



## Association for Nonsmokers-MN Public Health Internship 2024-2025

Association for Nonsmokers-MN (ANSR) is an MN-based nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing the human and economic cost of commercial tobacco products in our communities. Tobacco companies have a long and well-documented history of targeting African Americans, youth, women, and other groups with flavored commercial tobacco products. Each year in Minnesota, tobacco use is responsible for more than 5,100 deaths and almost \$3 billion in preventable health care costs. Ninety percent of adult smokers started before the age of 18 and many young people start with menthol or other flavored tobacco products because the flavors mask the harshness. Appealing flavors in vapes and other nicotine products are a leading cause of tobacco product initiation for youth, leading to high levels of addiction among MN students across the state.

ANSR's Student Internship is a three-month (minimum) paid leadership program for young people interested in making positive public health changes. This student will work alongside ANSR staff, coalition partners, and communities. Together, you'll work on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) best practices to address commercial tobacco use by potentially ending the sale of flavored tobacco products through education, community organizing and outreach, policy change, and communications.

### YOUR MISSION

**Work Hard.** You will be the leader of change. You will have the opportunity to educate your peers, advocate for policy change, create communication announcements, and/or plan events. Former interns have said "I had such a large variety of opportunities and experiences at ANSR." We encourage you to lean into the work and lean out to listen, learn, and observe.

**Inspire Change.** Many people will see the work you do. Your natural talents and unique gifts will be strategically used to impact decision-makers into holding the industry accountable.

**Show up and Speak up.** We need your voice in creating change and holding the tobacco industry accountable. It is okay if you don't like speaking, we can still find a path for you to share your opinion, skillset and passion.

You will be paid \$20/hr for your time. Time commitment of a minimum of 10 hours per week. Hours and time commitment can be determined based on the candidate. 75% of these hours will be in-person/in-office. This opportunity has the potential to be extended past the three-month requirement up to a full year.

### REQUIREMENTS

- Passionate about reducing commercial tobacco and vaping among youth;

- Interested in one of the following: social justice, environmental issues, data collection, public policy, communications, education, and community organizing;
- Priority is given to individuals pursuing degrees in public health, public policy, communications, political science, or related degrees;
- Reliable transportation; and
- Must be a Minnesota resident.

POTENTIAL PROJECTS:

- Develop materials focused on engaging young people on the topic of flavored and menthol tobacco. Materials can include presentations, social media posts, and print materials focused on educating and engaging this age group;
- Distribute new and existing materials at outreach events on campus(es);
- Assist with tobacco compliance checks;
- Engage community members to share their stories with decision-makers;
- Submit content to campus newspaper(s);
- Engage relevant student groups on campus(es);
- Organize statewide partners to address support over suspension in high school communities;
- Play a role in any part of Policy, Systems and Environmental Change policy.

To apply: Send resume and cover letter to Katie Engman, Program Director- Policy & Compliance at [Katie@ansrmn.org](mailto:Katie@ansrmn.org)

Closing date of position: Sept 25th, 2024

*This opportunity is funded by a generous contribution from a community partner who believes in training the next generation of public health.*