

Paid Internship Program Information Session



Meeting Goals

- Share the GET PHIT paid internship opportunities for students
- Provide details about the application process
- Hear from UTRGV GET PHIT Interns



PHIT Grant Goal

Public Health Informatics and Technology (PHIT)
Workforce Development Program

4-Year Funding Opportunity

Goal: To prioritize the training of at least 4000 underrepresented minorities in the areas of public health informatics and technology to improve the nation's public health workforce.

PHIT Workforce Program Awardees

- Bowie State University, Bowie, MD
- California State University, Long Beach Research Foundation, Long Beach, CA
- Dominican College of Blauvelt, Inc., Orangeburg, NY
- Jackson State University, Jackson, MS
- Norfolk State University, Norfolk, VA
- Regents of The University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
- **The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Houston, TX**
- University of Massachusetts at Lowell, Lowell, MA
- University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA
- University of the District of Columbia, Washington, DC

GET PHIT Consortium Members

Huston-Tillotson
University

Prairie View A&M
University

Texas A&M
International University

Texas Tech University
Health Sciences Center

The University of Texas
Permian Basin

University of Texas at
Arlington

The University of Texas
at El Paso

The University of Texas
Health Science Center
at Houston School of
Public Health

The University of Texas
Health Science Center
at Houston School of
Biomedical Informatics

The University of Texas
Rio Grande Valley
UTRGV

Texas Southern
University

University of Texas at
Tyler



GET PHIT UTRGV Team

- PI: Tracia Forman, PhD, Health and Biomedical Sciences
- Co-PI: Suad Ghaddar, PhD, Health and Biomedical Sciences
- Co-PI: Kristina Vatcheva, PhD, Mathematical and Statistical Sciences

Elements of the GET PHIT Grant

Curriculum Development

Bootcamps

Paid Internships

Internship Information

- 160-hour part-time **paid** internship in public health informatics within health departments, non-profits, or health systems
 - Stipends range: \$2,440 - \$3,000 based on education and skill
 - All stipends are paid for by the GET PHIT Consortium
- May be remote/in-person/hybrid depending on site
- Three opportunities every year:
 - Summer: Early Jun – Mid Aug
 - Fall: Early Sep – Early Dec
 - Spring: Early Feb – Early May

Internship Eligibility

- Any enrolled UTRGV student who
 - Has a strong interest in public health informatics and data science
 - Has participated in a GET PHIT bootcamp, OR other eligible program of study/courses
- GPA of 3.0 or above preferred
- Students from underrepresented minorities are strongly encouraged to apply

Possible Internship Sites

Health Departments

City of Brownsville

City of El Paso

City of Houston

City of Laredo

City of Lubbock

Cameron County

Dallas County

Harris County

Tarrant County

Texas Department of State Health Services

Non-Profits & Health Systems

RTI, International

Harris Health System

MD Anderson Cancer Center

Houston Food Bank

Children at Risk, Center for Social Measurement and Evaluation

PCCI (Parkland Center for Clinical Innovation)

Student Skills/Possible Projects



Data cleaning



Database
development



Data analysis



Data
visualization



Data
programming



APPLICATION AND INFORMATION:
WWW.UTH.EDU/GET-PHIT/

GET PHIT WILL PROVIDE ELIGIBLE STUDENTS WITH PAID INTERNSHIPS WITHIN HEALTH DEPARTMENTS, NON-PROFITS, AND HEALTH SYSTEMS EVERY SEMESTER.

The Gaining Equity in Training for Public Health Informatics and Technology (GET PHIT) Consortium, led by UTHealth School of Public Health and School of Biomedical Informatics in partnership with HBCUs, HSIs, and other university partners, and state and local public health agencies across Texas is focused on reducing the nation's health inequities by expanding the number of public health professionals from underrepresented groups trained in public health informatics and technology.



The GET PHIT internship is a 160-hour part-time paid internship relevant to public health informatics. Students will receive a stipend ranging from \$2,440 - \$3,000 based on education and skill.

Eligibility:

- Must be a student from a GET PHIT participating institution
- Must participate in a GET PHIT boot camp, approved program, and/or course
- Have a strong interest in public health informatics and data science
- Students may only participate in the GET PHIT internship program for one semester

Students from underrepresented minorities are **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** to apply. Additional information about the GET PHIT program can be found online [HERE](#)

APPLY TODAY!



*GET PHIT internships will be available every semester through September 2025. Check back for updates to the schedule for future semesters.

