ASPPH | ONDCP

Applied Practice Experiences

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

2026



ASPPH APPLIED LEARNING AND TRAINING PROGRAMS

CENTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT
ASPPH

ASPPH/ONDCP Applied Practice Experience Program
Program Announcement

The ***ASPPH/ONDCP Applied Practice Experience*** (APE) program is a collaborative effort between the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) and the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). The program provides applied learning experiences for public health students to contribute to data-driven, evidence-based research and policy projects that align with ONDCP's mission to reduce substance use and its consequences through public health approaches.

Through structured mentorship and practical experience, students will apply public health competencies to real-world projects and produce deliverables that advance ONDCP's strategic goals.

Table of Contents

Eligibility 3
Period of Performance 3
Location 3
Funds Available 3
Application Procedure 3
Project #Y2-26-ONDCP-01 4
Project #Y2-26-ONDCP-02 4
Project #Y2-26-ONDCP-03 4
Contact Information 5

Eligibility

To be eligible for this program, applicants must:

- Be currently enrolled in a public health degree program at a CEPH-accredited, ASPPH-member school or program of public health.
- Use the experience to fulfill their institution's required Applied Practice Experience (APE) or practicum requirements. Students who have already completed these requirements are not eligible.
- Meet their institution's academic and programmatic requirements for participation in an APE or practicum.
- Be a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident (Green Card holder).

Period of Performance

Practicum placements will begin in January 2027. Each practicum will require completion of 200 hours of applied public health practice. Student schedules will be coordinated with ONDCP host site preceptors and academic and/or APE advisors.

Location

Placements allow for remote or hybrid participation as determined by the ONDCP host site preceptor. Relocation expenses will not be reimbursed.

Funds Available

Each selected student will receive a $3,000 stipend.

Application Procedure

Applications must be completed through the ASPPH Applied Learning and Training Programs Online Application System. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

Required Application Components:

- Resume or CV (PDF only)
- Personal Essay and Statement of Commitment (PDF only)
- Unofficial Transcript (PDF only)

All questions regarding the application process should be sent to TrainingPrograms@aspph.org.

Application Deadline: 11:59:59 PM PST on December 11, 2026.

ASPPH/ONDCP Applied Practice Experience Program

Placement Descriptions

Project #Y2-26-ONDCP-01

Project Title: Wastewater Profiles of Fentanyl Exposure, Overdose Response, and Medications for Opioid Use Disorder Across U.S. Counties

Description: Wastewater drug testing is a novel approach to monitor aggregate levels of drugs being consumed in our communities. This project will examine county-level relationships among wastewater concentrations of norfentanyl (a fentanyl metabolite), naloxone, EDPP (a methadone metabolite), and norbuprenorphine (a buprenorphine metabolite). These analytes may reflect different aspects of opioid misuse, including illicit fentanyl exposure, overdose reversal efforts, and treatment for opioid use disorder (OUD). The project will characterize how these analytes co-occur across counties and over time and evaluate whether counties with strong positive or negative correlations between analytes share common characteristics.

Deliverable Type: Final report in a format consistent with a peer-reviewed journal article (Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusion, and References).

Eligibility Requirements: Completion of intermediate-level coursework in statistics, epidemiology, applied mathematics, data science, or a related quantitative analysis field. Proficiency in at least one statistical analysis software (such as SAS, Python, R or Stata). Knowledge and experience in data management, data visualization, statistical modeling, and tests for statistical significance.

Project #Y2-26-ONDCP-02

Project Title: Examining Trends in Veterinary Medications Identified in the Illicit Drug Supply

Description: Veterinary medications (such as medetomidine and xylazine) have been increasingly mixed into the illicit drug supply, often as a cutting agent or adulterant. This project will analyze illicit drug seizure reports to identify geographic patterns and trends over time in the presence of these medications in the illicit drug supply.

Deliverable Type: Final report in a format consistent with a peer-reviewed journal article (Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusion, and References).

Eligibility Requirements: Completion of intermediate-level coursework in statistics, epidemiology, applied mathematics, data science, or a related quantitative analysis field. Proficiency in at least one statistical analysis software (such as SAS, Python, R or Stata). Knowledge and experience in data management, data visualization, statistical modeling, and tests for statistical significance.

Project #Y2-26-ONDCP-03

Project Title: Examining the Relationship Between Non-Medical Use of Prescription Stimulants and Initiation of Methamphetamine and Cocaine

Description: Non-medical use of prescription opioids has previously been identified as a risk factor for initiating illicit opioids, such as heroin. This project will examine the relationship between non-medical use of prescription stimulants to determine whether they are a risk factor for initiating illicit stimulants, such as methamphetamine and cocaine.

Deliverable Type: Final report in a format consistent with a peer-reviewed journal article (Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusion, and References).

Eligibility Requirements: Completion of intermediate-level coursework in statistics, epidemiology, applied mathematics, data science, or a related quantitative analysis field. Proficiency in at least one statistical analysis software (such as SAS, Python, R or Stata). Knowledge and experience in data management, data visualization, statistical modeling, and tests for statistical significance.

Contact Information

For additional information, contact: TrainingPrograms@aspph.org.