Examples of projects and deliverables from the previous year

For more information visit: https://dsphstudent.info/academics/practice/applied-practical-experience/
Or contact Tariem Burroughs, Director of Experiential Learning and Career Services (tab54@drexel.edu)
As part of the curriculum, DSPH MPH students complete a formal practice requirement called the Applied Practical Experience (APE). This 120-hour experience (usually in the spring/summer of Year 1) constitutes a supervised, hands-on opportunity within a public health practice setting alongside one of DSPH’s community partner organizations, at a student’s current workplace, or any approved external site.

MPH students may secure placements through either: (1) their own independent networking, (2) with faculty mentor support, or (2) through opportunities posted on Symplicity and Handshake. For more ways to find a project or internship, review the Internship and Job Search resources available on DASH.

For all MPH programs, the APE must result in the creation of two deliverables that demonstrate attainment of a minimum of five CEPH Foundational Competencies. The APE for most programs is distinct from the Integrated Learning Experience (ILE) and requires collaboration with an external organization.

This project guide features examples of past student projects by location, by department, and by topic. It is not guaranteed that these or similar experiences will be available in any given year. Students are encouraged to explore this guide for inspiration, for guidance as to what may be feasible, and to serve as conversation starters for working with one’s faculty mentor.

Questions about this resource or opportunities similar to what is listed should be discussed with one’s faculty mentor or advisor.
A majority (close to 70%) of APE’s were based in Pennsylvania, and specifically Philadelphia.

Other APE locations included multiple states in the US as well as 1 international APE. Some placements may have been fully remote as well.
Community Health and Prevention

BY DEPARTMENT

**NON-PROFITS**

Organizations include: African Family Health Organization, Every Murder is Real (EMIR) Healing Center, Hepatitis B Foundation, Lutheran Settlement House, Philadelphia Center Against Sexual Violence (WOAR), Philadelphia Overdose Prevention Network

**Deliverables include:** Sexual and reproductive health education materials; Empowerment training and evaluation plan; Focus group guide, project report, and literature review; Program sustainability report; Survey materials and formative assessment of surveys; Policy briefs for key stakeholders

**ACADEMIC/RESEARCH**

Organizations include: Council on Black Health, Drexel's COVID-19 Peer to Peer Communication Campaign, Urban Health Collaborative

**Deliverables include:** Landscape analysis and policy report; Development, dissemination, and evaluation of communication materials; Internal "white paper" and StoryMap; Program evaluations for course

**GOVERNMENTAL**

Organizations include: PDPH (Bridging the Gaps), DBHIDS, IN Department of Health (Maternal and Child Health), MA Department of Public Health

**Deliverables include:** Workshop facilitation and poster presentation; Resource map and Learning Management System (LMS) updates; Reporting tools and evaluation approach; Health transition toolkit

**HOSPITAL/HEALTH CENTERS**

Organizations include: CHOP, Lung Health Services, St. Christopher’s (The Center for Children and Youth with Special Healthcare Needs)

**Deliverables include:** Community outreach map and progress monitoring framework; Reports and presentation on findings; Needs assessment survey and resource packet

**INTERSECTORAL/OTHER**

Organizations include: J Lewis Crozer Library, National MCH Workforce Development Center (Title V MCH Internship), Drexel Urban Sexuality Lab & PDPH

**Deliverables include:** Needs assessment and evaluation tools; Literature review and social/digital media strategy; Recruitment plan and final report
## Epidemiology

### BY DEPARTMENT

#### HOSPITALS/HEALTH CENTERS

Organizations include: CHOP (Center for Injury Research and Prevention), Einstein Health Immunodeficiency Clinic, Fox Chase Cancer Center, HUP (Department of Infection Prevention and Control), Main Line Health Center for Population Health (Lankenau Institute for Medical Research)

Deliverables include: Poster and presentation on recruitment study; Data analysis and quality assurance report; meeting reports and presentations; Health education materials and data analysis report; Data presentation and program recommendations

