



Paid Externships Opportunity (2)

[The Chicago Asthma Consortium](#) is committed to improve the quality of life for those with asthma through advocacy, education and collaboration. Our externship program is designed to allow students from diverse backgrounds to gain more knowledge about asthma and contribute to the field.

Project Description

The Chicago Asthma Consortium is looking for 2 motivated individuals to lead an asthma-focused project about SMART. SMART (Single Maintenance and Reliever Therapy) is a recommended treatment approach for patients with moderate to severe asthma which combines an inhaled corticosteroid and an inhaled long-acting beta-2 agonist (LABA). Typically, people with asthma must use different inhalers for maintenance and reliever. With SMART, people with asthma use one inhaler for both, with similar outcomes and lower prescription costs.

Project methods will include review of academic literature and published documents, engagement of key individuals with expertise in this area, and development of a white paper. The selected individuals will perform a thorough search of available literature (e.g., journal articles, books, official reports, documents) to identify what is already known on the implementation of SMART therapy, as well as engage experts in academic and community partners through meetings and interviews about the topic. Key focus areas will be identified with the team and will include financial costs and insurance coverage for SMART therapy. This work will focus both Illinois as well as nationally.

Responsibilities

- Conduct literature review
- Meet with experts in the field, including academic and community partners
- Write paper on the findings, including drafting and editing
- Present findings at one of Chicago Asthma Consortium lunch and learns (date and time TBD)
- Meet regularly with project team and provide regular updates to leadership team

Timeline

- Start time: June 1, 2024
- End time: September 30, 2024
- Timeline flexible with 12-25 hours per week



- This externship is paid

Qualifications:

- Graduate or postgraduate students from any discipline related to medicine, public health, public policy, social work, economics, or other areas related to this topic
- Interest in asthma, medication costs, and/or health disparities
- Experience with conducting literature search and interviews
- Motivated and well organized
- Works effectively on their own and in a team
- Strong verbal and written communication skills

How to apply:

If you are interested in applying for this externship opportunity with the Chicago Asthma Consortium (CAC), please submit your resume and a cover letter describing your relevant background and experience as well as your interest in the project to execdirector@chicagoasthma.org by **May 15, 2024**