

## **Brief description of the Toxicology, Risk Assessment, and Research Division and tasks to be performed at TCEQ:**

### **Division Description**

The Toxicology, Risk Assessment, and Research Division (TD) helps the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) make scientifically sound decisions by applying toxicological principles when evaluating environmental data, issuing authorizations, developing environmental regulations and making policy decisions. TCEQ toxicologists identify chemical hazards, develop toxicity factors, evaluate potential exposures, assess human health risks and communicate risk to the general public and stakeholders (i.e., state legislators, regulated entities). The TD strives to be a model both within and outside of the Agency by developing and implementing state-of-the-science practices.

### **Potential Projects**

The TD will introduce students to a variety of ongoing projects to help them understand the role TCEQ toxicologists play in environmental regulation as it pertains to mitigating the potential for adverse human health impacts. Some of the projects may include the students conducting literature searches on specific topics, reviewing the published articles, and presenting the findings in the form of a written report. The intern may also assist/support TCEQ toxicologists in performing health effects review of air monitoring data, air permit applications, and remediation risk assessment projects as well as participate in ad hoc special projects (i.e., inquiries from citizens). He/she may also do work in support of developing acute and chronic inhalation toxicity factors. All assignments are primarily desk jobs; no laboratory tasks will be assigned during this internship.

### **Qualifications**

Potential interns are undergraduate or graduate students with a minimum academic grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in any biological sciences or chemistry with undergraduate courses in chemistry, biology/zoology, environmental and public health, and statistics. Experience with Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, and Internet research skills are preferred.