#### GOVERNMENTAL


Deliverables include: Surveillance data analysis and risk mitigation/improvement plans; Evaluation report and scientific poster; Final report and presentation; Data brief and infographics; Data tracking and evaluations review

#### ACADEMIC/RESEARCH

Organizations include: AJ Drexel Autism Institute, Drexel's COVID-19 Surveillance/Peer to Peer Communication Campaign, Urban Health Collaborative, Peitzmeier Lab (University of Michigan)

Deliverables include: Presentation and research studies flyer; Contact tracing training manual and FAQs for vaccine exemption process; COVID-19 communication messages and evaluation process; Visual comparison of obesity and environmental determinants and technical documentation

#### INTERSECTORAL/OTHER

Organizations include: COVID Check Colorado, Drexel University + C40, Healthcare Services Group, Inc., Kelly Collaborative Medicine/Montgomery County Homeless Shelters; Suburban Research Associates

Deliverables include: Surveys and data compilation; Maps of pedestrian collisions and built environment features; Posters on occupational health and needs assessment; COVID-19 presentations; Data report and presentation

#### NON-PROFIT & PRIVATE

Organizations include: ABIM Foundation, Campaign for Trauma-Informed Policy & Practice, Health Care Improvement Foundation, PHLConnectED (BTG)

Deliverables include: Scientific report and academic poster on toolkit; Report on addressing trauma in the educational system and program evaluation; Report on current and effective public health communication strategies; Poster presentation and health form
### Global Health

#### BY DEPARTMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Organizations</th>
<th>Deliverables include</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hospitals/Health Centers</strong></td>
<td>Bayada Home Health Care, ChristianaCare, Helen F Graham Cancer Center and Research Institute (ChristianaCare), Geisinger, Penn Medicine at Home, The Center for Children and Youth with Special Healthcare Needs (St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children)</td>
<td>Presentation and policy brief on occupational stress coping mechanisms for home health aides; PowerPoint and academic poster on smoking cessation program; Virtual health education program plan and summary report; Manuscript and presentation on recruitment methods; Program evaluation report and presentation on health outcomes; Needs assessment/survey and resource packet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Governmental</strong></td>
<td>DBHIDS, Community Behavioral Health (PDPH), Howard County Health Department, Bureau of Epidemiology (PA Department of Health)</td>
<td>Presentation of findings and recommendations for unit; Academic poster on Medicaid services; Policy brief on behavioral health services; Literature review; Program design and implementation/evaluation plan; Interview metrics and descriptive analysis report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Intersectoral/Other</strong></td>
<td>Campaign for Trauma-Informed Policy &amp; Practice, Central Jersey Family Health Consortium, FHI Clinical, Razorfish Health. Vaccine Considerations Project (Uniting for Action)</td>
<td>Reports and presentations on addressing trauma in the child welfare system; Training modules and pre/post-surveys; Presentation for leadership and clinical operations retreat; Op-ed piece; Project policies, volunteer agreement, and other documents; Projects website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-profits</strong></td>
<td>Child Family Health International, ECRI/PCORI, Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children, People's Emergency Center</td>
<td>Literature review and final report; e-Learning module and user manual for database; Surveys and intervention design; Presentation on data report and policy briefs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Academic/Research</strong></td>
<td>Drexel’s COVID-19 Social Media Campaign, Trans PULSE Canada</td>
<td>Communication messages and write-up; Data report and accessibility/dissemination plan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL: 25
HOSPITALS/HEALTH CENTERS

Organizations include: Array Behavioral Healthcare, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, Center for Pediatric Clinical Effectiveness (CHOP), Penn Medicine, Philadelphia Mental Health Center, Temple University Hospital, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital/Jefferson Health System, Trinity Health (Newtown Square, PA), Vidant Health

