Public Health Data Assessment: Job Description

This is a student research assistant position for 12-15 hours/week located at the Institute for Public Health and pays $15/hour.

The Public Health Data & Training Center within the Institute for Public Health at Washington University is working with a local health department to review, assess and catalog the wide variety of public health data currently available and in use by the department. Data sources may include healthcare, health and safety inspections, program evaluation, and Census data, as well as relevant data from other government departments. Deliverables include a report detailing broad and specific findings of the data assessment and recommendations for further investment.

Major Responsibilities

• Conduct review of literature for best practices around data assessments
• Review and document a variety of attributes (or metadata) associated with each public health data sources provided by health department
• Conduct data surveys and interviews with key health dept staff to understand how data are used
• Assist in writing final report and recommendations
• Participate in team meetings, taking notes and documenting discussions and decisions as needed

Required Skills & Experience

• Ability to think thoughtfully and critically about data collection and storage, and its application to public health.
• Ability to communicate effectively with various team members (e.g. IT staff, epidemiologist, leadership, etc.) including writing and report development.
• Comfortable using MS Office suite including Word and Excel.

Preferred Experience

• Experience working with data using one or more software applications
• Experience coding in at least one statistical software program & making maps (SAS, R, or Stata)
• Experience working with real-world data (outside of a classroom setting)

TO APPLY: Submit your resume & a cover letter to Ben Cooper – ben.cooper@wustl.edu