

## Rebecca Gasper, MPH

**MPH Emphasis:** Public Health Physical Activity (May 2018)

**MPH Applied Practice Experience:** I interned with the Bureau of Health Promotion at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) in Topeka during the Summer of 2017. While at KDHE I worked primarily with the promotion and operation of the weekly farmer's market.

For my thesis I developed and implemented an online physical activity intervention to investigate how differences in message framing and interactivity of online modules could impact individual levels of motivation and physical activity behavior.



**Current Position:** I am currently an Education Program Coordinator at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin. In this role, I oversee the daily operations of the Master of Science in Clinical and Translational Science degree program and also work with a grant-funded program that provides mentored training opportunities for early career researchers.

Before my current role I was the Research Program Coordinator for a clinical research unit at the Medical College of Wisconsin, where I worked with investigators on study startup, helped oversee daily clinic operations, and did data tracking and reporting.

**Career Advice:** When in the job search process my advice is to go beyond the online job boards and leverage your network as much as you can. Do not be afraid to reach out to alumni – LinkedIn has a great feature that allows you to search through alumni based on location, industry, or company. Once you've found someone who looks to be a good connection feel free to send them a message on LinkedIn to ask a question or set up an informational interview.

After you get the job, take the initiative to learn and go beyond your job description. This can help build credibility and connections you will use for the rest of your career. Be flexible - the career path you have in mind may not play out exactly how you planned. Work as hard as you can and view each experience is an opportunity to learn.