

The Johns Hopkins Vaccine Initiative
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

VIEW Scholars Program Announcement, 2012

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VIEW Scholars Program Announcement:

The Johns Hopkins Vaccine Initiative is pleased to announce internship opportunities in vaccine research and implementation at the World Health Organization (WHO) headquarters in Geneva. The Vaccine Internship Experience at WHO (VIEW) Scholars Program is funded by the Johns Hopkins Vaccine Initiative. The objective of the VIEW Scholars Program is to allow JHSPH graduate students to work with mentors in the Department of Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals at the World Health Organization (WHO) to gain experience in vaccine research, policy, or programs of global importance.

Specific projects will vary, but might include analytic work or specific assignments that contribute to the development of global immunization policy recommendations, the strengthening of national decision making processes for immunization, vaccine delivery, financing, or safety monitoring, or vaccine preventable disease surveillance.

Three internships will be offered during the 2012-2013 academic year.

1. Eligibility

The VIEW Scholars Program is restricted to full time master's and doctoral students in good standing enrolled at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health who will have completed at least one year of coursework by the time the internship begins in September will be eligible to apply. As this internship is intended to complement course work taken at the School of Public Health, all applicants are required to have completed at least one year of coursework, including a minimum of three terms of biostatistics and one term of epidemiology. Preference will be given to students who have taken one or more vaccine courses at JHSPH.

Applicants must anticipate full time enrollment during T1-T2 of the 2012-2013 academic year.

Awards will be announced in April and internships are anticipated to begin in September in Geneva.

2. Contact Information:

Amber Bickford Cox, MPH
Program Manager JHVI
jhvi@jhsphe.edu

625 N. Broadway, Room 237
Baltimore MD, 21205

The mission of the Johns Hopkins Vaccine Initiative is to promote collaborative and interdisciplinary vaccine research, education, and implementation efforts to improve health worldwide.

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3. Requirements

- Internships will begin in September and will last 12-18 weeks. In rare instances, internships may extend beyond 18 weeks if desired by the VIEW scholar and WHO mentor; however, no additional stipend is available. Students should only apply to the internship if they will be available to complete the minimum of 12 weeks in Geneva.
- VIEW Scholars are required to arrange all transportation and accommodation for the internship.
- VIEW Scholars are required to submit a summary report of the WHO internship experience in the spring following the internship. In most instances, essays written in fulfillment of degree requirements will also satisfy this requirement.
- VIEW Scholars will present their work to WHO staff in Geneva and to students and faculty at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. The JHSPH presentation will be scheduled in the spring following the internship.
- VIEW Scholars are required to submit 3-5 high resolution digital photographs to be used by JHVI and/or WHO to promote JHVI, WHO and the VIEW Scholars Program. Photo credits will be attributed to the student.
- VIEW Scholars who are unable to travel to Geneva must immediately return all funds to JHVI.

4. Projects

JHVI and WHO will arrange internships on vaccine-related topics of global importance that will provide opportunities for students to apply skills acquired at JHSPH. However, it is essential that WHO has the flexibility to adjust internships to respond to critical or emerging public health needs. Following the identification of VIEW Scholars, JHVI and WHO will assign internships based on student interest and experience and WHO programmatic needs.

Specific projects will vary, but might include analytic work or specific assignments that contribute to the development of global immunization policy recommendations, the strengthening of national decision making processes for immunization, vaccine delivery, financing, or safety monitoring, or vaccine preventable disease surveillance.

5. Application

Applications forms will be available through the JHVI website: www.jhsph.edu/vaccineinitiative. All applications and recommendations are due Friday January 27, 2012 at 5:00pm. Electronic applications are preferred and should be submitted to jhvi@jhsph.edu.

Paper applications may be delivered to Amber Cox (address below). Please follow up with an email to confirm receipt of your paper application.

Amber Bickford Cox
Program Manager JHVI
625 N. Broadway, Room 237
Baltimore MD, 21205

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VIEW applicants must be available for an interview with the VIEW selection committee in Baltimore during February 2012.

Please submit each of the following documents

Application (PDF)
Recommendation letters (2)
CV
Unofficial transcript
Personal statement

6. Funding

VIEW Scholars will receive \$7,500 to be used for travel, accommodation and expenses while in Geneva.

7. Selection of Scholars

VIEW Scholars will be selected based on the following factors:

- Educational Background & Performance
- Personal Statement
- Recommendations
- Interview

8. Timeline

Student applications due (*January 2012*)

Selected candidates interviewed (*February 2012*)

Finalists notified (*March 2012*)

VIEW Scholars announced (*March 2012*)

Student travel (*September 2012*)

Internships complete (*December 2012*)

JHSPH presentation, essay, and photos (*Spring 2013*)

9. Frequently Asked Questions

Who can apply?