**Specific start dates may vary and will depend on internship sites and processing.

HAVE A QUESTION?
SEND US AN EMAIL! GETPHITINTERNSHIPS@UTH.TMC.EDU

Semester*	Internship Dates**	Application Deadline
Summer 2024	Early June to mid August	April 1, 2024
Fall 2024	Early September to Early December	July 1, 2024
Spring 2025	Early January to Early May	October 1, 2024
Summer 2025	Early June to mid August	April 1, 2025



PAID INTERNSHIPS

When?

Semester*	Internship Dates**	Application Deadline
Summer 2024	Early June – Mid August	April 1

*GET PHIT internships will be available every semester through 2025.

**Specific start dates may vary and will depend on internship sites and processing.

How to Apply?

To apply visit the [GET PHIT Internship webpage](#).

More Information and Guidance on Application

Attend UTRGV Info Session	View Recording
When: Tuesday, February 27, 6-7 PM Where: Zoom https://utrgv.zoom.us/j/8724478924?omn=82898721759	Visit the UTRGV GET PHIT website for recording link

Student Skills/Possible Projects

Internships may be remote/in-person/hybrid depending on site.



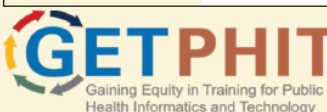
I loved the internship experience. It was a unique experience that really helped me understand public health departments and how they operate.

Questions?

Send us an email: UTRGV.GETPHIT@utrgv.edu OR

GETPHITInternships@uth.tmc.edu

Visit the [GET PHIT website \(https://www.uth.edu/get-phit/\)](https://www.uth.edu/get-phit/) or the [UTRGV GET PHIT website](#)



The Gaining Equity in Training for Public Health Informatics and Technology (GET PHIT) Consortium plans to train 1,400 students predominantly from underrepresented groups and 500 public health, clinic, and academic professionals, while placing 400 students in internships. Led by The University Texas of Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) School of Public Health (SPH) and School of Biomedical Informatics (SBMI), the GET PHIT Consortium is collaborating with Huston-Tillotson University (HBCU); Prairie View A&M University (HBCU); Texas A&M International University (HSI); Texas Tech University Health Science Center; The University of Texas at Arlington (HSI); The University of Texas at El Paso (HSI); The University of Texas Permian Basin (HSI); and The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (HSI). The Consortium is funded by a grant from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC HIT).

Remaining Internship Opportunities

Semester	Internship Dates*	Deadline to Apply
Summer 2024	Early June – Mid Aug	April 1, 2024
Fall 2024	Early Sep – Early Dec	July 1, 2024
Spring 2025	Early Jan – Early May	October 1, 2024
Summer 2025	Early June – Mid Aug	April 1, 2025

*Specific start dates may vary and will depend on internship sites and processing.



