

UNMC, College of Public Health
Applied Practice Experience (APEX) Opportunities

Partner organization name: Clay County Public Health Center

Partner organization website: www.clayhealth.com

Partner organization brief description: Clay County Public Health Center is a local public health department created in 1953 to protect the health of all people in the county by implementing population-based prevention programs and services. This community approach to wellness is accomplished through programs and services, which not only prevent the spread of disease but also provide wellness education to empower people to make healthy choices.

Partner organization's point of contact name and email:

Erin Cooper, Intern and Volunteer Coordinator: ecooper@clayhealth.com (Please contact Erin if interested in this opportunity)

Robert Gilliland: rgilliland@clayhealth.com

Leah Ferris: lferris@clayhealth.com

Description of partner organization's priority opportunities (APEX activities):

- **Environmental Health** - Mostly we are reviewing/updating our food code and possibility our pool code, onsite code. There will be some research involved, planning editing helping with a fee assessment, Planning stakeholder meetings. We also have some forms to update. Our forms are currently PDF fillable which isn't user friendly across multi devices. We haven't found a compatible software yet, there are some free editing forms we need to research. Will be spending part of their time in the office and field.

Timeframe of proposed activities: Fall 2025 or Spring 2026

Environmental Health - We will be working on these throughout the year.

Benefit of proposed activities to partner organization:

Environmental Health – Will provide the environmental program the assistance and background research needed to review and update regulatory codes. Also providing a role in assisting on inspections and working / engaging with stakeholders.

Benefit of proposed activities to the student:

Environmental health – Student will learn practical skills about environmental health regulatory codes and regulations. They will gain hands-on experience in the role environmental health has with protecting the public from food-borne illnesses and other environmental safety factors.

Skill sets of students requested:

Professional communication (written and verbal)

Organization

Problem-solving skills

Some data analysis required

Public speaking skills

Passion for environmental health

*Note—An affiliation agreement will be required prior to student engagement

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Additional Information (format of preferred engagement-virtual, hybrid, in-person; partner organization's location): **Environmental Health** – In person