



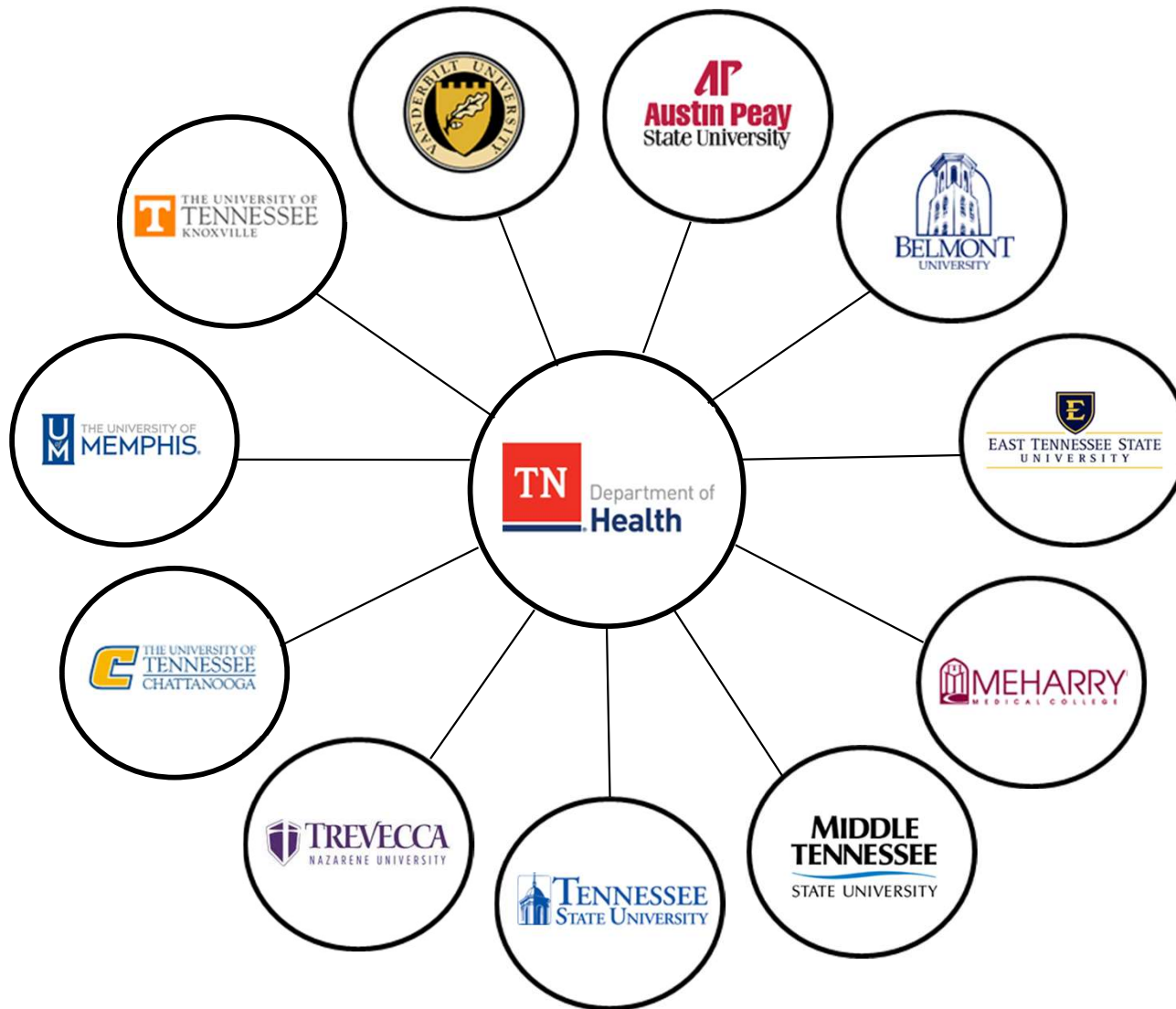
**FROM FIRST STEPS TO FULL-TIME:  
TDH INTERNSHIP & FELLOWSHIP INSIGHTS  
WITH ALUMNI VOICES**

TPHA - April 8, 2026

# Go Amos!



# TDH Academic Health Department



# Academic Health Department Advisory Committee (AHDAC)



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University of Tennessee, Chattanooga



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East Tennessee State University



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**Christian Williams**  
Chair, Department of Public Health  
Belmont University



**Bethany Wrye**  
Chair, Department of Health and Human  
Performance  
Middle Tennessee State University

# Why internships matter...



- Provide practice for students
  - General experience, not for academic credit
  - Applied Practice Experience (APEX) or Capstone
- Provide mentorship/leadership opportunity for staff
- Create workforce pipeline



# TDH Internships – Summer 2026

- Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) Surgical Site Infection (SSI) Surveillance
- Community Health Access and Navigation in Tennessee (CHANT) Evaluation Report
- Community Health Navigation ROI analysis
- Connecting Tennesseans to Care: Improving Adoption and Integration of the TN Community Compass/Findhelp Platform
- Development of Maternal Interview Program
- Drug User Health: Understanding the Unregulated Drug Supply
- Emergency Preparedness Program THRIVE Evaluation and Metrics Refinement for Rural Health Transformation
- Review of human Q fever cases in Tennessee including a descriptive analysis of the data
- Landscape Analysis of Tennessee Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) and Payer Partnerships for Immunization Coverage
- Livability Indicators Dashboard Data Updates
- Overdose Response Coordination Linkage to Care
- Public Health Learning Handbook for High School Teachers in Tennessee
- State Health Plan and State of Health Support
- Tobacco Retailer Assessment & Public Health Policy

# Why fellowships matter...



October 2021

## Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals

Revised and Adopted by the Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice:  
October 21, 2021

Available from: [phf.org/corecompetencies](https://phf.org/corecompetencies)

**Data Analytics and Assessment Skills**

**Policy Development and Program Planning Skills**

**Communication Skills**

**Health Equity Skills**

**Community Partnership Skills**

**Public Health Sciences Skills**

**Management and Finance Skills**

**Leadership and Systems Thinking Skills**

**PROUDLY WELCOMING OUR NEW  
PUBLIC HEALTH EXECUTIVE FELLOWS**



**REBECCA LIU, MPH**



**ELYSE STREAT, MPH**



**TIA WATTS, MPH**