Deliverables include: Presentations and program evaluation on internship experience; Literature review and data quality assurance report; Presentation and project meetings; Training guides and COVID-19 exposure risk assessments; Presentation and poster on effective participant communication; Stakeholders presentation and policy brief; Report and presentation on clinical processes; Data analysis for capture rate and community outreach forms for FY21 report; Environmental assessments and market analyses; Patient outcomes report and revenue models to perform cost analysis audits; Design project and presentations on program outcomes

GOVERNMENTAL

Organizations include: Environmental Protection Agency, DBIHDS

Deliverables include: Mapping analysis of indicators and final report; Summary reports and presentation; Infographic/informational materials and policy brief; Section in Health of the City report and stakeholder presentation

ACADEMIC/RESEARCH

Organizations include: Drexel Medical Cannabis Research Center, Drexel’s COVID-19 Vaccination Program, Urban Health Collaborative

Deliverables include: Speaker series and policy briefs on insurance changes; Updated Job-Action sheets/program records/activity logs and outreach summary; Brief/reports on MCH needs and priorities in the city

NON-PROFITS

Organizations include: Pennsylvania Health Law Project, Public Health Foundation

Deliverables include: Toolkit on how to navigate the fair hearing process after receiving an adverse benefit denial and appeals process guide; Social media communications toolkit for partners

PRIVATE/INTERSECTORAL

Organizations include: Health Partners Plan, Drexel Solutions Institute and St. Christopher’s Hospital

Deliverables include: Legislative outreach plan and monthly agendas for benefits work group; Analysis and strategies implementation plan for health equity
BY DEPARTMENT

Urban Health

Organizations include:

- **ACADEMIC/RESEARCH**
  - Drexel’s COVID-19 Peer to Peer Health Communication Campaign,
  - Deliverables include: Communication messages and development/evaluation report

- **INTERSECTORAL/OTHER**
  - The Opportunity Network Summer Science Research Program (SSRP)/HYPOTHEkids (New York Bioforce)
  - Deliverables include: Presentation and accompanying script/talk track about student’s responsibility

- **NON-PROFITS**
  - Boys & Girls Club of Atlantic City
  - Deliverables include: Social media plan and impact evaluation

- **HOSPITALS/HEALTH CENTERS**
  - The Hospital for Special Surgery (New York City)
  - Deliverables include: Progress report/plan and expected timeline for database completion; abstract on primary project findings, statistical methodology used, and expected impact

TOTAL: 6
BY DEPARTMENT

Environmental & Occupational Health/Executive MPH

☑️ ACADEMIC/RESEARCH

Organizations include: Center for Firefighter Injury Research and Safety Trends (FIRST)

Deliverables include: Presentation on data dashboard review and systematic review manuscript; Development of recruitment materials and communication with participants

☑️ INTERSECTORAL/OTHER

Organizations include: Occupational Health Internship Program (OHIP)

Deliverables include: Presentation on purpose of research process/data collection methods/data analysis techniques and professional report on findings/recommendations

☑️ NON-PROFITS

Organizations include: Lupus Foundation of America (Philadelphia Tri-State Chapter)

Deliverables include: Report/analysis of needs assessment and presentation that addressed budget and timeline concerns
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES

In order to complete the Applied Practical Experience, it is required that all first year MPH students* complete at least 6 of the 9 offered Professional Development Series workshops. To view the schedule of upcoming workshops as well as recordings of prior workshops, visit the Professional Development Series page.

*The following programs are excluded from this requirement: BA, BS, BA/MPH, BS/MPH, MS, MD/MPH, JD/MPH, EMPH, PhD and DrPH.

TIMELINE

The APE fulfills the PBHL 500 course requirement (after the successful completion of PBHL 510 & 511) and should be completed before starting Integrated Learning Experience (ILE). Students should review the following APE Practice for important deadlines and due dates to ensure that their APE is secured and approved. Students should review this document to review important deadlines and due dates for securing and approving their APE.

Note: International Students must complete and submit Curricular Practical Training (CPT Paperwork) by the end of the current term before the term they would like to complete their APE in. See form.