

Student Projects Proposal Form

If your ADH department or office would like to create a project for a college student and serve as the preceptor/supervisor for the project, here are a few helpful guidelines that you will need to follow.

Please make sure that you visit the link below to review necessary background information: <https://healthy.arkansas.gov/resources/about-adh/office-of-the-chief-science-officer/student-experience-projects/>

You will need to complete this Student Projects Proposal Form.

Please note that the information entered will be shared with interested students and displayed on the ADH public-facing website.

Please contact us if you have any questions:

Kristy Caldwell, DrPH, MPH; ADH Student Placement Coordinator; Phone: 501-661-2412; Email: Kristy.caldwell@arkansas.gov

Keyona Blevens; Workforce Management Specialist , AHELP/CHelp Coordinator; Phone: 501-534-6326; Email: Keyona.blevens@arkansas.gov

Response was added on 04/30/2025 3:59pm.

Project/Experience Title:	Alpha-Gal Syndrome Surveillance
Type of Project/Experience: (Please select all that may apply.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case Investigation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Epidemiology <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biostatistics <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Field Work <input type="checkbox"/> Health Communications <input type="checkbox"/> Health Behavior and/or Health Education <input type="checkbox"/> Health Management and/or Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Health Sciences <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
Other Type of Project/Experience:	Entomology
Primary ADH Division or Office:	<input type="radio"/> Division of Health Protection <input type="radio"/> Division of Local Public Health <input type="radio"/> Division of Health Data and Analytics <input checked="" type="radio"/> Public Health Laboratory <input type="radio"/> Division of Health Advancement <input type="radio"/> Office of Health Communications <input type="radio"/> Office of Performance Management, Quality Improvement, and Evaluation <input type="radio"/> Office of Health Disparities Elimination <input type="radio"/> Office of Preparedness & Emergency Response Systems <input type="radio"/> Office of Finance <input type="radio"/> Office of Health Information Technology <input type="radio"/> Other
Primary ADH Branch	Zoonotics
Primary Mentor's Name(s):	Katelyn Lazenby
Primary Mentor's Email Address:	katelyn.lazenby@arkansas.gov
Secondary Mentor's Name(s):	Laura Rothfeldt
Secondary Mentor's Email Address:	laura.rothfeldt@arkansas.gov

Project/Experience Background:	AGS is also known as the red meat allergy associated from tick bites. There are still many unknowns about this condition, and surveillance will help us understand basic epidemiology. The Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) investigates all cases of AGS to determine case status, as well as develops statistical reports on symptoms, demographics, and foods causing allergic reactions. ADH also creates educational material for medical providers and the public on AGS. During the warmer months, ADH also conducts tick collections to determine tick distribution and abundance.
Project/Experience Overview:	Assist with alpha-gal syndrome (AGS) case investigations, data analysis, survey development, educational outreach, and tick collections.
Skills Useful for this Project/Experience:	Familiarity with basic medical vocabulary, At least one course in statistics, an interest in learning new things.
Benefits of this Project/Experience:	AGS is a novel condition, and Arkansas is the first state to make it a reportable condition. Our data is valuable for understanding the epidemiology of AGS. The student may pick activities of interest to them related to AGS.
Eligible Students:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Graduate
Estimated Hours per Week:	variable
Primary Office Location:	PHL
Working Environment:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-person <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hybrid
Additional Notes:	Students working from April to October will be able to assist with field work.