IPSF Pharmacy Student Internship at The World Health Organization (WHO) Tobacco Free Initiative (TFI)

The WHO's Tobacco Free Initiative (TFI) was established in July 1998 to focus international attention, resources and action on the global tobacco epidemic.

**TFI's objective**

TFI's objective is to reduce the global burden of disease and death caused by tobacco, thereby protecting present and future generations from the devastating health, social, environmental and economic consequences of tobacco consumption and exposure to tobacco smoke. To accomplish its mission, TFI:

- provides global policy leadership;
- encourages mobilization at all levels of society; and
- promotes the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC), encourages countries to adhere to its principles, and supports them in their efforts to implement tobacco control measures based on its provisions.

**TFI's global structure**

TFI is part of the Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health (NMH) cluster at WHO headquarters (HQ) in Geneva. Regional advisers for tobacco control are based in WHO's regional offices for Africa, the Americas, the Eastern Mediterranean, Europe, South-East Asia and the Western Pacific. TFI-HQ works closely with its regional advisers to plan and implement all activities. Its regional advisers, in turn, collaborate with WHO's country representatives and liaison officers to facilitate tobacco control activities at regional and country level. Most of TFI's major activities are coordinated by its regional offices and decentralized to country level.

**Through IPSF, TFI will recruit 1 or 2 pharmacy student and/or young pharmacist interns to work at the TFI in Geneva.**

Under the supervision of Dr Dongbo Fu, Technical Officer for Tobacco Cessation, the intern will execute a project in the context of compiling and analysis of the price of nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) in the world through the network of the IPSF. There are currently two forms of NRT (nicotine gum and nicotine patch) that have been included in the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines. The results of this project would be useful for WHO to determine the affordability of NRT products in the world.

The internship can be between 8 to 12 weeks, depending on the applicant’s and TFI personelles’ availability.
Internship periods are open for the following months:

- July to December of 2011

**Eligibility**

WHO may accept applicants who meet all of the following conditions as interns:

- Applicants who are enrolled in a course of study at a university or equivalent institution leading to a formal qualification (graduate or post-graduate). Applicants who apply for an internship within 1 year of completion of their formal qualification may also qualify for consideration;
- Applicants who have completed three years of full-time studies at a university or equivalent institution prior to commencing the assignment;
- Applicants who are fluent in at least one of the working languages of the office of assignment;
- Applicants who are not related to a staff member (e.g., son/daughter, brother/sister or mother/father);
- Applicants who have not previously participated in WHO's internship programme; and
- Applicants who are not current tobacco users

When accepting an internship, interns agree to:

- Conduct themselves at all times in accordance with the standards of conduct expected of a person working in an international environment in a specialized agency of the United Nations system.
- Refrain from any conduct that would adversely reflect on WHO or on the receiving department and not engage in any activity which is incompatible with the aims and objectives of the Organization.
- Provide the receiving programme with a copy of all materials prepared during the internship. Interns may not disclose or make use of any unpublished or confidential information that comes to their knowledge in the course of their internship. The provisions relating to texts prepared for publication apply also to interns.
- Submit a written report at the end of the internship to be reviewed by the supervisor and other interested parties.
- Interns are expected to devote themselves full-time to the assignments of the receiving unit for the period of the internship.

When offering an internship, the receiving programme agrees to:

- Ensure that an intern's assignment is related to his/her field of study, meaningful for both the programme and the intern, and at the appropriate level of complexity and variety.
- Review progress regularly and provide adequate feedback and coaching/mentoring during the internship.
- Provide office accommodation and related support facilities to enable the intern to undertake the assignment.
- At the end of the internship, prepare a written evaluation of the intern's performance and provide the intern with feedback.

**How to apply for the IPSF–WHO TFI Internship**

All IPSF members are eligible to apply. WHO will be responsible for the final selection of applicants. Successful applicants undertaking an internship will not be financially
remunerated by WHO. **Applicants will be responsible for their own travel and living expenses.**

The deadline for this application is **10 May 2011**. Additional applications will be considered after this date as vacancies arise or as directed by WHO.

As part of your application please submit:

- A curriculum vitae (CV)
- A one-page motivation letter. Please also include your desired length of internship, and availability dates to undergo the internship.
- A maximum 1200 word essay on the role of the pharmacist in managing and reducing the global burden of disease and death caused by tobacco. All essays must be the original work of the applicant. IPSF reserves the right to publish the essays received (with acknowledgement of the author).
- A reference letter
- A letter of support from your university

Please submit electronic copies of your application to the IPSF Chairperson of Public Health **no later than 10 May 2011 (12:00 GMT)**.

The full application shall be submitted electronically to publichealth@ipsf.org. Only PDF format of all applications will be accepted.

The results of the internship selection will be announced to all candidates by **31 May 2011** at the latest.

You can learn more about TFI at: [http://www.who.int/tobacco/en/](http://www.who.int/tobacco/en/)

If you have any questions about the internships please contact the IPSF Chairperson of Public Health at publichealth@ipsf.org.