Research Opportunity

**Preceptor Name:** Deanna M. Hoelscher, PhD, RD, LD  
**Campus:** University of Texas School of Public Health Austin Regional Campus

**Overall grant or other program name:** CATCH and Texas CORD

**Briefly describe your overall research program:**
CATCH (Coordinated Approach To Child Health) is a school-based health program designed to promote physical activity and healthy food choices and prevent tobacco use. CATCH transforms a child’s environment, culture, and society by coordinating child health efforts across all aspects of the educational experience: classroom, food services, physical education, and family. Proven to reverse childhood obesity in El Paso and Austin schools, and adopted by more than 8,500 schools in the United States and abroad, it is the most widespread and researched coordinated school health program in the world.

CORD is a CDC funded project designed to evaluate community-based obesity prevention and treatment programs in Austin and Houston. CORD connects the dots between families, pediatricians, schools and local youth organizations to support children’s healthy eating and active living. If successful, CORD will become a national model for medical and community practice.

**Name of specific project in which a student will participate:**
1. Preparation of Student Coordination Guide for CATCH  
2. Adapt project materials to the new Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model from the existing Coordinated School Health model  
3. Preparation of project manuscript

**Specific duties of student:**
1. Develop CATCH Student Coordination Guide; obtain feedback from CATCH team and school administrators  
2. Assemble resources for adaption of project materials updated with Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model  
3. Prepare presentation slides and materials based on new Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model  
4. Perform literature searches, prepare summaries, and format manuscript based on journal guidelines

**This would be a good fit for someone with what major or interests?**
Nutrition, Health Education, Physical Activity
Students begin June 2 (orientation day) and end either July 25 or August 8. If you will be out for a week or more during this time, when would you be gone?

June 9
June 30-July 4
July 28-August 8

Who would serve as preceptor during your absence (name and credentials, please)? Courtney Byrd-Williams, PhD

NB: you may submit as many research opportunities as you like, but to be competitive you should probably limit yourself to no more than three.

E-mail your finished form(s) to cpritsummer@uth.tmc.edu