Summer 2024 Paid Internship

- Early June to mid August
- **Application Deadline = April 1**

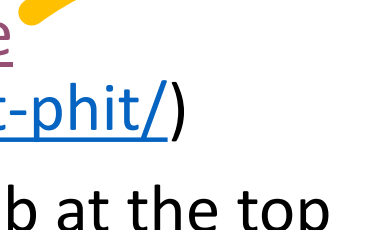


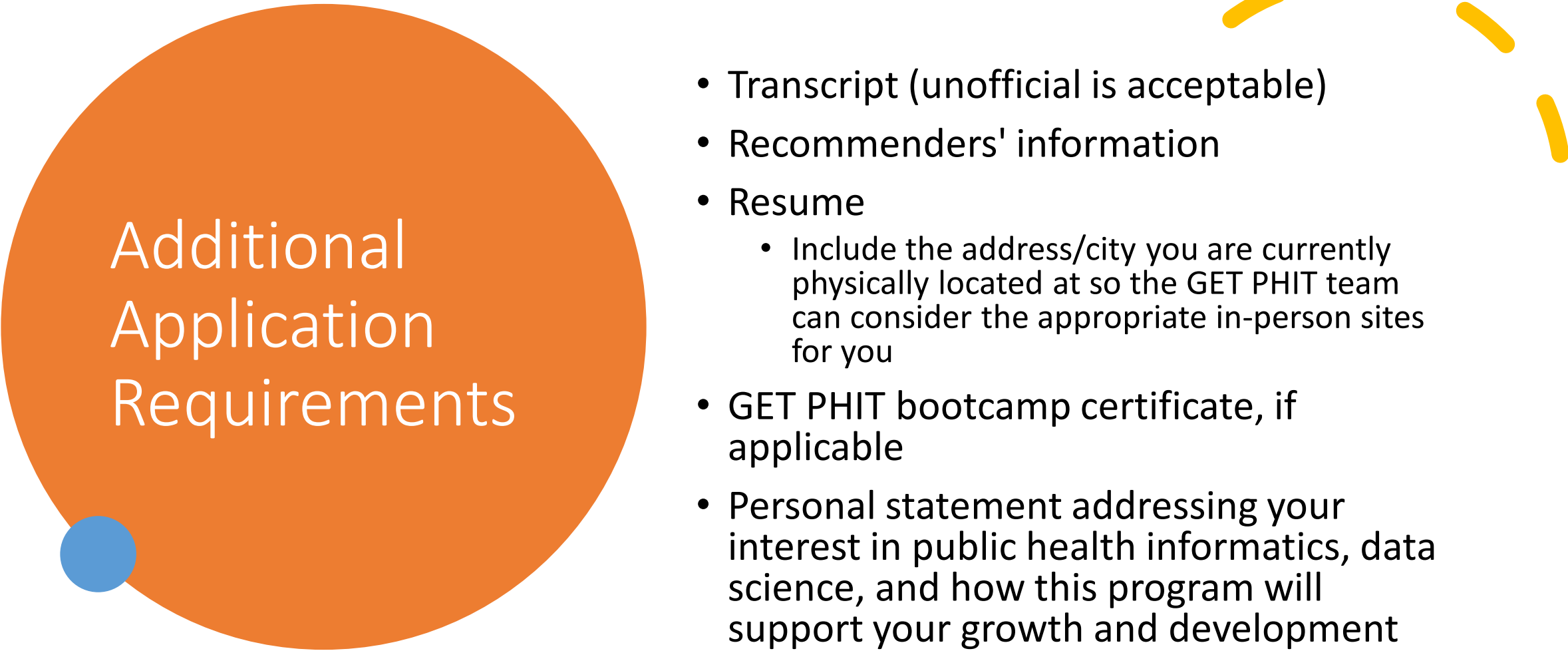
Internship Application





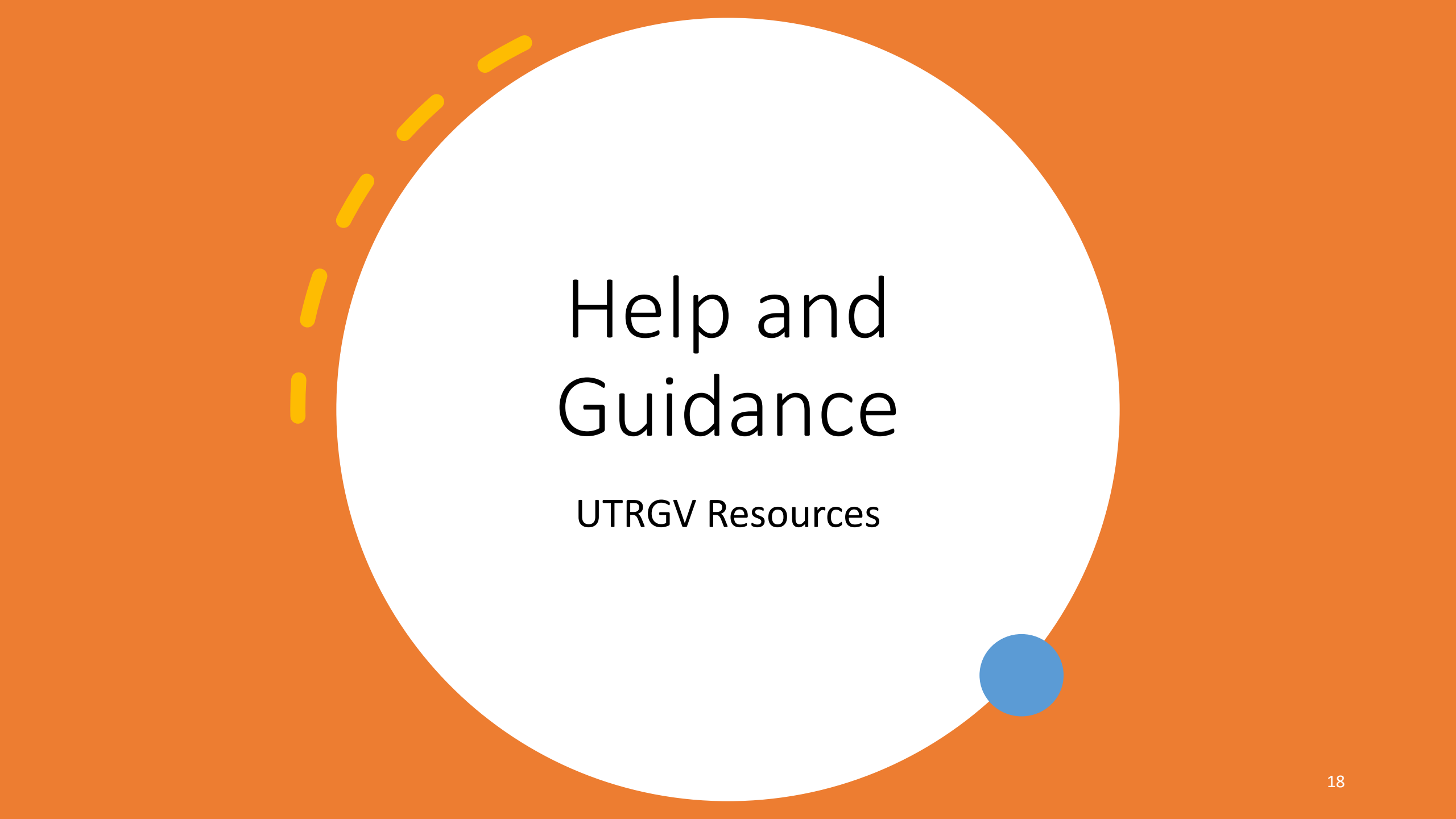
How to Apply?

