

Epidemiology Elective Program for Senior Medical and Veterinary Students

Background

The Epidemiology Elective Program (EEP) gives senior medical and veterinary students an introduction to preventive medicine, public health, and the principles of applied epidemiology, all under the mentorship of experienced CDC epidemiologists. Students often work closely with the select group of CDC “disease detectives” known as Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) officers, who formerly participated in EEP.

Elective students have the opportunity to assist with epidemiologic investigations in many areas, including infectious diseases, congenital malformations, environmental and occupational diseases, injuries, and chronic diseases.

EEP in Action

The elective is offered year round. Assignments are scheduled for a period of 6 to 8 weeks, depending on the student’s program of study and elective schedule. Every attempt is made to assign students to a program area of their choice.

Most elective assignments are based at CDC headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia. However, assignments to the following CDC locations may be arranged:

- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in Cincinnati, Ohio; Morgantown, West Virginia; or Anchorage, Alaska
- Indian Health Service in Albuquerque, New Mexico
- Division of Vector-Borne Infectious Diseases in Fort Collins, Colorado
- Arctic Investigations Program in Anchorage, Alaska

Eligibility

The following qualifications must be met prior to applying:

- Be enrolled in a school accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, American Osteopathic Association, or American Veterinary Medical Association
- Be a third-year medical or veterinary student
- Plan for at least 6 weeks availability during your fourth year
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident

How to Apply

Students applying for a June–December elective must submit the online application and postmark all application materials by February 28 of their junior year.

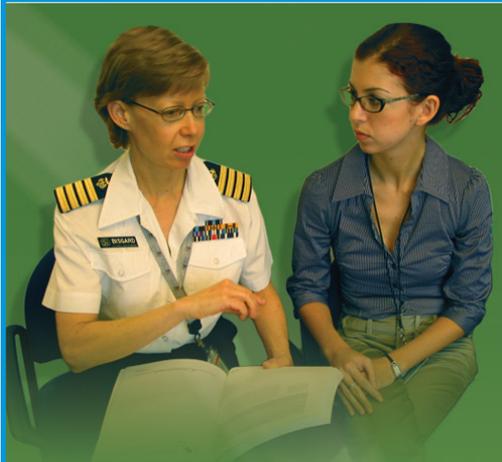
Students applying for a January–May elective must submit the online application and postmark all application materials by April 30 of their junior year.

For more information and to apply, visit us online: <http://www.cdc.gov/EpiElective>

Epidemiology Elective Program
epielective@cdc.gov
1600 Clifton Road, N.E., Mailstop E-92, Atlanta, GA 30333

Center for Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Laboratory Services
Division of Scientific Education and Professional Development





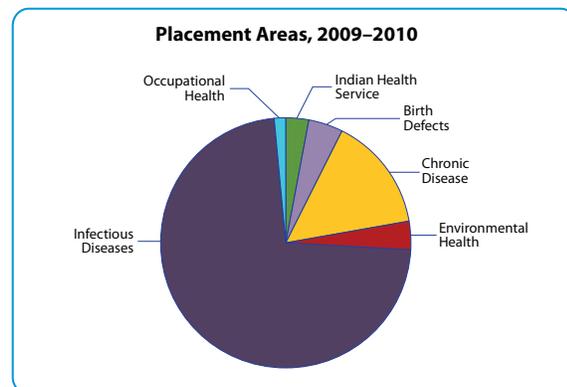
EEP Activities

Examples of epidemiology projects by epidemiology elective students include:

- Evaluate antihypertensive medication compliance among U.S. adults
- Study the epidemiology and ecology of sealpox infection
- Draft guidelines regarding BCG vaccine for health care workers traveling to endemic areas with multidrug-resistant tuberculosis
- Evaluate the use of thermal scanners as fever screening tools at U.S. ports of entry
- Develop a literature review for creating new hospital guidelines for urinary catheter care and use
- Assess U.S. importation policies for dogs (investigating possible zoonoses of imported animals)

Examples of field investigations by Epidemiology Elective students include:

- *Escherichia coli* O145 infections
- Hepatitis C virus infections among cardiac patients
- Invasive group A beta *Streptococcus*
- Legionnaires' disease
- Novel influenza A (H1N1) virus among hospitalized cases
- Rocky Mountain spotted fever cases
- Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER) to assess physical and mental health needs after the Gulf Coast oil spill



CDC Placements

Birth Defects

National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD)

Chronic Disease

National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP)

Environmental Health

National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH)

Occupational Health

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)

Infectious Diseases

National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID)

National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP)

National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD)

Other Placement

Indian Health Service (IHS)

"My experience was amazing. I won't hesitate to recommend this opportunity to anyone in veterinary or medical school."

Epidemiology Elective Program Alumna.