

## **NCSBN Examinations Department Internship Program**

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN®) is a not-for-profit organization whose membership comprises of the boards of nursing from 50 states, the District of Columbia and four U.S. territories. There are also 27 associate members. NCSBN owns and develops the National Council Licensure Examinations (NCLEX®). The NCLEX-RN® and NCLEX-PN® examinations are computerized adaptive tests (CAT) and are used as a core component of granting nursing licenses in both the U.S. and Canada.

NCSBN is pleased to offer a summer internship program for advanced doctoral students in educational measurement or a related field. The program lasts for eight weeks and offers interns a chance to learn all aspects of operational work on an international CAT licensure examination. The interns will also be required to conduct research under the guidance of the NCSBN psychometric staff on topics related to the Next Generation NCLEX. Interns will gain practical experience working on issues related to the testing profession, CAT, and licensure and certification exams.

### **Program Goal**

The goal of this internship is to provide practical experiences and a general understanding of the work that goes into producing and delivering operational examinations. This opportunity will provide interns with experiences spanning multiple test development groups for a broad understanding of the overall test development process. The intern will work with testing professionals to learn how the NCLEX exams are developed and administered, gain knowledge on the dynamics of a CAT exam, and discuss current measurement topics. In addition, interns will be given the opportunity to participate in research involving one of the following topics:

- Dimensionality
- Polytomous scoring and item fit
- Test security
- Usability
- CAT Test Design
- Standard setting for innovative items

We are very interested in individuals that have research experiences related to polytomous IRT models and issues related to their use in a CAT delivery methodology, e.g. fit, drift, selection, etc.

### **Duration**

The 2020 summer internship will last eight weeks, beginning June 1, 2020 and ending July 24, 2020 (The internship window can be adjusted for the convenience of interns with prior approval from NCSBN).

### **Location**

The interns will work in the NCSBN offices in downtown Chicago, IL.

### **Financial Support**

This internship awards a stipend of \$7,000 plus relocation expenses and a housing allowance.

### **Who Should Apply**

Graduate students who have completed at least two years of doctoral level coursework in educational measurement or a related field are encouraged to apply. Applicants should have basic knowledge of classical test theory and item response theory. Applicants should have matching interests and experience with at least one of the research topics listed above. In addition, the applicant should be familiar with any of the following software: R, SAS, and/or Python.

### **How to Apply**

Interested candidates should submit the attached application form, a statement of interest and experience, curriculum vitae, two letters of recommendation, and a writing sample (e.g., conference proceedings or published articles). Applications will be accepted through the provided email address.

### **Deadline**

Applicants should submit their application by February 1, 2020. Applicants will be notified of decisions by February 21, 2020.

### **Submit application materials through email as attachments:**

National Council of State Boards of Nursing  
Attn: Shu-chuan Kao, PhD, Manager, Measurement & Testing  
Examinations Department  
c/o Internship Application  
Email: [skao@ncsbn.org](mailto:skao@ncsbn.org)

### Applicant Information

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Institution enrolled in \_\_\_\_\_

Program of Study \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Expected date of graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Are you legally eligible to work in the U.S.?  Yes  No

### Interest Statement

Please attach a statement indicating your interest and experience relevant to the summer internship. Include 1) research interests, 2) what you would like to achieve through the internship, and 3) previous experience relevant to the internship (e.g., coursework, knowledge of specialized computer software and languages, research experience).

### Signature

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please include the following documents in your application package:

- This completed application
- Interest statement
- Curriculum vitae
- Two letters of recommendation
- Writing sample (e.g., conference paper)

**Applications must be received by February 1, 2020.**

For further information, please contact:

Shu-chuan Kao, PhD, Manager, Measurement and Testing, Examinations, NCSBN, at [skao@ncsbn.org](mailto:skao@ncsbn.org)