- 
- Visit the GET PHIT website (<https://www.uth.edu/get-phit/>)
 - Click on the Internships tab at the top
 - Click on the Apply Now button
 - Fill the required information
 - Make sure to answer every question. Skipping questions does not allow you to move forward with the application



Additional Application Requirements

- Transcript (unofficial is acceptable)
- Recommenders' information
- Resume
 - Include the address/city you are currently physically located at so the GET PHIT team can consider the appropriate in-person sites for you
- GET PHIT bootcamp certificate, if applicable
- Personal statement addressing your interest in public health informatics, data science, and how this program will support your growth and development



Help and Guidance

UTRGV Resources

Help and Guidance – Transcripts

- UTRGV students can request an **official transcript** using the [online ordering service](#). Students must be free of financial debt with the institution in order to have an official transcript released.
- **Unofficial transcripts** are available to current UTRGV students ONLY via [ASSIST](#).
 1. Log in to [my.utrgv.edu](#)
 2. Open ASSIST from the Applications section
 3. Select the Student Profile tab
 4. Select Academic Record
 5. Select the transcript level, and transcript type
- Note that the GET PHIT internship application accepts official and unofficial transcripts.

Help and Guidance - Resume

The UTRGV Career Center and their Career Advising/Education Team provide outstanding support in career development including CV/resume building, professional correspondence, networking, interviewing, and more.

To get help preparing your resume, you can

- Schedule an appointment with Center advisors (via [Handshake](#)), or
- Visit during the Center's [Drop-In Hours](#)

Help and Guidance - Recommender

- All you need to do is to provide the name, role, and contact information for two recommenders who can attest to your skills, leadership, and character.
 - Make sure to contact the recommenders ahead of time seeking their willingness to serve as your recommender and permission to share their email.
- Recommenders can be professors, advisors, previous or current supervisors, and/or mentor.
- The GET PHIT Program will send the recommender a survey to complete.

Help and Guidance – Personal Statement

- In your personal statement, address your interest in public health informatics, data science, and/or other relevant topics, and how the GET PHIT internship program will support your growth and development.
- We highly recommend that you utilize the services of [UTRGV's Writing Center](#) to review your personal statement.
- The center provides
 - [In-person consultations](#)
 - [Zoom writing consultations](#)
 - Review of any document you send within 24-48 hours

Payment

- Eligibility requirements
 - Payments cannot be made to international students
 - Other considerations
- Accepted students who are eligible for the “paid” internship will receive an email to fill out a form for additional information that will be submitted to UTHealth Human Resources (HR)
- Students who do not complete the required information will NOT receive payment
- UTHealth Human Resources (HR) will send a link for background check
- Background check can take up to two weeks, so please respond promptly
- Payment is broken up into smaller payments over the course of the internship, usually based on UTHealth Houston pay cycles

To receive payment

- Complete paperwork required by UTHealth Houston before the beginning of the internship
 - If you are accepted, be on the lookout for email communication from UTHealth
 - Attend to requests **promptly**
- Complete internship

Note for International Students

- **International students** applying to the GET PHIT Internship program are eligible to participate in **unpaid** GET PHIT internship opportunities.
- The availability of unpaid internships may differ by semester and are not guaranteed.
- If interested, students must seek approval and clearance from their respective office of international affairs and relevant offices/advisors before proceeding.
 - Clearance to participate does not automatically guarantee an unpaid internship.



