



# University of Pittsburgh

## *Graduate School of Public Health*

### *Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology*

#### **PITT PUBLIC HEALTH STUDENTS OPPORTUNITY: JANUARY 2021- JUNE 2021 COVID COMMUNITY RESEARCH PROJECT**

##### **What is it?**

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) has mobilized its research networks under the COVID-19 Prevention Network (CoVPN) to work in the rapid evaluation of COVID-19 prevention and treatment strategies.

**The CoVPN 5002 project seeks graduate students from the School of Public Health to assist in working in the community.**

##### **What are student employee duties?**

- Students will serve as study recruiters for a multicenter study looking at COVID19 prevalence (current infection) and sero-prevalence (antibodies indicative of prior infection) in a representative sample of the community.
- Student recruiters will be part of a team that will travel to various field locations in the Pittsburgh area.
- Student recruiters will be responsible for recruiting participants, assessing willingness to participate, explaining and obtaining research consent, and administering a study survey.
- Student recruiters will wear full personal protective equipment (PPE), provided by the study
- Student recruiters will work a maximum of 20 hours/week.
- **Anticipated start will be January 28, 2020 and will likely continue through June 2020, depending on speed of recruitment.**
- **Students must be willing to travel through Allegheny County, use public transportation, have a driver license, and be available during the morning, afternoon, and evening hours, and weekends as needed.**
- **Student employees will be hired through Pitt (job#20006469) Please go to Pitt HR site for information.**

##### **What will CoVPN 5002 accomplish?**

- Obtain laboratory samples for SARS-CoV-2 infection and the COVID-19, collected by team clinicians.
- Examine demographic, social, behavioral and clinical factors associated with SARS-CoV-2 infection and COVID-19 disease
- Understand attitudes about and uptake of containment and mitigation measures
- Evaluate racial health disparities associated with COVID-19
- Obtain data to inform mathematical models of disease progression and projection of future disease risk

##### **Study collection sites**

- Community sites located in specific neighborhoods within Pittsburgh
- Outpatient care facilities, student health service, community health centers
- Assisted living facilities, nursing homes

##### **What are student recruiters specific tasks?**

- Set up sites for study assessments including setting up and organizing needed equipment and supplies
- Work with representatives from clinics, programs and sites to facilitate study assessments
- Approach individuals to recruit into the study
- Explain the study to potential volunteers
- Work with nurses, phlebotomists, research staff and investigators
- Collect needed forms or materials as outlined in protocol
- Adhere to protocol established for collection of samples
- Comply with all requirements for PPE and infection control procedures
- Identify issues or problems and communicating with investigators
- Maintain composure and professional attitude in all settings
- Abide by requirement for professional attire (scrubs and/or lab coat)

##### **What are the advantages to me as a student?**

- Experience may be used to meet requirement for MPH practicum. This must be negotiated with your academic advisor.

**Please go to Pitt HR site for information. (job #20006469)**

[www.join.pitt.edu](http://www.join.pitt.edu) - from main site, select "Students" under "Find Positions" and search 20006469

Direct link: [Student - Project Assistant](#)