



Win a \$3500 Paid Internship Opportunity for Students Attending EHAC Accredited Environmental Health Degree Programs: February - May 2019

Application deadline: December 14, 2018

The Association of Environmental Health Academic Programs (AEHAP), in partnership with NSF International, is offering a paid internship project to **students from National Environmental Health Science and Protection Accreditation Council (EHAC) accredited programs**. The NSF International Scholarship Program is a great opportunity for an undergraduate student to gain valuable experience in the environmental health field. The NSF Scholar will be selected by AEHAP and will spend 10-12 weeks (February - May, 2019) working on a research project identified by NSF International. Details on the project are below.

Founded in 1944, NSF International's mission is to protect and improve global human health. Manufacturers, regulators and consumers look to us to develop public health standards and certifications that help protect food, water, consumer products and the environment. As an independent, accredited organization, we test, audit and certify products and systems as well as provide education and risk management.

**To learn more about NSF International and AEHAP,
please visit (www.nsf.org) and (www.aehap.org).**

Applicant Qualifications:

- Junior or Senior in an **EHAC accredited undergraduate program** (for list of eligible programs see: <http://www.ehacoffice.org/accred-prog/under-prog.php>);
- Good written and **oral presentation skills**;
- Interest in independent research and ability to work independently;
- Desire to work with Environmental Health Practitioners at the state and local levels;
- Excellent academic performance and good organizational skills.

Project Description:

The applicant shall work with a professor from their degree program who will serve as a mentor/supervisor and agree to providing a host location from which to do the research. The professor will agree to monitor the progress of the internship and to consult with or guide the student in the design and conduct of the research project.

The winning scholar will be announced January 31, 2019 and work for 10-12 weeks on the project between February and May 2019.

More details on this research project can be found here:

<http://aehap.org/nsf-paid-summer-internship-opportunity-for-students>

Deliverables:

- Obtain institutional permission (i.e. institutional review board approval) to conduct research upon being selected as internship recipient;
- At the end of the internship, the student shall submit an acceptable written report describing the findings of the research project;
- Working with the professor/mentor, the student writes a publishable paper describing the key findings of the research and methodologies. AEHAP will submit the paper for print in various environmental health publications as well as make it available on the aehap.org website;
- **The student shall present the results of their research at the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) Conference in Nashville, Tennessee on a date between July 9-12, 2019.**

The internship provides:

- An opportunity to understand how codes and standards relate to environmental health and safety.
- An opportunity to interact with environmental health professionals through research.

Details on the research project:

This NSF International (NSF) 2018-19 internship project will focus on food safety by evaluating the use and value of NSF standards and certified food equipment in regulated food establishments. Research will include state food code analyses and surveys of food establishment regulating agencies. Specifically the project should include:

- I. An examination of state food codes to determine whether or not the state recommends and/or requires food equipment to be certified.
- II. A survey of some local health departments in the states that do require certified food equipment examining:

- 1) How they handle non-certified food equipment:
 - a) Reject it automatically
 - b) Examine each piece individually
- 2) Familiarity with, or use of, certifier field evaluation programs
- 3) How valuable certified food equipment is to them
- 4) How opposed they would be to removing the state requirement for certified equipment
- 5) Their confidence level in evaluating food equipment for compliant materials (i.e. safe for food contact/non-toxic, etc.)
- 6) Their confidence level in evaluating food equipment for compliant construction and design (i.e. easily cleanable criteria, etc.)

Summaries of standards can be viewed at <http://www.nsf.org/services/by-type/standards-publications>. This project is a similar format and function to the research project completed by previous NSF Scholars. To see an example of a past project please see the link below, NSF Scholar's Final Report.

Funding:

The student will receive a \$3,500 stipend split in two installments. The first \$1,750 will be awarded after the first month of the internship and the final installment of \$1,750 will be sent after the student has submitted their final research paper to the AEHAP office. In addition, the scholar's travel costs and registration fee to attend the NEHA conference will be reimbursed. The sponsoring faculty member will receive a \$500 stipend after the final paper is submitted. This stipend covers overseeing the applicant's internship, written report, research project and final report.

The student will be asked to sign a letter of agreement to the conduct and complete the internship and the mentor will be asked to sign an agreement to provide support to the scholar. Both the scholar and mentor will also be asked to complete an evaluation of their experiences.

How to Apply: The applicant should submit the following:

Cover page:

- Name;
- Current mailing address, phone and e-mail address;
- Name of school, year in school (Junior, Senior); and
- The name/title of the Professor/Advisor agreeing to mentor on the project, their, mailing address, phone and email address.

Attachments:

- (1) A cover letter explaining your qualifications and a proposed plan for executing the research project.
- (2) At least one letter of reference.

- (3) A letter from your Supervisor, Advisor or Professor indicating their agreement to assist in your research and preparation.
- (4) A brief statement on what environmental health and public health courses you will have completed prior to the start of the internship.

For an example of a recent NSF Scholar Final Report and an example of an application research paper, click on the links below:

[NSF Abstract Example](#)

[NSF Scholar's Report](#)

<p>Please email your application in pdf format to Dr. Clint Pinion, RS, AEHAP President & NSF International Scholar Committee Chair: clint.pinoin@eku.edu</p>
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