

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

**Partner organization name:** Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

**Partner organization website:** [www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Departments/Health-Department](http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Departments/Health-Department)

**Partner organization brief description:**

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department is proud of its workforce's dynamic response to our expanding community's diverse public health needs. Our mission centers on safeguarding and enhancing the public's health. Our Tobacco Prevention and Education program aims to foster public health by educating and empowering individuals to adopt tobacco-free lifestyles. Our established partnerships with community organizations strengthen our advocacy for inclusivity and health equity in tobacco control and policy. We strive to inform the community about tobacco's risks, prevent youth initiation, and promote resources for cessation, with the ultimate goal of creating a tobacco and e-cigarette-free Lincoln and Lancaster County.

**Partner organization's point of contact name and email:**

Program Contact: Angelina Stovall-Amos [astovall-amos@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:astovall-amos@lincoln.ne.gov) 402-441-6224

Tobacco Program: Sadie Jensen [sjjensen@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:sjjensen@lincoln.ne.gov) 402-441-4685

Eunice Oladeji [eoladeji@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:eoladeji@lincoln.ne.gov) 402-441-4108

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

- Actively participate with the Tobacco Prevention and Education team and the Tobacco Free Lancaster County coalition, the student will attend meetings regularly, providing updates on their progress.
- The student will collect data and insights on tobacco use within the LGBTQIA+ community, developing strategies to obtain this information when it's not readily available.
- Using the gathered data, the student will create engaging informational materials targeted at the LGBTQIA+ community, such as brochures and handouts. These resources will support the efforts of the Tobacco Prevention and Education team, OutNebraska, and local agencies serving the LGBTQIA+ population.
- The student will also lead the organization and facilitation of the coalition's involvement in the Star City Pride parade and festival, including designing promotional materials, planning outreach and booth activities, and managing the event's logistics. While the Tobacco Prevention and Education team will provide assistance, the student will spearhead the project, ensuring everything from booth design to staffing is well-organized for the events on June 7 and 8, 2024.

**Timeframe of proposed activities:**

May 2024 - July 2024; earlier if possible

**Benefit of proposed activities to partner organization:**

The proposed project benefits the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department Tobacco Prevention and Education team and Tobacco Free Lancaster County by providing effective outreach in the LGBTQIA+ community. Individuals in the LGBTQIA+ community are at

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

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increased risk for tobacco use and are therefore disproportionately impacted. Participation in activities like the Star City Pride parade and festival allows the opportunity to provide education about the risks of tobacco use and promote access to effective cessation resources. Through targeted research, data collection, and the creation of tailored informational materials, the department can more effectively communicate and address the specific needs of this community. Moreover, leading the involvement in local events like the Star City Pride parade provides a unique opportunity to increase visibility, promote health equity, and foster community engagement. These efforts align with the department's mission to promote public health and create tobacco-free environments, leveraging the student's contributions to advance these goals.

**Benefit of proposed activities to the student:**

For the student, participating in these activities offers a multifaceted learning experience that encompasses public health advocacy, community engagement, and project management. The student will gain firsthand experience conducting meaningful public health research, developing targeted educational materials, and organizing community outreach. These tasks will enhance their skills in communication, research, analytical thinking, and creative design, particularly within the context of promoting health equity and inclusivity. Additionally, leading the project for the Star City Pride event will cultivate leadership and organizational skills. This experience will not only contribute to their academic and professional growth but also empower them to make a tangible impact on public health issues facing the LGBTQIA+ community.

**Skill sets of students requested:**

- Strong verbal and written communication abilities.
- Fundamental research and analytical skills.
- Creativity and experience with material design to engage an LGBTQIA+ audience.
- Proactive approach to contributing to and managing project planning.
- Ability to work collaboratively with staff and community partners.

**Additional Information** (format of preferred engagement-virtual, hybrid, in-person; partner organization's location):

In-person participation is essential for the parade, festival, and some meetings. However, for tasks such as research, data collection, designing materials, and other planning activities, virtual or hybrid participation is possible.