



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

CREATE CHANGE

Bachelor of Health Sciences

Student placements – HLTH3001

Improving the health of populations in a changing and inequitable world



The Placement Program involves third year Bachelor of Health Sciences students spending one day each week for 13 weeks in Semester 2 (July - October) with a health-related organisation.

The aim of the placement?

The overall purpose of the Placement Program is to promote understanding of the health system and the organisations that operate within it, to enable students to gain hands-on experience in a health-related work environment. The course content, along with the practical experience gained from the placement, will enhance students' knowledge and skill base and prepare them for future employment within public health and health care industries.

What form does the placement take?

The aims of the placement are to:

- integrate key professional skills and competencies and apply them in a real-world environment,
- broaden students' understanding of employment options within the health sector, and
- gain a minimum of 90 hrs of supervised work experience in a health setting.

The role of your organisation in hosting the placement is to facilitate student access to appropriate learning activities and experiences related to your organisation's work. You are not required to undertake an intensive teaching or supervisory role.

Placements will vary according to the differing needs, activities and resources of the organisation and the student's study commitments. To date, placements have taken a variety of forms and students have been involved in many different activities and projects (e.g., health promotion programs and activities in local councils and government departments, research projects, policy development projects in health insurers, community assessments, program design and implementation in clinical organisations and school Kitchen Garden programs). Some students have become involved in quite specific projects, while others have taken the opportunity to simply spend time with organisational staff, learning from them and gaining skills and understanding that will enhance their future employment.

How are the placements organised?

Each year organisations are asked to express their interest in being involved in the Placement Program. Organisations are invited to provide a brief synopsis of their main activities, the number of students they can take and any other relevant information. Students are asked to register their interest in several health-related

fields. The Placement Officer is responsible for arranging the placement between the organisations and students. If a situation arises whereby your organisation is unable to proceed with a placement, please let the Placement Officer know as soon as possible so that an alternative placement can be arranged. Organisations hosting student placements are encouraged to remain in contact with the Placement Officer for support and information, to ensure a successful experience for all participants.

Talk to one of our placement organisation participants

If you are interested in speaking to an organisation that has been participating in this program for firsthand experience and knowledge, please contact our office and we are happy to arrange this communication.

Any and all questions or feedback is encouraged and appreciated. On behalf of the School of Public Health and The University of Queensland, we thank you for your consideration.

Please feel free to pass this onto anyone who may be interested in participating!



“Every day is different in my role as a Tobacco Action Worker. I implement smoke free policies, play sport with children, talk to people about health promotion and attend community events. I love knowing I have made a difference in the community and am passionate about improving people's health.”

Alana, UQ Health Sciences graduate.

Placement contact

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