Note on UTRGV Bootcamp

Summer 2024 Bootcamps

UTRGV

- **When:** May 13 – May 24
- **Where:** Edinburg campus*
- **Application deadline:** 4/1/2024

**Free campus housing available to Brownsville students*



Bootcamps Summer 2024



Students who complete a Summer bootcamp are eligible to apply for paid internships. In other words, your internship application will be stronger!



UTRGV is hosting a Summer bootcamp May 13-24



The **deadline is April 1, 2024**, for Summer bootcamp and internships



If applying to a Summer 2024 internship, please indicate if you have applied to UTRGV's bootcamp in the Personal Statement.

Bragging!

- Over the first two years of the GET PHIT initiative, **41 UTRGV students** have participated in paid internships.
- UTRGV intern presented at the 2023 GET PHIT Summit in Houston.

UTHealth Houston School of Public Health GET PHIT Internship Experience

By: Daphne Uribe
Dallas County Department of Health & Human Services

DALLAS COUNTY Texas Est. 1846

Abstract

I was matched to work as a remote intern at the Dallas County Health and Human Services Department under the guidance of Dr. Philip Huang, Katy Womble, and Dr. Dongyoung Shin.

- I performed data cleaning, categorized and matched CDC ICD-10 CM codes, and visualized data using Power BI software to organize and analyze the mortality data of the residents of Dallas County.

Materials

Since this internship was remote, my main resources were digital. The resources I used to complete the work in this internship were:

- Microsoft Teams
- Microsoft Excel
- Power BI Desktop
- Outlook email
- CDC's Instruction Manual for ICD-10 CM codes and [www.https://icd10data.com](https://icd10data.com)

Results and Deliverables

- Data Cleaning: Dr. Shin directed me to correct any typos in the sections of the mortality data assigned to me. I analyzed over 3000 Excel cells and fixed any spelling mistakes I encountered in the latest causes of death among Dallas County residents. I was able to contribute in preparing the data for more immediate analysis by both the interns and Dallas County Health and Human Services staff.
- ICD-10 CM Coding: Dr. Shin instructed us to categorize the causes of death to specific ICD-10 CM codes established by the Center of Disease Control and Prevention. I manually matched the codes for 8000 causes of death. My experience has led me to develop greater knowledge of how public health biostatisticians cluster to national health codes to simplify the process of compiling health statistics.
- Power BI: Pictured below is the dashboard I made using Power BI. With the mortality data from Dallas County, I observed the racial and ethnic demographics that comprised this data as well as the most frequent causes of death. After noting that cardiovascular arrest deaths were the most common cause of death, I investigated the demographics and annual peaks of this data to find any sort of pattern. I discovered that cardiovascular arrest deaths peaked during the winter months in 2022 and 2023. In addition, women made up a slight majority of cardiovascular deaths compared to men. Racial and ethnic data showed that the white population also made up the majority of cardiovascular deaths. Creating this dashboard facilitated my understanding of how to demonstrate public health data through the use of graphs and charts, and helped me learn how to tell a "story" with the trends and visuals I focused upon.

Conclusion

- Through the experience I have gained in this internship, I have been introduced to the processes of data cleaning, harnessing Power BI software, and matching of ICD-10 CM codes to causes of death.
- I have increased my professionalism by learning how to collaborate with other interns and public health department professionals via Microsoft Team meetings and Outlook emails.
- I realized the profound value of the work I was doing; my contributions aided public health officials at the County Health and Human Services to better process mortality data and analyze certain trends in order to address any major health concerns in their local community.
- My time at DCHHS has reinforced my interest in work within the public health sector, and I am proud of the work I have done in this internship. I look forward to sharpening and applying the skills I have developed in this internship for my future endeavors, and I hope to bring positive change in the health facilities/departments of the communities I come into contact with.

