

CASI Student Programs in India

Aravind Eye Care System



The CASI-Aravind partnership offers a competitive volunteer internship to current Penn students who are eager to take a hands-on approach to health care development. Aravind's business model aims to provide high quality and affordable health care to all socio-economic classes. Aravind's commitment to ending needless blindness allows Penn students to learn from doctors and other health care professionals who have made the work their life mission. Students interested in medicine, public health, health care management, and social entrepreneurship are an ideal fit for this internship.

Internship Details

- 10 week internship from May 16, 2016 - July 25, 2016
- CASI will provide up to three (3) Penn students approximately \$3,000 each to cover travel to and within India, affordable housing, and living expenses
- Funds are made possible through the support of Penn's Office of the Vice Provost for Global Initiatives and in conjunction with Penn Abroad and Penn's International Internship Program (IIP)

Potential CASI Projects

- Create campaign materials and build communications to promote patient awareness and empowerment
- Perform supply chain analysis and write case studies to help improve operational efficiency
- Develop, research, and pilot new patient flow systems in the glaucoma department
- Conduct background research for clinical trials

Accommodation and Food

Penn students stay at Aravind's Inspiration Guest House, a five minute walk from Aravind's main campus. Inspiration is home to many international volunteers and individuals training at Aravind. All meals are served in a community setting at Inspiration's dining hall. Guest rooms are either single or double occupancy with private bathrooms, Internet, cable, and AC.



Aravind Eye Care System

Aravind Eye Care System is the world's largest eye care provider. In 2011, 2.6 million outpatients were treated and over 300,000 surgeries were performed. Aravind is known for performing affordable and high quality eye care, most notably cataract surgeries, and has made eye care accessible to all regardless of income and location. Since 1976, Aravind has been working across Tamil Nadu to develop a system dedicated to providing affordable eye care services across the region. Through specialty clinics, hospitals, educational training workshops, research, and product development, Aravind has evolved into a sophisticated system dedicated to providing compassionate service for sight. The Aravind Eye Care System today encompasses a network of eight eye hospitals, forty vision centers, seven community eye clinics, a post graduate Institute of Ophthalmology, a manufacturing center, eye banks, and a training center.

For more information on Aravind: <http://www.aravind.org/>



Madurai and Pondicherry, Tamil Nadu

Madurai is the third largest city in the South Indian state of Tamil Nadu. Madurai was the capital of the Pandyan Kingdom and is celebrated as one of South India's most notable temple towns known for the Meenakshi Temple. The brightly painted stone carved temples represent one of the most prominent Hindu pilgrimages. Pondicherry (or Puducherry), was a colonial French settlement until 1954 and still maintains a french quarter with tree lined streets and colonial style buildings. Nearby is the town of Auroville, an experimental township founded in 1968 with an international community representing 50 countries



"I think working in India made me realize something that I don't notice as much in the States: passion. The number of hours the doctors work and the number of patients they see within a day is truly remarkable. Seeing them in that environment and still be able to maintain a smile was incredible. Their passion for the organization was truly evident in everything they did."

– Busra Gungor, C'17, CASI-Aravind Intern

CASI Resources and Application Details

- Join 2016 outreach list , send email to: casi-2016-student-programs-outreach+subscribe@googlegroups.com
- CASI Open House will be held on **December 9, 2015** from 2:00-4:30pm at CASI, 3600 Market Street, Suite 560
- Attend a "Chai Chat" and speak with one of our past students bit.ly/chaichats2016
- Applications open **December 1, 2015** and close on **January 25, 2016**
- Apply through IIP: <http://sa.oip.upenn.edu/iip>



CASI is an academic research center located within Penn's School of Arts & Sciences. Founded in 1992, CASI is recognized as a national resource and the first research institution in the US dedicated to the study of contemporary India. For questions on CASI Student Programs contact Aparna Wilder: apwilder@sas.upenn.edu