Harborview Medical Center | UW Medicine
Seattle, WA

Harborview Medical Center is one of the nation’s leading hospitals and the only Level I adult and pediatric trauma and burn center serving Washington, Alaska, Montana and Idaho. Harborview is owned by King County and managed by the University of Washington (UW).

This project will help Harborview Medical Center reduce waste and increase recycling by implementing a sterile polypropylene blue wrap recycling program. Currently, all blue wrap waste from operating rooms goes to landfill.

As part of this project, the intern will:

● Analyze waste and recycling data
● Identify vendors that can service Harborview’s goals for recycling blue wrap
● Identify and implement recycling, resource allocation and necessary processes changes
● Establish a program for recycling blue wrap, including logistics for collection, storage, transport, and management
● Develop a communication plan and education material for rollout of program
● Investigate options for future recycling contracts that include vendor responsibilities and/or product stewardship

A secondary objective of the project will investigate other recycling opportunities across the UW Medicine system. Successful implementation can be replicated at other UW Medicine facilities as well as other regional hospitals.

Important tasks and activities include communicating and engaging with vendors, internal stakeholders, pulling data, researching and data analysis using Excel. The intern will be expected to work on site, participate in daily check-ins, provide updates to department leadership, and respond to email within 24 hours.

Intern responsibilities (deliverables) include:

● Frequent communication per host business needs including progress reports
● Implementation Plan
● Presentation for host business, including final report, findings and recommendations
● Presentation for external stakeholders
● Case study or executive summary for publishing on WASI webpage
● Communication plan and education/training material for program rollout
● All waste and financial reports including tools used or developed during project

Harborview Medical Center will provide the intern with resources to start their research. This would include forwarded email threads with potential vendors, access to Harborview purchasing records, introductions to internal stakeholders, and other notes of interest.

The intern will receive basic safety training provided to all Harborview staff and contractors. Safety topics will include workplace safety and security protocols. No direct contact with
hazardous waste or other dangerous substances is expected. Masks, disposable gloves, and any other PPE will be made available as needed by the intern.

Preferred major(s):

- Engineering
- Environmental Science/Sustainability
- Economics/Business

Desired skills/experience:

Ideally, the intern will be an independent worker and be able to engage with different stakeholders and communicate with a wide audience. They will be proactive and resourceful in their approach to finding information and networking with various vendors, and communication/marketing strategies.

Microsoft office tools: Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Outlook

U.S. citizenship is not a requirement.

Crane Aerospace & Electronics
Lynnwood, WA

Crane Aerospace & Electronics is an aerospace, military & medical electronics and engineering company located in Lynnwood, WA. The company has approximately 850 employees.

This project will investigate safer fire suppression foam alternatives at Crane Aerospace & Electronics. The intern will research and provide an assessment of aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) firefighting alternatives that will meet production requirements while complying with state, local, and building requirements.

The intern’s assessment will include:

- Cost benefit analysis
- Conceptual implementation plan
- Phase out schedule
- Impacts on system operation & maintenance
- PFAS verification testing
- Waste disposal profiles

The intern should investigate various processes, including current production and testing of hot jet A fuel flow transmitters, fire suppression systems at the facility, current literature on the
selection and transition to alternate foams, and capital equipment planning procedures at Crane Aerospace & Electronics. Interns should consider various building and agency requirements when providing an assessment of AFFF alternatives:

- Washington State Department of Ecology
- FM Global, property loss insurance company
- Snohomish County Fire marshal
- Environmental Health and Safety policy.
- Compatible with the existing building fire suppression system operation.

Crane Aerospace & Electronics will provide the intern with resources to start their research. The intern will receive orientation, basic safety training, and hazardous waste management training. Safety topics will include workplace safety and security protocols. Personal protective equipment (PPE) will be made available as needed by the intern.

Intern responsibilities (deliverables) include:

- Frequent communication per host business needs including progress reports
- Schedule meetings with appropriate employees, vendors, regulatory agencies and contractors.
- Implementation Plan
- Presentation for host business, including final report, findings and recommendations
- Presentation for external stakeholders
- Case study or executive summary for publishing on WASI webpage

Preferred major(s):

- Engineering, Chemical Engineering
- Environmental Science/Sustainability

Desired skills/experience:

- Microsoft office tools: Word, Excel, Project
- Air monitoring equipment

Candidates must be a U.S. citizen.