Prevention Innovations in Medical Education (PRIME) Scholars Program

Up to six $2,500 stipends to support summer public health projects

Background: Since 2015, the School of Medicine and Public Health has supported the public health education of medical students, using funds from the PRIME grant. This grant was awarded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in 2012 and is intended to shape a new generation of health professionals who will value primary care and incorporate health promotion and disease prevention into their practice. Up to six $2,500 stipends (up to $15,000 total funds awarded per year) will be available to 1st year Path of Distinction (PoD) medical students with demonstrated interest in public health who plan to complete a mentored public health project during the summer between their 1st and 2nd year of medical school. Projects should include work with an underserved population, in a community setting and/or focusing on a health disparity.

Review Criteria: Recipients will be selected based quality of the proposed project along with student’s motivation to further develop their public health knowledge and skills. Proposals for the PRIME Scholars Program will be reviewed and evaluated on the following criteria:

1. The quality of the public health project proposal (based on project description below), including:
   a. Extent that the proposed project occurs in a “community” setting (e.g., local health department, state health department, local non-profit, local hospital, global health project)
   b. Extent that the proposed project focuses on underserved populations and/or health disparities

2. The level of public health interest of the applicant
   a. Extent of applicant’s interest in public health
   b. Extent that the applicant will be seeking additional public health training

How to Apply: Students interested in applying should fill out the PRIME Scholars Program application by February 1st. Contact Kelly Coffey (kcoffey3@wisc.edu) if you have any questions. Notification of awards will be soon after.

Project description: In 1,000 words or less, please describe the details of the project you are proposing. Include 1) the organization/site for your project, 2) the name of your community preceptor/project mentor, 3) the population you will be working with, 4) the issue being addressed, 5) the desired outcomes (e.g., community service, service learning, research aims), 6) a description of how this project will contribute to your public health education and training, and 7) the duration of the project (in weeks). Stipends will be awarded based on $250/week, up to $2,500. Students may use their PoD Project Proposal for this requirement.

Required Course: All PRIME Public Health Scholars will be required to enroll in PHS 650-070 Public Health Project Toolkit course during the spring 2015 semester to prepare them for a successful summer project. Students will be notified of their acceptance to the PRIME Scholars Program prior to the start date of this course.