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health master's and doctoral students in good standing who will have completed at least one year of coursework by the time the internship begins in September (including requirements in epidemiology and biostatistics) are eligible to apply. Preference will be given to students who have taken one or more vaccine courses. Applicants must anticipate full time enrollment during T1-T2 of the 2012-2013 academic year. Graduates are not eligible.

When will awards be announced?

Awards will be announced in March and internships are anticipated to begin September 2012 in Geneva.

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How many internships will be funded for 2012?

Three internship stipends will be awarded for the 2012-2013 academic year.

What is the process for applying to the VIEW Scholars Program?

Students interesting in the internship should submit an application, two recommendations, a CV, an unofficial transcript and personal statement by January 27, 2012. Selected candidates will be scheduled for interviews in February 2012. Finalists will be notified in March 2012 and asked to complete an application in the WHO e-Recruitment system. Following JHVI and WHO review of applications and interviews, the VIEW Scholars will be announced in March 2012.

What are the coursework minimum requirements for applicants?

Students must be enrolled full-time in a graduate program at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health during the internship and must have completed at least one year of the program prior to the start of the internship. The minimum requirements for biostatistics and epidemiology are three terms of biostatistics and one term of epidemiology. Please contact us if you have any questions.

What is considered good standing?

Students are considered in good standing as long as they are not on academic probation.

How long will the internship last?

Internships will begin in September and will last 12-18 weeks. In rare instances, internships may extend beyond 18 weeks if desired by the VIEW scholar and WHO mentor; however, no additional stipend is available. Students should only apply for the internship if they will be available to complete a minimum of 12 weeks in Geneva.

Can I ask my advisor to write a recommendation letter?

Yes, your advisor may write one of your recommendations.

What should I include in the Relevant Professional/International Experience section of the application?

You should include any volunteer or work experiences which would show experience working internationally, any research or public health experiences and any experience gained while enrolled at JHSPH.

Do I need language skills in order to apply for the internship?

The official languages at WHO are both English and French. Many internships have included a working knowledge of French as a desirable skill for students; however, this is not an absolute requirement for any of the internships. Please include information regarding basic, intermediate or advanced language skills on your application.

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Can I select which internship I would like to participate in if I am chosen as a VIEW Scholar?

Please review the internship descriptions and identify your top five selections for internships on the application form. JHVI and WHO will make every effort to pair selected candidates with one of their top choices for internship, but internship assignments must remain flexible in order to respond to public health needs at WHO.

What if I am selected for the program but I am not able to participate?

VIEW Scholars selected but who are unable to participate are required to return any disbursed funds to JHVI. Please notify jhvi@jhsph.edu as early as possible in order to facilitate selection of an alternate candidate.

What are the requirements for the essay after returning to JHSPH?

All students are required to submit a written summary of their internship process. This essay should be no less than 5 pages in length and should summarize the internship project at WHO. Essays written in fulfillment of degree requirements will also satisfy this requirement (e.g. MHS essays).

What are the requirements for the JHSPH presentation?

All students are required to develop 15-20 minute presentations describing their internship project, to be presented in the spring at JHSPH following the internship.

I plan on graduating the program prior to September 2012. Can I still participate in the internship?

No. Only full time graduate students during T1-T2 of 2012-2013 are eligible to apply.

When should I complete the WHO online application for internships?

Once finalists are selected, they will be asked to complete the WHO e-Recruitment application for internships with specific instructions to identify applicants as candidates for the VIEW Scholars Program. If you have already created a profile in the WHO e-Recruitment system, you will need to update your application if selected as a final candidate.

How should I find accommodation while in Geneva?

WHO can provide a list of useful website addresses which could help in finding accommodation. VIEW Scholars will be asked to join the online WHO Intern Community where you will find numerous resources for getting established in Geneva. NOTE: When identifying accommodations in Geneva, abstain from making advance payments or providing guarantee sums in advance of your arrival. All accepted intern applicants are strongly advised to use the service of recognized "Régies" and established financial institutions.

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What are the vaccine courses at JHSPH?

- 223.662.01 Vaccine Development and Application
Instructors: Neal Halsey
- 223.687.01 Vaccine Policy Issues
Instructors: Daniel Salmon and Orin Levine
- 223.689.01 Biologic Basis of Vaccine Development
Instructors: Anna Durbin and Jay Bream
- 223.705.81 Clinical Vaccine Trials and Good Clinical Practice
Instructor: Karen Charron and Amber Cox
- 223.867.01 Vaccine Seminar
Instructor: Anna Durbin and Amber Cox

Am I required to submit a budget or receipts to JHVI for the stipend?

No. It is expected that the \$7500 stipend will be spend on accommodation and expenditures while in Geneva but no receipts are required to be submitted for the internship.