

UCEDD Summer Internship Placements

UCEDD Summer Interns will be placed in various departments within the Institute on Development and Disability. In addition to weekly tours, seminars, and networking opportunities, interns will have the opportunity to assist with their assigned departments with projects related to research, clinics, or community-based programs.

Below is a list of past internship projects. More placements may be added, and the actual job duties may vary this year and are subject to change.

Autism related

Our intern will assist with a 3-year NIMH-funded project called Autism Alert, aimed at providing children earlier access to autism diagnostic and treatment services. Parents of children potentially qualifying for an autism diagnosis are participating in our study and have completed two surveys six months apart about their healthcare experiences.

Some parents have received additional support (intervention arm), while others have not (control arm). We will evaluate the outcomes of this support by comparing the survey results from both groups/arms. The intern will contact parents to gauge their interest in participating in qualitative interviews and will help conduct and code these interviews (training will be provided). The intern may also assist with reviewing medical and administrative records related to children's diagnoses in the Autism Alert project.

If COVID cases are low, we will have interns conduct in-person interviews. Interns may also need to come to the lab to access materials, computers, and technology. We welcome interns from all racial, ethnic, sexual, and gender backgrounds, as well as those with disabilities, to join our diverse learning community.

Child Development and Rehabilitation Center (CDRC) Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy Internship

The occupational therapists (OTs) and physical therapists (PTs) at the CDRC find great joy in the work we get to do. We want to encourage the next generation to join our fields! We would like the summer intern to help create video or other engaging media that explains to high school and middle school students what OT and PT are, how to become one, and the many roles they can take. The end goal is to share these careers with kids and teens from groups that have been less represented in healthcare. To do this, the summer intern would have the following responsibilities and opportunities:

- Build an understanding of what PT and OT are.
- Learn how to become a PT or OT through online research, clinical observations, and interviews with therapists in different types of jobs.

- Use the information they learn to make handouts, videos, social media posts, etc, that can be used to help others understand what it is that OTs and PTs do.
- If there is time, other projects and observation opportunities to gain in depth knowledge of OT and PT specialties. These could be administration and organizational tasks as well as research and development of other educational materials.

Healthy Relationships and Sexual Health Internship

The Healthy Relationships and Sexual Health intern will support programs that promote healthy relationships and sexual health for people with disabilities. The internship will be supervised at the University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) at OHSU and all activities will be conducted virtually.

Internship activities may include (but are not limited to) reviewing educational program materials, developing educational materials, reviewing and interpreting program data, developing trainings and presentations, participating in community meetings, reviewing current research, and advising on program development.

The Hemophilia Center

Each year, The Hemophilia Center hosts a summer camp for children with bleeding disorders. In the first part of the internship, the intern will assist the hemophilia team in preparing for camp. This includes gathering and organizing supplies, reviewing camper eligibility (especially vaccine requirements), and helping with camper check-in.

In the second part of the internship, the intern will create “period packs” for patients. Heavy periods can pose significant challenges for those with bleeding disorders, so having essential supplies on hand is crucial for managing symptoms and daily life.

The intern will work with the hemophilia team to identify necessary supplies, create a budget, order items, and assemble the packs. They will also collaborate with Dr. Haley to explore school policies regarding bathroom access, as restrictive access can lead to school absences for patients with heavy menstrual bleeding.

Additionally, the intern may accompany Dr. Haley or other team members on clinical and research patient visits, as time permits.

OCCYCHN Family to Family

Intern will work with OR F2F HIC on preparing and organizing outreach and resource materials for families of children with special health needs. They will conduct administrative tasks such as file clean up, making forms, drafting flyers, cleaning excel spreadsheets, etc. They will be invited to shadow staff at meetings, trainings, and workshops as appropriate so they can learn about the field of family support and family centered care. They may also be asked to make

phone calls to community agencies in order to identify new outreach opportunities for the OR F2F HIC.

Oregon Office on Disability and Health (OODH)

The Oregon Office on Disability and Health (OODH) is a public health entity under the Institute on Development and Disability at Oregon Health. The OODH mission is to promote health equity and well-being of people with disabilities. OODH interns contribute to the planning of health education, health promotion, and health care provider training projects at OODH.

Specific activities could include contributing to the creation of research guides of accessible health care resources in communities in Oregon, creation of health education materials, and posting materials on social media accounts. Intern may also have opportunities to observe virtual transition evaluations.

Psychology

The Psychology placement will focus on research and practice related to behavioral pediatrics and integrated primary care. The exact experiences may vary based on ongoing projects and the intern's interest and skills.

Anticipated learning outcomes:

- Knowledge about the research process includes: participant confidentiality, consenting and interacting with participants, cleaning data and assisting with data analysis, and exposure to IRB regulations and procedures.
- Increased understanding of psychology—especially related to cognitive behavioral therapy techniques, pain psychology, and coping mechanisms; additionally, interns will have opportunities to attend lectures and grand rounds related to pediatric psychology and other related fields.
- Experience working in a fast-paced professional environment.

Social Work

An intern with Social Work may have the opportunity to observe in evaluation and treatment clinics as available virtually. Depending on intern interests, the intern may be tasked with supporting existing research projects. Additionally, the intern supports CDRC social work by completing miscellaneous projects as needed.

Anticipated learning outcomes:

- Increased awareness of community-based resources available to individuals with disabilities.
- Greater understanding of the psycho-social needs of families experiencing disability.
- Knowledge of the social work profession, especially with regard to social work's role in the outpatient medical setting.

Speech-Language Pathology

The summer intern will contribute to our research projects by: (a) conducting supervised literature reviews, (b) qualitatively coding participant interviews, (c) assessing procedural fidelity by observing speech-language therapy sessions, (d) supporting recruitment efforts, and (e) handling administrative tasks related to study visits, such as emailing participants about upcoming assessments.

Examples of projects for the intern include:

- Delivering Enhanced Milieu Teaching Via Telehealth to Children and Families in Rural Communities (Goal: develop a novel telehealth intervention that optimizes language and communication outcomes for children).
- AAC Intervention for Preschoolers: Create an augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) intervention for young children (ages 3–6) with complex communication needs.
- Early Intervention for Children with Down Syndrome: Investigate the effectiveness of telemedicine in training parents to use EMT language support strategies and parents' impact on child communication and language growth.
- Early Intervention for Toddlers with Autism: Examine the effectiveness of telemedicine for training parents to implement EMT language support strategies and whether changes in parent behavior are associated with child communication and language growth.