



# Summer Internships



Department of  
**Health**

Division of Laboratory Services





## About the Division of Laboratory Services

*The Mission of the Division of Laboratory Services is to provide high quality analytical services of medical and environmental testing and to achieve the mission of the Tennessee Department of Health.*

The Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) Division of Laboratory Services consists of the Microbiology Laboratories and Environmental Laboratories in Nashville and Knoxville. The central laboratory is housed in Nashville in a dedicated facility with state-of-the-art equipment. The laboratory has 125 full time employees.

The Microbiology Laboratories are licensed by the State of Tennessee Laboratory Licensing Service (LLS) and certified by the Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to perform clinical testing. The laboratories perform a wide range of microbiological testing in the areas of Bacteriology, Molecular Biology, Environmental Microbiology, Mycobacteriology, Parasitology, Mycology, Immunoserology, Virology and Newborn Screening. Laboratory Services is also the State Emergency Preparedness Laboratory for biological agents.

The Environmental Laboratories in Nashville are certified by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Each laboratory follows guidelines, regulations and methodology as prescribed by the EPA, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), and other federal or state programs. The Environmental Laboratory consists of the Organic, Inorganic, Radiochemistry, Aquatic Biology and Chemical Terrorism Laboratories. The Environmental Laboratories perform testing in support of other state departments such as the Department of Environment and Conservation, Department of Labor and the Department of Transportation.

## Objectives of Laboratory Services

- To provide quality assured microbiological and environmental chemistry laboratory services.
- To assist other Tennessee laboratories in developing and strengthening their laboratory services.
- To serve the entire state as a reference laboratory for difficult, unusual or otherwise unavailable laboratory procedures.
- To serve as a resource of information on laboratory practice.
- To test human and related specimens and environmental samples.
- To assist in the development, evaluation and standardization of medical and environmental laboratory testing procedures.

## Are you interested in a career in laboratory science?

Student internships with TDH Division of Laboratory Services offer unique opportunities to learn more about exciting careers in public health including:

- **Microbiology:** Aerobic Bacteriology (*Bordetella*, *Legionella*, etc.), Anaerobic Bacteriology (*Botulism*), Sexually Transmitted Infections, Foodborne Illnesses and Water Microbiology.
- **Special Microbiology:** Mycobacteriology, Mycology and Parasitology.
- **Molecular Biology and Enteric Bacteriology:** Bacterial cultures through Whole Genome Sequencing for *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, *Campylobacter*, *E.coli*, etc.
- **Newborn Screening:** Galactosemia, Phenylketonuria (PKU), Biotinidase Deficiency, Cystic Fibrosis, and many more treatable genetic disorders.
- **Serology and Virology:** *Influenza*, *Measles*, *Mumps*, *Rabies*, *HIV* and many other microorganisms
- **Environmental Laboratories:** Aquatic Biology, Organic and Inorganic Chemistry, and Radiological Chemistry.



## Hands-On Experience

Instead of just looking at photos in a book or on a slideshow, you will have the opportunity to perform hands-on laboratory tasks using state-of-the-art equipment and technology.

## Challenging Tasks

We will challenge you with new ideas, concepts and technologies that will help advance your career in public health.

## Friendly Atmosphere

Though the tasks and activities are challenging, the work atmosphere is always exciting. We pride ourselves on our friendly, helpful and knowledgeable employees. From the directors to the security guards, you'll always see a smiling face and find a helping hand.



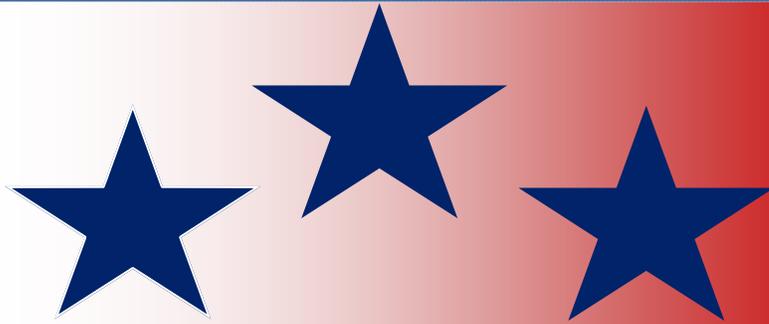
## Internship Application Process

- **By April 1, 2016:**
  - Send your résumé with cover letter:
    - Electronically to:  
**Stephanie.Poindexter@tn.gov**
    - OR a hard copy to:  
**State Training Coordinator: Stephanie Poindexter**  
**Tennessee Dept. of Health,**  
**Division of Laboratory Services**  
**630 Hart Lane**  
**Nashville, TN 37243**
  - Request two letters of recommendation (one faculty, one personal—*not family!*) to be sent to the above email or street address.
- Résumés, cover letters and letters of recommendation will be evaluated to determine potential candidates.
- Internship recipients will be notified no later than **May 1st, 2016.**

## Internship Benefits

- Paid summer internships begin in May and end in August
- Gain hands-on experience you will be unable to get anywhere else
- Make professional connections that will last a lifetime
- Receive valuable training from knowledgeable and capable mentors
- Learn to use state-of-the-art equipment and technology
- Work in a friendly and inviting atmosphere





What Are You Waiting For?

Start your career in Public Health with a Laboratory Services Internship today!



## Locations

### Tennessee Department of Health

Division of Laboratory Services  
630 Hart Lane  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243



Knoxville Regional Laboratory  
2101 Medical Center Way  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37920

## Contact

Stephanie Poindexter

State Training Coordinator

630 Hart Lane

Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Phone: (615) 262-6338 Fax: (615) 262-6360

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