Organization and Project Introduction

- I worked in a group with four other interns and attended weekly online meetings every Friday morning with the director and health authority of Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) Dr. Philip Huang and deputy director of program operations Katy Womble. They inquired about our specific interests within the public health informatics field as well as our expected learning outcomes.
- Our DCHHS emails were set up, we completed HIPAA and cybersecurity training that informed us on the secure and private handling of the data online, and were then given access to mortality data from the DCHHS.
- We were instructed by the department's biostatistician Dr. Dongyoung Shin on ways in which to clean up the data and organize it according to ICD-10 CM codes.
- After cleaning up the data, we performed data analysis and visualization using Power BI software, which allowed us to find trends in the mortality data that were of importance.

Methodology/Activities

- Dr. Dongyoung Shin directed us to clean up the mortality data by identifying and correcting any spelling typos among the data. She created a master file with the mortality data on an Excel sheet and divided up the sheet into five sections so that each intern could focus on cleaning up their assigned section. I was able to correct several typos among thousands of Excel cells, contributing to the overall clean up of the data.
- Dr. Dongyoung Shin also advised us interns to each explore different ways of categorizing and matching ICD-10 CM codes to find the ideal way to code the data. I found that matching and reporting the ICD-10 CM codes manually using [www.https://icd10data.com](https://icd10data.com) allowed me to properly assign the most specific codes for about 3000 designated causes of death.
- After cleaning, matching, and categorizing the data, it was ready for analysis and visualization using Power BI software. I toggled with the software's features to find interesting trends in the data and created a visual dashboard showcasing these trends.

Recommendations

- Having had more knowledge over how to code and how to use different coding systems would have helped me better organize and match ICD-10 CM codes to the mortality data.
- More knowledge over coding would also have helped me to commence on data analysis sooner, which would have given me more time to identify different trends in the data.

Images

- Power BI Dashboards I created to analyze mortality statistics.
- Left: Dashboard analyzing causes of death and analyzing cardiovascular causes.

Acknowledgements

I want to thank:

- Dallas County Health and Human Services officials Dr. Philip Huang and Katy Womble for all their accommodations.
- The interns who collaborated with me during this internship, as their help and support made me learn and grow. Thank you to Jacob, Jocelyn, Ramirez, Deal, and...
- The GET PHIT team for their support and attention to all of my questions during this internship.

Most Frequent Causes of Death among Dallas County Residents 2022-2023

ICD-10 CM Code	Count
ICD10A01A	1000
ICD10A02A	800
ICD10A03A	700
ICD10A04A	600
ICD10A05A	500
ICD10A06A	400
ICD10A07A	300
ICD10A08A	200
ICD10A09A	100
ICD10A10A	100
ICD10A11A	100
ICD10A12A	100
ICD10A13A	100
ICD10A14A	100
ICD10A15A	100
ICD10A16A	100
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ICD10A18A	100
ICD10A19A	100
ICD10A20A	100
ICD10A21A	100
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ICD10B95A	100
ICD10B96A	100
ICD10B97A	100
ICD10B98A	100
ICD10B99A	100

Dallas County Resident Mortality Count by Race

Race	Count
White	1000
Black	800
Hispanic	600
Other	400

Dallas County Resident Mortality Count by Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Count
Hispanic or Latino	600
White	1000
Black or African American	800
Other	400

Cardiovascular Arrest Deaths

Cardiovascular arrest deaths peaked during the winter months in 2022 and 2023. In addition, women made up a slight majority of cardiovascular deaths compared to men. Racial and ethnic data showed that the white population also made up the majority of cardiovascular deaths.

Cardiovascular Arrest Deaths by Gender

Gender	Count
Female	600
Male	400

Cardiovascular Arrest Deaths by Race and Ethnicity

Race and Ethnicity	Count
White	1000
Black	800
Hispanic	600
Other	400

Question & Answer Session



UTRGV GET PHIT Interns

Start Today!

- It will allow you enough time to seek/receive feedback on your reflection essays elaborating on your interest in participation.
- It will allow you time to identify questions and reach out.

**Stronger
Application!**

Questions?

Connect with our UTRGV GET PHIT Team

UTRGV GET PHIT Team

- Email: UTRGV.GETPHIT@utrgv.edu
- [UTRGV GET PHIT internships webpage](#): We will post a copy of these slides and a recording

UTHealth Houston GET PHIT Internships Team

- Email: getphitinternships@uth.tmc.edu
- Bootcamps [webpage](#)



Tracia Forman, PhD



Suad Ghaddar, PhD