FAQs

Who is eligible for the program?
To be eligible for an Institute-funded award, students must be Oregon residents or attend college in Oregon. Students must be working toward their first 4-year degree. Students at all undergraduate levels may apply.

I am a freshman. Can I apply for these awards?
While your application is more competitive as an upper classman, freshman may apply.

I am currently a senior and will have graduated prior to the internship start date. Am I still eligible?
As long as you have graduated within the same academic year as the internship, then we would still consider you eligible to apply. We consider the academic year to begin each fall. For example, if you graduate (i.e. finish course work) in the Fall of 2016, you would still be eligible to apply for the 2017 summer internship. However, if you graduated in the summer of 2016, but will be participating in your graduation ceremony in Spring 2017, unfortunately you are not eligible.

How do I submit my application?
Applications and materials must be submitted through our online application. Our application opens on January 1 on our internship home page.

When is the application deadline?
The deadline for submission is March 1 by 5:00 PM Pacific Time. We do not accept any late applications.

Are letters of recommendation required?
Letters of recommendation are not required, however if you wish to submit a single letter, have your letter writer email it to Alisa Mukai (gonzalal@ohsu.edu) directly. Only confidential letters of recommendation are accepted. Additionally, we require that all letters of recommendation be on institutional letterhead with appropriate contact information.

Can I work with a specific faculty member?
We strongly encourage you to read about our faculty members online and specify in your application one or two faculty members you would like to work with (and why you would like to work with them). However, there is no guarantee that you will be able to work with the faculty member of your choice. You are welcome to email a faculty member separately about your interest in their work.

What are the available research topics?
The research directions of the Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences can be reviewed on our Research Directions page. Faculty bio pages can be found under Faculty and Staff, and for faculty lab pages see Research Laboratories.
Where are the internships located?
All of the internship appointments are located at the Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences on the Marquam Hill campus of Oregon Health & Science University in Portland, Oregon. Some work may involve infrequent field studies off campus (travel expenses paid).

How much will I be paid?
Interns are paid a stipend of up to $3000 for a 3-month appointment. Normal working hours will usually conform to the hours of the laboratory, which are equivalent to a 40-hour work week, but have limited flexibility with the approval of the PI. Internships are expected to last three months, between May and September.

Do you provide housing assistance?
While OHSU does not have student housing, College Housing Northwest, an organization that oversees housing at Portland State University, leases affordable student apartments in Portland for the summer. Also, you can contact Portland State University’s Summer Housing and Conferencing office at (503) 725-4336.

How do I travel to and from the Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences?
Information about traveling to the Occupational Health Sciences is available at our Visiting OHSU – Get Directions page or you may access OHSU’s interactive map. The majority of OHSU employees take public transportation to work. There is no free or subsidized parking for available for summer interns at OHSU, therefore interns should anticipate taking alternative transportation methods for their daily commute. Pro-rated Trimet passes are available to our interns once hired and having completed their badge requirements.

What are my chances of being selected?
The number of applicants we receive each year has ranged from 60-150. Normally, between 8-15 interns are selected each year, depending on the ability of each lab to accommodate a student.

When do I find out if I was selected?
Each participating faculty member reviews applications and selects their top student candidates for interviews. Candidates who move on to the interview phase of the selection process will be notified throughout the month of March and sometimes into April to schedule interviews. Final acceptances into the internship program only occur after the interview and are likely to occur before the end of April. Formally accepted students will then coordinate their specific start date and work plan with their hiring faculty member.

Additional questions?
Contact Alisa Mukai at gonzalal@ohsu.edu or call 503-494-2506.