

UNMC, College of Public Health
Applied Practice Experience (APEX) Opportunities

Partner organization name: Panhandle Public Health District (PPHD)

Partner organization website: <https://www.pphd.ne.gov/>

Partner organization brief description: PPHD is working together to improve the health, safety, and quality of life for all who live, learn, work and play in the Panhandle.

Partner organization's point of contact name and email: If interested, please contact Julia Quigley (juquigley@unmc.edu) with a short blurb about yourself and interest in this project.

Description of partner organization's priority opportunities (APEX activities):

A refined scope will determine which priorities the students may engage in. APEX activities may include:

- Evaluate existing employee engagement survey data with the leadership team
- Complete a literature review or review of evidence-based practices to share with leadership team
- With the leadership team, design and conduct either a pulse survey or focus groups or both to further understand employee engagement opportunities
- Facilitate group discussions to prioritize professional development opportunities gleaned from the above
- Facilitate a group including leadership and front-line team members to co-create the highest priority professional development opportunity (which we believe from past surveys to be a career ladder)
- Work with the leadership team to facilitate implementation of the above including accompanying policy/procedure as well as any supporting comp/benefit structure
- Work with the leadership team to align communication strategy with the professional development opportunity including implementation/policy change/etc
- Suggest any modifications to ongoing employee engagement surveys/focus groups as a result of the above work
- Suggest any modifications to ongoing workforce sustainability strategies (e.g. strategic recruiting, succession planning processes) as a result of the above work
- Suggest alignment opportunities to strategic planning/the strategic plan as requested by the leadership team related to above work

Timeframe of proposed activities: Summer 2025 (May – August)

Benefit of proposed activities to partner organization:

- Assist organization in strengthening workforce
- Improved workforce planning

Benefit of proposed activities to the student:

- Experience in strategic planning
- Experience working with multiple types of data; possible capstone opportunities

Skill sets of students requested:

- Strong communication skills

*Note—An affiliation agreement will be required prior to student engagement

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- Ability to work collaboratively across teams and with leadership
- Strong organization skills

Additional Information (format of preferred engagement-virtual, hybrid, in-person; partner organization's location): This opportunity will be largely virtual, with the potential to be on-site for limited hours. Transportation will be coordinated with students.

For students who meet eligibility criteria, this opportunity is available for funding supported by the COPH. For more information, reach out to juquigley@unmc.edu or review orientation slides 13 – 15.