



INTERNSHIP – Spring 2027

Overview: In partnership with the University Honors Program at the University of Kansas, the Kansas Health Institute (KHI) seeks a student intern for the Spring 2027 term.

[KHI](#) offers an exciting opportunity for undergraduate students in the KU University Honors Program to explore a wide variety of health policy issues and to work with and learn from the KHI team of qualitative and quantitative researchers and policy analysts. The intern will gain valuable experience working on projects related to access to health care, public health, state and federal health policy, health data, and the strategic communication of health policy-related research and data to a broad audience. Interns are encouraged to contribute their own perspectives, ideas and approaches to the work assigned to them while receiving guidance and mentorship from KHI team members. The intern will work under the supervision of Linda Sheppard, who will serve as program supervisor. Depending on the intern's assigned projects, other KHI project directors will provide day-to-day guidance and mentorship.

Examples of tasks that may be assigned to the intern include:

- Conducting preliminary research and analysis.
- Identifying relevant data sources and gathering and analyzing data.
- Drafting research memos and other written materials.
- Attending meetings, both internal and with external partners, taking notes, preparing summaries of discussions, and when appropriate to the project, participating in presenting findings or ideas.
- Assisting with educational events or outreach initiatives.

This internship can satisfy the Professional Development & Social Entrepreneurship Enhanced Learning Experience (ELE) as part of University Honors Program graduation requirements.

Time Commitment Requirements and Award: Students will receive an \$1,800 award to support their involvement with a commitment of 8-10 hours per week for the spring term.

This internship will be based at the KHI office in Topeka, Kansas, which follows a hybrid schedule, with in-office days typically on Mondays and Wednesdays. The intern will be in the office on at least one of these in-office days. A KHI computer will be provided for use while working in the office. For remote work periods, if applicable, the intern will use their own personal device and must have access to Microsoft Office applications (e.g., Word, Excel, Teams) and Zoom.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Undergraduate student in the University Honors Program majoring in health or applied behavioral science, public health, social work, biology, psychology, statistics, political science, education or a related field, with an interest in learning more about the development and implementation of health policy.
- Must meet the qualifications for good academic standing and progression for the University Honors Program.
- Excellent oral and written communication, organizational and time-management skills.
- Adaptability, including the ability to work independently to complete tasks and adjust to new assignments and priorities.
- Dependable, positive attitude, enthusiasm, and desire to work collaboratively with colleagues.
- Strong attitude of curiosity and eagerness to learn and apply new information.

Deadline: Applications are due by Thursday, October 22, 2026. Interviews of selected applicants will take place prior to the end of the fall semester. KHI will conduct the interviews, without oversight from the University Honors Program, to support a consistent and equitable selection process.

How to Apply: Please submit your resume and a cover letter through the University Honors Program Internships portal located on its website.

About the Kansas Health Institute: Established in 1995 with a multiyear grant from the Kansas Health Foundation, KHI is a nonprofit, nonpartisan educational organization based in Topeka, with a mission to improve the health of all Kansans by providing nonpartisan information, convening crucial conversations and facilitating learning that leads to meaningful change. KHI believes evidence-based information, objective analysis and civil dialogue enable policy leaders to be champions for a healthier Kansas. Our vision is for Kansas to become the healthiest place to live through evidence-based and innovative strategies, policies and practices.

Recent KHI work includes a growing range of educational opportunities designed to translate research and evidence into practical knowledge and action. In 2026, KHI launched a new on-demand learning platform offering self-paced courses to complement live learning opportunities such as the *Bring It* series, the Ad Astra ECHO Hub, webinars and other events. KHI also shares its work through offerings such as the *Hill to the Heartland* series focused on federal health policy, the *Health at the Capitol* series focused on state policy, and the *Health on the Plains* podcast. KHI conducts research and policy analysis to inform its work on issues such as health insurance coverage and access to care, health equity, Medicaid, rural health, public health system transformation, maternal health, aging, food security and emerging issues related to artificial intelligence.