

**The City of New York**  
**Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)**  
**Bureau of Veterinary and Pest Control Services (VPCS)**

**CALL FOR INTERNS!**  
**DOG LICENSING SURVEY PROJECT**

**ABOUT THE NYC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH VPCS**

The New York City DOHMH's Veterinary and Pest Control Services (VPCS) protects the public from animal/vector borne diseases (e.g., West Nile Virus, Lyme's Disease, etc.) animal hazards and nuisances (dog bites, raccoon rabies, etc.) and city rodent infestations.

**ABOUT THE PROJECT**

The VPCS division of the Department of Health protects the public from rabies outbreak, uncontrolled strays and dog attacks by enforcing the regulations of the New York State law that requires that all owned dogs be licensed. Therefore, the DOHMH is conducting a survey of dog owners throughout New York City. The goal is to determine what strategies are needed to achieve maximal compliance (i.e., as close to 100% as possible) of dog licensing.

However, this has proven challenging because some dog owners lack an incentive to pay the dog license fees and to renew their licenses thereafter. So, to help show the value of dog licensing, the DOHMH has recently designed a highly valuable program that will re-unite lost dogs with their owners for free—*providing the dogs are licensed*. But more incentives are needed. And so we need your help!

**INTERNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES**

For the Dog Licensing Survey Project, the VPCS is seeking enthusiastic interns to conduct the following:

1. Help design effective surveys
2. Recruit dog owners
3. Conduct in-person interviews using the designed survey
4. Manage collected survey results data
5. Perform data analysis of survey results

## **DESIRABLE SKILLS**

- Strong interpersonal communication skills
- Detail oriented for survey accuracy
- Good organizational skills
- The desire or ability to analyze data sets and draw conclusions (or receptive to learning/assisting)

**ACADEMIC LEVEL: Junior or Senior Undergraduate; or Graduate Student**

**SALARY: NON-SALARIED**

## **BENEFITS AND ACADEMIC CREDIT**

- 1) Although this intern position is not salaried, interns strongly benefit by learning the skill sets necessary for working with a world class level Health Department. The skills learned on the job with the NYC Health Department will really pay benefits for a life time.
- 2) It is important to keep in mind that employers are usually quite impressed with graduates whom have *proven* themselves self- motivated with a desire to both learn and contribute to society at the same time. *In other words, internships look great on resumes!*
- 3) This DLSP Internship can be completed for academic credit.
- 4) Having the chance to work alongside of, and be mentored by a dynamic team of dedicated NYC Health Professionals.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** June 1 to start; can negotiate start date.

## **INTERESTED?**

Send cover letter and resume to: Kolthida Johnston, Director of Operations Analysis, at [kjohnston@health.nyc.gov](mailto:kjohnston@health.nyc.gov) with the subject line: Dog Licensing Survey Project Internship.