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**Summer Experience Program 2019**

Information pack & Application form

Summer Experience Program Information Pack and Application Form

What is Orygen, The National Centre of Excellence in Youth Mental Health?

Orygen, the National Centre of Excellence in Youth Mental Health is the world’s leading research and knowledge translation organisation focusing on mental ill-health in young people.

At Orygen, our leadership and staff work to deliver cutting-edge research, policy development, innovative clinical services, and evidence-based training and education to ensure that there is continuous improvement in the treatments and care provided to young people experiencing mental ill-health.

Our work has created a new, more positive approach to the prevention and treatment of mental disorders, and has developed new models of care for young people with emerging disorders. This work has been translated into a worldwide shift in services and treatments to include a primary focus on getting well and staying well, and health care models that include partnership with young people and families.

Our Vision and Mission

* Our vision is for all young people to enjoy optimal mental health as they grow into adulthood.
* Our mission is to reduce the impact of mental ill-health on young people, their families and society by:
	+ Providing young people with emerging mental illnesses with stigma-free access to holistic, high quality and evidence-based clinical services
	+ Developing better interventions, treatments and service systems in youth mental health through research
	+ Supporting communities to better respond to mental ill-health in young people through public education and service development

Our operating principles and values are:

* Young people: young people have the right to timely access to high quality, evidence-based, age-appropriate and respectful mental health care
* Participation: young people, families, and the community are key partners in improving young people’s mental health
* Evidence: policy, practice and services in youth mental health should be informed by the best available evidence of what works
* Innovation: new approaches to prevention and care have enormous potential to improve mental health outcomes for young people
* Optimism: with appropriate supports young people can and do recover from mental ill-health and go on to achieve great things with their lives
* Our people: the quality and commitment of our team is integral to our success

What is the Summer Experience Program?

The Summer Experience Program is an exciting opportunity for ten young people aged 17 – 25 years to gain experience and exposure to the world’s leading youth mental health research and knowledge translation organisation, Orygen.

Orygen’s Summer Experience Program involves a two week placement (three days a week) with research teams, key policy and advocacy staff, clinical specialists and workforce trainers who all have extensive experience working in the field of youth mental health.

Through this structured program participants will:

* Increase their knowledge and understanding of the youth mental health sector in Australia, with an emphasis on workforce development, research, policy and communications.
* Develop a greater understanding of the variety of career pathways involved in our growing Youth Mental Health workforce.
* Promote young peoples’ understanding of the day to day operations of a Centre of Excellence.

What sort of things can I expect to learn about during this placement?

Through the placement participants will rotate between multiple divisions of Orygen; including Strategy and Development, Communications, Fundraising, Research and Translation and Clinical Programs.

Specific activities and skills you may develop over this time are:

* Learn more about Orygen as an organisation and the inner workings of a National Centre of Excellence.
* Participate in Q&A sessions with a number of staff members across our divisions to learn more about the work that they do as well as their careers and how they got to where they are now.
* Learn more about our various research projects and research methodologies involved in youth mental health.
* Visit Orygen’s headspacesites and gain a better understanding of the youth mental health sector. Please note this not a clinical placement and there will be no direct contact with headspace clients.
* Opportunity to shadow a staff member working in your interest area of choice.

What commitment is required?

Participating in the Summer Experience Program requires you to be available from Wednesday 13th February – Friday 22nd February 2019 (inclusive) every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 10am – 5pm.

The placement will be held at 35 Poplar Road, Parkville, 3052. Required transport to any other meeting locations in Melbourne will be supported by Orygen staff.

This program requires participants to be based in Melbourne and commit to the entire program. Applicants outside Melbourne are very welcome to apply but would need to fund their own accommodation and travel costs. Support can be provided to source appropriate accommodation if needed.

Participation in the Summer Experience Program is voluntary, however participants will be reimbursed for their travel to and from Orygen within Melbourne and provided with lunch each day.

Am I eligible?

Young people aged 17-25 years old (for the duration of the program in February 2019) who meet the criteria below are invited to apply:

* Have had a lived experience of mental ill-health or a specific interest in youth mental health.
* Are able to commit to 3 days per week on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 13th February – 22nd February 2019 (Inclusive).
* Have a current Working with Children’s Check (or be willing to obtain one) and be willing to undergo a Police Check (Orygen will support you to obtain both documents and cover all associated costs).
* Have permission from your parent/guardian to participate in this process if you are under 18 years of age.

It’s not a requirement to be studying or working in the area of youth mental health. We encourage young people with diverse interests and skills who are passionate about youth mental health to apply.

Orygen strongly welcomes applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people, young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and young people with a disability.

How do I apply?

Applications for the Summer Experience Program must be completed and received by email, or mail by **5pm on Sunday 25th of November 2018**. Details are below.

