



Undergraduate Internship Program at the Division of Medical Ethics

[Application Google Form HERE**](#)**

Internship Logistics

- The program lasts for an abbreviated academic year: October 1, 2023 until April 30, 2024
- These are completely virtual, paid internships for **undergraduate college students entering their junior or senior year**
- To apply, all applicants will be asked to fill out an application google form (linked above), which includes sections to submit a resume and writing sample. Applicants who advance to the interview stage may be asked to submit letters of recommendation.
- Although interns will be assigned to work primarily with either the Pediatric Gene Therapy & Medical Ethics Working Group ([PGTME](#)) or The Working Group on Compassionate Use & Preapproval Access ([CUPA](#)), they will collaborate with each other and have the opportunity to learn from both working groups, as well as other members of the Division of Medical Ethics
- Interns will report to and be mentored by the program coordinator of the working group that they are assigned to
- Interns will be paid \$16/hour for 10 hours of work per week during the academic semester, with time off for university holidays

Intern Responsibilities

- Assist working group project manager on a mix of research and administrative tasks
- Keep the team informed about new developments in the field
- Assist with planning and recording monthly meetings
- Contribute to communications efforts, including by promoting events and implementing the working group's broader media strategy
- We reserve the right to hold a 1-month probationary period at the start of each internship to ensure that intern responsibilities are being met

Intern Opportunities

- Participate in a paid internship where undergraduate students will learn about bioethics, pharmaceuticals, gene therapy, health policy, clinical and academic research, and the ethical issues involved in these fields, including equity in access for patients and the roles of industry, patient advocacy, and regulators
- Observe working group meetings and network with professionals in bioethics and other relevant stakeholder fields
- Participate in Division of Medical Ethics and working group events
- Potentially coauthor academic publications and/or op-eds



Intern Testimonials

“My time as CUPA's intern was invaluable to my understanding of the field of biomedicine and my professional journey, and provided me access to a community of incredible thinkers and change makers. Before I started at CUPA, I had a hard time conceptualizing how bioethics truly fit into biomedicine as a discipline; I was curious about what the scope of bioethics was in various medical fields, what types of experts advised on bioethics issues, and how I could become involved in these conversations as a future doctor and public health practitioner. Working with CUPA's team on projects such as webinar planning, conference planning, post-conference written reflections, policy reviews, and Op-Ed writing allowed me to fully understand how integrated and vital a team like CUPA is to the larger medical field, and how large the scope of their insights reach. At CUPA's monthly meetings, members ranged from patient advocates to biotech CEOs. Seeing dialogue between parties with such different professional and personal experiences opened up my understanding of what's possible when shifting the landscape of medicine towards one that works better for everyone, and in which a more diverse range of perspectives is considered. Finally, CUPA allowed me to make personal and professional connections that I hope to keep for many years to come. Advising from Lisa Kearns, Alison Bateman-House, Sage Gustafson and John Massarelli helped me not only make two publications while working with CUPA, but their patient and consistent guidance also taught me so much about the biomedical landscape, including the role of regulators and legislation in the approval of medical products. I look forward to seeing all the amazing work that CUPA will put out in the coming years, and am so proud to be part of the CUPA family.”

- Arisa (Rei) Marshall, CUPA intern, Fall 2021-Spring 2022

“It was an absolute pleasure to be the second intern at PGTME! As someone very new to the field of bioethics, PGTME welcomed me with open arms and provided an amazing working environment in which I was able to grow in my knowledge of this topic. Whenever I had a question or specific interest, there was always a team member willing and invested in working with me to make sure that question was answered. It was this specific aspect to the internship that stood out to me the most as it made me comfortable with continuing to explore what I wanted to learn and led to numerous opportunities in the form of conducting an independent research project, working on Op-Eds, presentations, and more. Altogether, I can say with absolute sincerity that this internship has been instrumental in leading me towards my personal career goals as they relate to medicine, pediatrics, gene therapy, and equity.”

- Matthew Viet Vo, PGTME intern, Spring 2022

“I had a wonderful experience as PGTME's first student intern! This program provided me with a unique experience to directly participate in relevant bioethics discussions with professionals currently working in the field of gene therapy and rare diseases. I was able to speak with every group member and have meaningful and engaging conversations, which taught me so much about the variety of passions that motivate everyone on the team and how these passions come together to create a well-rounded and well-educated group.



The most memorable aspect of my internship experience was how welcoming and genuinely invested each member was in my experience. This was invaluable to me, as it is not the standard at all internship positions. PGTME offers a fantastic opportunity for students to develop professional skills, nourish their academic interests regarding bioethics, and conduct their own research. I can confidently say it propelled me toward my academic and career goals in medicine by developing my understanding of ethical medicine, gene therapy clinical research, patient advocacy, and pharmaceutical development.”

– Ryan Joseph Dieudonné, PGTME intern, Fall 2021