

# Abt Associates

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## **Information Interview with Associate.**

**Personal Work Experience:** Undergraduate degree in Public and Community Health in the US followed by a Masters in Public Health. Previously had the intent of going to medical school, but during undergraduate degree decided more interested in preventative care rather than treatment. Post-graduate positions included Technical Assistance Intern at MayaTech Corporation (2007); Health Promotion Intern at National Institutes of Health (2007); Programme Coordinator for orphans and vulnerable children which worked with ministries of health across Africa and Caribbean. Programme Management role for University of Washington, focusing on health projects in Haiti and Ivory Coast, mainly working on the implementation of health information systems. Current role as Associate in International Health Division, working on health financing and governance.

**Average day in the job:** The team consists of members with a variety of backgrounds, including lots of health economists. Provide programme assistance and ensure it is efficient and going as planned. Training in-country staff, and managing accreditation of nursing schools in Haiti. Looking at governance and management of education system of healthcare workers in Guinea, to ensure they understand needs and have the capacity to become advocates for their own institutions.

**Skills that are essential for a job in global health:** Being able to manage your time within a very busy and demanding field, especially when you have pressure from funders. Make sure you work with someone (or find a mentor) who can provide support in your early career who can help you learn management skills. Language other than English is an asset.

**General pieces of advice:** (1) Do internships – definitely key, and try and do them as early as possible. Consider the long term gain. (2) Networking – ensure you have information on the job you think you want to do, and put yourself out there and reach out to people in the field who are working across different projects. (3) Mentoring – Both inside and outside of work, to help guide you.

## **ABT ASSOCIATES**

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