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# WASHINGTON MEDICAL LEGAL PARTNERSHIP

## HEALTH STUDENT SUMMER INTERNSHIP

Location	Harborview Medical Center [ <i>mostly remote</i> ]
Department	Pediatrics
Qualifications	Enrolled in (or expected to start, in the fall) a graduate health sciences program: dentistry, health policy, hospital administration, medicine, public health, pharmacy, social work, nursing.
Dates	<i>8-10 weeks total– healthcare &amp; legal student to coordinate times</i>
Weekly Hours	10-20    Stipend    \$3200
Health Considerations	Students will work in a clinical environment. Completion of any required vaccination or screening before start of internship is expected.
Project Description	<b>Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) Providers’ Responsiveness and Accountability</b> <p>This practical, policy-focused project seeks collaboration between healthcare providers and advocates from the Northwest Justice Project to research, analyze and design solutions to address widespread challenges for Medicaid beneficiaries to access reliable Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) services.</p> <p>NEMT is an important benefit for people who need assistance getting to and from medical appointments. In Washington State, the Health Care Authority (HCA) covers NEMT for eligible clients to and from covered health care services through contracts with transportation brokers.</p> <p>Additionally, Medicaid enrollees under age 21 are covered by an important law called the <i>Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment</i> (EPSDT) benefit, which provides comprehensive and preventive health care services for children. EPSDT is key to ensuring that children and adolescents receive appropriate preventive, dental, mental health and specialty services. EPSDT applies to all Medicaid benefits, including NEMT. Under EPSDT, HCA and its contractors have special obligations to ensure that youth actually receive all of the care and services they are entitled to in a timely manner. However, MLP has heard reports from its medical partners at Seattle Children’s Hospital and Harborview Medical Center, as well as from patient families, that they are not reliably receiving the NEMT services.</p>

Working with clinicians, and with attorneys from Northwest Justice Project’s [Washington Medical-Legal Partnership](#) (MLP), summer interns will focus on understanding and analyzing the challenges of getting NEMT reliably for the patient community.

In addition, summer interns will research and develop strategies to increase accountability and responsiveness to client and provider NEMT needs, including formal or informal legal advocacy with state agencies. The MLP internship includes a capstone project, such as a written report, a presentation to medical or legal advocates, or an internal issue brief or clinically tailored infographic or executive summary.

Activities

- Learn about the principles of medical-legal partnership (MLP) and its role in addressing health-harming civil legal needs.
- Review documents and interview key informants to understand barriers to NEMT services for Medicaid beneficiaries at Harborview Medical Center or Seattle Children’s Hospital.
- Interview MLP attorneys and clinical stakeholders (physicians, program coordinators, social workers) to document areas in which patients, communities, or healthcare systems suffer harm or inequity because of problematic access to NEMT.
- Understand the specific benefits and protections afforded to children under the EPSDT program.
- Work with legal colleagues (MLP attorney or law student extern) to determine a strategy to advocate for improved NEMT access and accountability.
- From the health professional perspective, assist legal colleagues in understanding the clinical implications and health system costs of specific barriers to timely NEMT service.

Products

Internal issue brief  
Clinically tailored infographic or executive summary

To Apply

**No later than February 28, 2025:** please send your CV and a cover letter, explaining how this experience will complement your education, to:

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Chief of Pediatrics | Harborview Medical Center  
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