
<td>$110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Country Transportation</td>
<td>$230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visa &amp; Immunizations</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Related Expenses</td>
<td>$620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,820 ($2000 - $5000)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**X. Best Practices in Global Health Work**

This section of the guidebook is adapted from Unite for Sight’s module on “The Significant Harm of Worst Practices” ([http://www.uniteforsight.org/global-health-course/module8](http://www.uniteforsight.org/global-health-course/module8)).

Students who volunteer or conduct research projects abroad oftentimes do so with the benevolent intention of putting their acquired skills to use in low resource settings. However despite good intentions, short term foreign volunteers can do significant unintended harm to poor communities if they do not avoid certain practices. Harmful practices include engaging in one-sided partnerships that benefit the volunteer but not the community, practicing beyond ones abilities, or providing short term therapies with no follow up care. The following are best practices principles to follow when planning to volunteer abroad:

1. **Develop a mutually beneficial partnership.** Global partnerships are often one-sided with volunteers gaining more from the experience than their host organizations or communities gain from them. For volunteers short term experiences in developing countries can serve as a stepping stone to a career in global health. Volunteers also acquire research skills and knowledge about health and culture that they could not otherwise acquire in their home countries. Given these benefits it is important to ensure that your partner organization’s needs
are not neglected during the experience. Projects should ideally be designed/crafted by or in partnership with local partners.

2. **Practice within your abilities.** It is easy to overestimate your abilities or to believe that any help is help when in a low resource setting. It is best to work within your abilities and ask for help from your local supervisors and faculty.

3. **Adequately research the current events, social and cultural beliefs of the community before entering it.** An approach suitable in one community may not be suitable in another. Conflicts in health beliefs and practices may arise that result in noncompliance or mistrust of the healthcare system.

4. **Support local capacity.** It is important to partner with and bolster the work of existing local organizations instead of competing with them.

**XI. Student Organizations**

a. **Global Health Society:** Global Health Society is a student-led organization under the University of Pennsylvania Master of Public Health (MPH) program that focuses on global health issues. Whether you are on the global health track or just have an interest in learning more, consider joining GHS. Email pennghs@gmail.com for more information.

Website: [http://www.med.upenn.edu/publichealth/TheGlobalHealthSociety.shtml](http://www.med.upenn.edu/publichealth/TheGlobalHealthSociety.shtml)

b. **American Public Health Association (APHA) Student Assembly:** The APHA Student Assembly is the nation’s largest student-led organization for the development of public health professionals. Membership in the APHA Student Assembly grants students access to a wide range of professional development and networking resources.

Website: [http://www.apha.org/apha-communities/student-assembly](http://www.apha.org/apha-communities/student-assembly)

b. **American Public Health Association (APHA) International Health Section:** APHA’s International Health section has a student group. Consider signing up for their listserv on the International health Section.

Website: [https://www.apha.org/apha-communities/member-sections/international-health/who-we-are](https://www.apha.org/apha-communities/member-sections/international-health/who-we-are)

d. **Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH):** CUGH hosts different online student forums you can get involved in, including one on building a strong Global Health CV.

Website: [http://www.cugh.org/forums/students-and-trainees](http://www.cugh.org/forums/students-and-trainees)