



Combined Internship Description

Nevada Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (NvCLPPP)

UNLV School of Public Health

Description

The Nevada Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (NvCLPPP) at the UNLV School of Public Health is seeking interns interested in environmental health, community engagement, and health communication. This internship provides students with an opportunity to support lead poisoning prevention efforts through both **local community initiatives in Nevada and global environmental health collaborations**.

Interns will work with faculty, program staff, and community partners to develop communication strategies and materials that promote awareness of lead exposure risks and prevention practices. Projects may focus on Nevada-based outreach efforts aimed at increasing lead testing and prevention among families with young children, as well as global collaborations addressing environmental lead exposure in low- and middle-income countries.

Students will gain experience translating public health research into accessible communication materials and supporting real-world public health initiatives.

Client Demographics

Projects may serve diverse populations, including:

- Families with young children and pregnant women in Nevada communities
- Healthcare providers and community organizations involved in childhood health and prevention programs
- International partners working to address environmental lead exposure in low- and middle-income countries
- Public health agencies, NGOs, and academic institutions engaged in lead poisoning prevention efforts

Methodology and Timeline

Interns will collaborate with faculty mentors and program partners to identify communication needs and develop strategies that support lead prevention efforts. Activities may include:

- Conducting background research on environmental lead exposure and prevention strategies
- Participating in meetings with community or international partners to understand communication needs
- Developing health communication strategies tailored to specific populations
- Designing culturally and linguistically appropriate outreach materials

Projects will vary depending on program priorities and partner needs. Weekly meetings with faculty mentors will serve as check-in points to review progress and provide guidance.

Outcomes and Deliverables

Interns will contribute to the development of health communication resources designed to increase awareness and support lead prevention efforts. Deliverables may include:

- Educational flyers and outreach materials
- Social media messaging for public health campaigns
- Fact sheets summarizing lead exposure risks and prevention strategies
- Policy briefs or informational summaries for community stakeholders

These products will support NvCLPPP's mission to reduce childhood lead exposure, increase awareness, and strengthen prevention efforts locally and globally.

How Social Determinants of Health Relate to the NvCLPPP Internship

1. Neighborhood and Built Environment

This determinant is central to the project because lead exposure is directly tied to environmental conditions. Intern activities (e.g., developing outreach materials, supporting community initiatives) address:

- Aging housing infrastructure (e.g., lead-based paint, contaminated soil, water systems)
- Environmental exposures in high-risk neighborhoods/countries, often disproportionately affecting low-income communities
- Place-based risk communication, where interns help tailor messages to communities with known environmental hazards

Through this work, interns contribute to improving awareness of how physical environments influence lead exposure risk and support prevention strategies grounded in housing and environmental conditions.

2. Education Access and Quality

A major barrier to lead prevention is limited awareness and understanding of exposure risks and prevention behaviors. Interns directly address this determinant by:

- Translating technical research into clear, accessible educational materials
- Developing health communication tools (flyers, social media, fact sheets) that improve knowledge among caregivers, providers, and communities
- Supporting health literacy efforts, ensuring materials are understandable regardless of education level

This work helps bridge gaps in knowledge and empowers individuals and communities to take preventive action.

3. Social and Community Context

Effective lead prevention depends on trust, cultural relevance, and community engagement. Interns engage with this determinant by:

- Working with community partners to ensure materials are culturally and linguistically appropriate
- Incorporating community perspectives and norms into communication strategies
- Supporting outreach efforts that rely on trusted messengers and local networks

This ensures that interventions are not only informative but also accepted, relevant, and actionable within the community context.

Competencies

MPH18. Select communication strategies for different audiences and sectors.

MPH19. Communicate audience-appropriate public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation to a non-academic, non-peer audience with attention to factors such as literacy and health literacy.

MPH21. Integrate perspectives from other sectors and/or professions to promote and advance population health.

MPH7. Assess population needs, assets, and capacities that affect communities' health.