

# intern abroad

## Geneva Internship Program: Opportunities for Public Health Students

### International Internship Programs

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All Boston University International Programs internship placements are:

- Personalized
- Guaranteed
- Project-based
- Academically directed

#### Personalized Internships

Boston University International Programs internship coordinators sit with students to understand and assess the student's career goals, prior work experience and skill set, as well as their study abroad and internship expectations.

They then contact potential providers and customize an internship placement to the individual student. Each semester, approximately 30% of our internship placements are from new providers.

### Geneva Internship Program

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#### Past Public Health Internships Providers

*(Please note : These are examples of past internship placements only. While we guarantee an internship to program participants, available placements vary from semester to semester.)*

- International AIDS Society
- Union International Contre le Cancer
- The Global Funds against AIDS, TB and Malaria
- International Osteoporosis Foundation
- Foundation Artères
- Some departments inside the World Health Organization

#### Comments from the Geneva Internship Program

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"Students interested in Public Health issues have undertaken a wide variety of placements in Geneva with NGO's and IGO's focused on infectious diseases, women and children health, Human Resources for Health, evidence and information for health policy, management of health services. "

- Aline Dimitriou  
Internship Director, Geneva

#### Guaranteed Internships

All students are guaranteed an internship placement while abroad with a Boston University international internship program.

#### Project-Based Internships

Students will work on a project (or projects) while at their placement during the semester. Past students with Public Health, Biology or Pre-Med majors have worked in Intergovernmental organizations, NGOs or associations, all dealing with Public Health issues.

#### Academically Directed Internships

During the internship phase, students will be required to maintain a daily journal about their internship experience. By the end of the semester, all students will produce a comprehensive, academically directed portfolio about their internship project and their experience working with the placement provider.



## Student Testimonial

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"I worked for a Senior Policy Advisor in the Director's office of my organization's Stop TB Department. I worked primarily on a fact sheet about Women and TB. This involved research, writing, and data analysis. In particular, I analyzed region specific age and sex desegregated TB notification rate data, and mortality data. I used Microsoft Excel to organize this data and present it in chart form.

I really enjoyed the amount I learned from working at this organization every day, reading material, and going to presentations on health topics. I also learned a lot about how to find health data on websites. It was challenging working in such an independent environment, but ultimately I found it to be an educational experience. This internship was helpful in deciding whether my future goal is to work for a large international organization like the one I was working for."

**-Student working for a large health IGO.**

"I worked for a medically-based humanitarian organization. They provide assistance in case of natural disaster, disease outbreak and also provide regular medical consultations and aid to vulnerable populations.

I worked for their Communications department. I did interviews and searched the internal database in order to update information on certain countries where we work for the website. I also conducted interviews which either were or will be published in the internal magazine. I took notes on a weekly morning meeting which were published in an internal newsletter. Finally, I helped choose photos and write captions for a few photo expositions.

I was so glad I knew French as I would have never been able to work for this well-known organization. The people who work there are really nice, so don't hesitate to ask questions (I didn't ask many questions the first week or two, and that was a mistake). If you want to see a greater extent of what the organization does, be friendly and willing to do any task. That works! "

**-Student working for a medically-based humanitarian organization.**

"I generally dealt with organizational tasks dealing with a partners' forum held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (that I was very lucky to attend). The work dealt generally with membership applications, registrations for the forum, sponsorship requests and communication with attendees.

I felt very included in the office. Most of my co-workers treated me as an equal and were glad to share their workload with me. I felt very appreciated. The office was small, so it was easy to get to know everyone, and they were all very nice people.

I was generally very stressed while at work, but the days went quickly because I was kept very busy organizing this forum. However, I feel that I made a difference and helped a lot with the organization of the partnership and preparation for the forum. I am proud of what I accomplished.

While in Dar es Salaam setting up and facilitating the partners' forum I was able to see how the forum proceeded and I could use what I learned to aid in any way that I could."

**-Student working for a Maternal, Newborn and Child Health partnership at a large health organization.**

"I am working in the Communications Department. One of my projects is to market the 2008 World Cancer Campaign to the medical and tobacco worlds-specifically professionals in oncology and tobacco control. Another is to bring World Cancer Day to my university. The third is to create a database of cancer-related publications available for member institutions as well as my organization to contact. The fourth project was to evaluate the websites of member organizations in terms of user-friendliness and level of cancer-related information."

**-Student working for a cancer focused NGO.**