



Council *on* Education *for* Public Health

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September 26, 2019

William G. Weissert, PhD  
Director  
Florida State University  
College of Social Sciences and Public Policy  
MPH Program  
160 Bellamy Building  
113 Collegiate Loop  
Tallahassee, FL 32306-2160

Dear Dr. Weissert:

On behalf of the Council on Education for Public Health, I am pleased to advise you that the CEPH Board of Councilors acted at its September 6, 2019 meeting to accredit the MPH Program at Florida State University for a seven-year term, with an interim report to be submitted in summer 2020.

The accreditation term extends until December 31, 2026, pending the program's continued documentation of compliance through the interim report, annual reporting, and any other reporting required by the Council.

The interim report will be due on July 29, 2020 and must address the criteria for which there was a "partially met" assessment. Specifically, the interim report due in summer 2020 should provide evidence that the program has:

- a) Continued to implement policies and practices to reduce attrition and increase graduation rates. The report must include an updated version of Template B2-1 and additional narrative context as appropriate. (Criterion B2)
- b) Collected actionable data from alumni on perceptions of curricular effectiveness. The report must include updated data and additional narrative context as appropriate. (Criterion B4)
- c) Developed and implemented appropriate didactic coverage and assessment for foundational competency 3. The report must include the information in the format of Template D2-2 and must include relevant syllabi and attachments (e.g., more detailed assignment instructions) to allow for full validation. (Criterion D2)
- d) Developed and implemented appropriate assessment methods for foundational competencies 16, 17, 21, and 22. The report must include the information in the format of Template D2-2 and must include relevant syllabi and attachments (e.g., more detailed assignment instructions) to allow for full validation. (Criterion D2)

- e) Developed concentration competencies that reflect master's level skills and defined assessment opportunities for all competencies. See the D4 worksheet in the report for additional information. (Criterion D4)
- f) Implemented policies to require that all students complete and submit at least two work products in the APE, and that faculty assess the work products to verify alignment with specified competencies. The report must include current examples of final student work, with all documentation, including identification of competencies, and faculty evaluation of competencies. (Criterion D5)
- g) Implemented an integrative learning experience that meets this criterion's expectations for a high quality written product that demonstrates competency synthesis. The report must include the course syllabus with all assignments detailed and evidence of faculty evaluation of student competency synthesis and a full completed set of the deliverables that are intended to satisfy this criterion. (Criterion D7)
- h) Documented practices to ensure faculty instructional effectiveness by choosing and reporting data on an appropriate program-level indicator (or indicators) of success in this area. (Criterion E3)
- i) Rectified discrepancies in the presentation of degree requirements across media. The report must include hyperlinks to relevant program and university websites to allow for verification. (Criterion H5)

Please be aware that failure to come into compliance with all accreditation criteria must trigger specific actions on CEPH's part. These actions, mandated in federal regulations governing accrediting agencies that are recognized by the US Department of Education, include initiating adverse action or, if good cause is demonstrated, extending by one year the period during which the program or school may come into compliance with the remaining criteria, after which CEPH must take adverse action. CEPH is required to deny or revoke accreditation when a school or program fails to demonstrate that it has come into compliance. Thus, interim reports have serious consequences. Additional information about preparing interim reports is available on the [CEPH website](#).

We are enclosing a copy of the Council's final accreditation report. The report is also being transmitted to the chief executive officer of your university as the Council's official report. This differs from the team's report that you received prior to our meeting in the following areas:

- The Council added language acknowledging the program's response in Criteria B1 (Guiding Statements), B2 (Graduation Rates), B4 (Alumni Perceptions), and B6 (Use of Evaluation Data)
- The Council changed the finding for Criterion C1 (Fiscal Resources) from met with commentary to met and added language explaining its rationale.
- The Council changed the finding for Criterion C2 (Faculty Resources) from met to met with commentary and added language explaining its rationale.
- The Council added language to Criteria D5 (Applied Practice Experiences) and D7 (Integrative Learning Experiences) clarifying the concern in light of the program's response to the team's report.
- The Council changed the finding for Criterion E3 (Instructional Effectiveness) from met to partially met and added language explaining its rationale.

I would like to call your attention to the disclosure provisions in our adopted procedures. The program is expected to make its official accreditation report available to the public on request 60 days following the accreditation decision. ***The program may make the report and final self-***

***study available in full on its website, or it must clearly indicate on the website how to request a copy of either document.*** See Section 7 of the [Accreditation Procedures](#) for additional information.

You may append a written response whenever you distribute the report. The official report also will be available on request from CEPH after 60 days, but it is our intent to refer all initial requests to you. If you provide this office with a copy of a written response by October 25, 2019, we will be pleased to append it whenever we respond to a request for the report. Please note that this response is optional.

We would also like to remind you that whenever an accredited school or program undergoes a substantive change, it is obligated to provide written notification to CEPH of the intended change. Substantive changes are defined in the procedures manual, but generally include offering a new degree, adding or discontinuing an area of specialization, offering a degree program in a different format or at a distant site and making major revisions to the curricular requirements. Additional information about substantive changes is available on our [website](#).

We appreciated the many courtesies and helpfulness extended to the site visit team.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stephanie Miles-Richardson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stephanie Miles-Richardson, DVM, PhD  
President

cc: CEPH Councilors