1. Company/Organization Name, Address, Contact:

Koç University School of Medicine
Rumelifeneri Yolu 34450
Sarıyer, İstanbul / Türkiye
medicine@ku.edu.tr
Phone: 0212 338 1000
Fax: +90 212 338 11 65

Main Contact:
Prof. Dr. Sibel Sakarya
Koç University School of Medicine
Department of Public Health

2. Title of Internship/Practicum: Needs Assessment for an Organization Serving Refugees in Turkey

3. Internship Slots Available: 1
Spring / Summer / Fall semester
Preferred length of stay: 4-8 weeks
Preferred dates of stay: May 1 – July 31, 2022

4. Location: This internship will be based in Istanbul, Turkey, with an option to switch to remote work if COVID-19 travel restrictions due not permit student travel to Turkey at the time of the internship. The intern will benefit from support and mentorship from Drs. Janet and Bulent Turan, UAB faculty based in Istanbul, Turkey, as well as Dr. Sibel Sakarya, Chair of the Department of Public Health at Koc Medical School.

5. Paid or Unpaid Internship: Unpaid. Intern is responsible for own travel and accommodation costs. Koc University can assist with organizing affordable options.

6. Desired Education Level/Degree Concentration: Advanced undergraduate student or graduate student; any program of health or development-related study or degree is possible; Turkish or Arabic language skills would be a plus; Basic quantitative data management and analysis skills are preferred.

7. Brief description of the organization/agency mission, goals, and activities: The Department of Public Health is part of the School of Medicine at Koc University in Istanbul. Koc University is a major private university in Turkey with a main campus and a separate downtown medical school/hospital location. The department engages in training medical and graduate students in public health, as well as a variety of community-based population health activities. This includes collaborations with nongovernmental organizations like the Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants (ASAM).

8. Scope of Work/Responsibilities Intern: The intern will work with faculty from the Department of Public Health, Drs. Janet and Bulent Turan of UAB, and ASAM staff to manage and analyze data collected from clients being served by ASAM and to produce a needs assessment to inform gaps and future strategies to support asylum seekers and migrants.
10. MOU with UAB in place?
Yes

11. Will approval from ethical board be required? If so, how will this be done and what is the anticipated time frame to obtain ethical board approval?

If there is a desire on the part of the organization and the intern to publish results of the needs assessment analyses, IRB approval can be sought from UAB and Koc University and is likely to be obtained within a few months.

12. Accomodation and transportation

Accommodation can be arranged in a dormitory or other affordable location at the Koc University main campus or downtown near the Koc University Hospital. Istanbul has an extensive public transportation network, including a subway system, buses, mini-buses, and taxis.

13. Any anticipated challenges?

Although Koc faculty and most ASAM staff are fluent in English, interactions with ASAM clients and some staff may be limited by a lack of Turkish or Arabic language skills. However, Koc University uses English as the language of instruction and English is widely spoken in Istanbul.

14. COVID-19 Precautions* (including any requirements related to vaccination)

Koç University asks all students, faculty and staff to be fully vaccinated, all individuals must have had 2 doses of Covid-19 vaccine, with the second dose at least 14 days prior to their return back to campus. Faculty, staff and students who are not vaccinated are required to report to the Health Center a negative PCR test result, not older than 72 hours from the date the sample was collected upon each entry to campus. Masking is required on campus and extensive precautions are taken to keep students, faculty, and staff safe and healthy during the pandemic. [https://www.ku.edu.tr/en/return-to-campus/](https://www.ku.edu.tr/en/return-to-campus/)

*This internship is planned as an in-person, international experience in Turkey; however, due to the ongoing COVID-19 epidemic, the internship might need to be completed remotely. The determination will be done as soon as possible. The Sparkman Center travel scholarship of $3,000 per student will be issued only if the internship is conducted in-person in Turkey.

15. Other Safety Precautions

The presence of UAB faculty resident in Istanbul will provide additional safety and support systems for the intern.