Short-listed applicants will be contacted by phone to organise an interview. Interviews will be held Monday 3rd, Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th of December in Parkville so please ensure you are available for one of these dates. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified by email.

Please note that the Summer Experience Program is not a clinical placement and does not involve any direct contact with clients of Orygen Youth Health or headspace. The Summer Experience Program is voluntary but participants will be provided with lunch every day and travel costs within Melbourne.

Additional Organisational Information

Policies and Work Practice

All individuals participating in the Summer Experience Program are required to familiarise themselves with the organisation’s policies and procedures and to adhere to them at all times.

It is expected that at all times, successful applicants will:

* Be respectful towards Orygen supervisors and other colleagues, young people engaged in Orygen activities and their families, and the general public
* Be aware of and work to the objectives of Orygen
* Work collaboratively with all colleagues and external organisations engaged in Orygen activities
* Act in a safe and responsible manner at all times

Occupational Health & Safety (OH&S)

All staff are required to take reasonable care for their own health and safety and that of other personnel who may be affected by their conduct.

These include general staff responsibilities and those additional responsibilities that apply for managers and supervisors and other personnel.

Questions?

If you have any questions or need assistance to complete your application please contact:

Kristi van-der-EL
Youth Engagement Program Manager
Orygen, The National Centre of Excellence in Youth Mental Health

Locked Bag 10, Parkville VIC 3052 Australia
M - +61 421 762 524
E – Kristi.van-der-el@orygen.org.au

Summer Experience Program Application Form

Please complete all questions below.

Personal Details

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Date of Birth:

Gender:

Street Address:

Suburb:

State:

Postcode:

How did you hear about the program?

School/TAFE/University

Social media (Facebook, Twitter)

Orygen Website

**headspace**

Case worker

Friends/family member

Other (please specify)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please tick all that apply. I’m….

Currently studying

Working full-time

Working part-time

Not working at the moment

Other (Please specify)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

It would be great if you could tell us a bit about yourself by selecting which of the following apply to you (optional):

I identify as having/had a lived experience of mental ill-health e.g. – personally, within my family/friends/community.

I am passionate about advocating and promoting the mental health needs of young people

I identify as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander young person

I live in a rural or remote area

I identify as LGBTIQ

I speak languages other than English at home?

Please specify \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Why would you like to be involved in the Orygen Summer Experience Program and what do you hope to achieve by participating (Max. 250 words)?
2. What skills or ideas do you think you could contribute to Orygen during the Summer Experience Program?

For example: Have your worked in advocacy before? Are you a great writer? Are you a pro with technology? Are you creative?

1. How would you describe your written and verbal communication skills in working with other young people and health professionals? Please provide an example of when you have used these skills successfully.
2. Do you have any particular career or study interests?
3. Please describe any experience or personal achievements that you think would be relevant to being involved in the Orygen Summer Experience Program (this could be your current study, work experience, leadership positions, volunteering, involvement with another organisation or any other achievements that you’re proud of).
4. Below is a list of specific interest areas available for your half-day shadowing session with a staff member working in these areas. Please rank in order of preference by placing a number from 1 to 7 next to each interest area in the right-hand column (1 = most preferred to 7= least preferred). We will try our best to ensure that you get one of your top 3.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Areas of Interest | Preference (1-7)  |
| Policy |  |
| Research and Translation |  |
| Communications |  |
| Information Technology |  |
| Clinical Services (no direct contact with clients) |  |
| Clinical Education |  |
| Finance |  |

Please attach the names of two referees we could contact and their phone numbers/email addresses. These should be people who can describe your skills and suitability for this role (i.e. a teacher, employer, supervisor).

**Referee 1**

Name:

Organisation:

Contact number:

Email:

**Referee 2**

Name:

Organisation:

Contact number:

Email:

The Summer Experience Program is just one of a number of youth participation programs that Orygen coordinates. Would you like us to keep your contact details to notify you of any other opportunities when they come up?

 Yes

 No

All information provided to Orygen, The National Centre of Excellence in Youth Mental Health will be kept strictly confidential. Please visit the Orygen Privacy Policy for more information <https://orygen.org.au/Footer-Page/Privacy-Policy>.

How do I submit my application?

**Applications must be received by 5pm on Sunday 25th of November 2018 in one of the following ways:**

**Email**

Email your completed application with your CV to Kristi.van-der-el@orygen.org.au

**Post**

Send your printed application with any additional pages you may have needed, with your CV to the address below. Please make sure to keep a copy of your application.

Attn: Kristi van-der-EL
Orygen, The National Centre of Excellence in Youth Mental Health Locked Bag 10, Parkville VIC 3052 Australia

Thank you for your application! Good luck!